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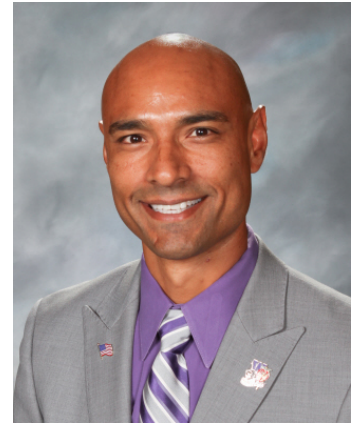
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Ricardo Iñiguez of Wenatchee High School Named 2017 Assistant Principal of the Year

Assistant Principal creates buy-in from students, staff, and community

OLYMPIA — Ricardo Iñiguez is the Washington State 2017 Assistant Principal of the Year. The award is given by the Washington Association of Secondary School Principals, a governing board of the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP). Iñiguez was selected after a statewide open nomination process.

“Ricardo, in conjunction with his PBIS implementation team, has created positive recognition systems that have students recognizing staff, students recognizing students, and staff recognizing students for the positive things that happen in our building,” said Wenatchee High School Principal Eric Anderson. “We saw our attendance rates increase, our out-of-school consequences decrease, and our number of students passing classes increase.”



Since leading the new PBIS initiative, now in its second year, changes are evident. Students are excited to see their picture posted in the hallway for the positive recognition, the staff have been honored with a picture in the local paper, and the community has bought into the changes by financially supporting Wenatchee High School’s work around recognizing students. In his ten years at Wenatchee High School, Iñiguez has shown great dedication to kids and community.

Before serving as Wenatchee High School’s Associate Principal, Iñiguez taught at-risk youth in the Bethel School District. Wanting to broaden his impact on students and education, Iñiguez pursued administration. “I wanted to be a role model for all students. I’m a role model for everybody first and foremost, but I’m Latino as well. I think there aren’t enough Latino role models in education, not only in teaching but also in administration,” said Iñiguez. He’s chaired the Hispanic Latino Legislative Organization and was appointed by former Governor Christine Gregoire to the Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee.

Iñiguez will be honored for his accomplishments at the June 2017 AWSP/WASA Summer Conference in Spokane, and recognized nationally at the 2017 National Principals Conference in Philadelphia with the other State Assistant Principals of the Year. See a list of past state winners and learn more about the award at <http://www.awsp.org/apoy>.

STATE COMPONENTS

Elementary School Principals of Washington (ESPAW)
Association of Washington Middle Level Principals (AWMLP)
Washington Association of Secondary School Principals (WASSP)

NATIONAL COMPONENTS

National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)