

## **Everett Public Schools superintendent honored as a top school leader in Washington state**



**EVERETT, WA** – Everett Public Schools (EPS) is proud to announce that Superintendent Ian B. Saltzman has been named a recipient of the 2025 Robert J. Handy Most Effective Administrator Award, one of Washington state's prestigious recognitions for exceptional school leadership.

Presented by the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) and sponsored by PEMCO Insurance, the award honors visionary administrators who lead with purpose, elevate student achievement, and demonstrate educational excellence in their communities. Dr. Saltzman was recognized in the large district category.

"I am incredibly honored to receive this award," said Dr. Saltzman. "It reflects the collective dedication of our outstanding educators, staff, students, families, and community. Together, we remain focused on every student, every day. I proudly share this award with the entire Everett Public Schools team, and I am grateful to serve alongside such wonderful individuals."

Nominees were evaluated on a broad range of leadership qualities. These included setting a clear vision, holding high expectations for all students, and exemplifying strong instructional and organizational leadership. They were also evaluated on building collaborative teams, improving student outcomes, and supporting professional growth. Dr. Saltzman was recognized for his visionary and inclusive leadership.

Since becoming superintendent in 2019, Dr. Saltzman has led the development of the district's Strategic Plan, rooted in equity, academic excellence, and student voice. He regularly meets with student leaders to ensure their perspectives shape district decisions. Under his leadership, the district has expanded support for multilingual learners, enhanced translation services, and increased the dual language program. These efforts, paired with data-driven improvement strategies and targeted professional development, have contributed to EPS achieving the highest graduation rate in Snohomish County at 95.2 percent.

"Dr. Saltzman brings heart, vision, and commitment to the students and families of Everett Public Schools," said Joel Aune, Executive Director of WASA. "He is a relationship-driven leader who continuously reflects and learns, and who has strengthened communication, equity, and student achievement through his inclusive and strategic leadership."

Dr. Saltzman was presented with the Robert J. Handy Most Effective Administrator Award on June 23, 2025, as part of the 43rd annual Summer Conference hosted by the WASA and the Association of Washington School Principals. More than 1,000 school superintendents, central office administrators, principals, and aspiring leaders from across Washington state gathered in Spokane for the event.

---end---

**Media contact:**

**[Harmony Weinberg](#), Director of Communications, 425-385-4040**