

Gary Kipp Will Give the AWSP Keys to Scott Seaman

Gary Kipp, our executive director, will be retiring in August 2018. Gary has served as AWSP's executive director since September of 2003. We'll miss his leadership, generosity, humor, and genuine kindness.



Scott Seaman

So what's our transition plan? Who's got the impossible job of replacing a legend? At our September board meeting, the AWSP Board offered the position to Scott Seaman. (You may recognize him from the "AWSP News" desk!) He interviewed for the position in August, but the experience that makes him the perfect replacement has been growing for some time.

Scott is in the final year of UW's Leadership for Learning (L4L) doctoral program. Gary and Jason Leahy, executive director of the Illinois Principal Association, served as official mentors for Scott as he's gone through the program. His many years of leading Tumwater High School, the four years he's spent with us here at AWSP, and his mentoring and new learnings from L4L have prepared him for his upcoming role.



AWSP Fast Five Videos

"Fast Five" Videos for Quick Leadership Tips

AWSP released new "Fast Five" videos, with principals sharing five quick tips, tricks, ideas, or resources in five minutes or less:

- Getting Seniors Started Right with a 5th Year Plan | *Brent Osborn*
- Dealing with Difficult Parents | *Ken Schutz*
- Increasing Graduation Rates | *Lori Wyborney*
- Building Positive Student Relationships | *Aaron Fletcher*
- Tech Tips | *Scott Friedman*
- Middle School Transitions | *Kirsten Rue*
- Middle School Transitions | *Cindy Cromwell*

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel (go to www.youtube.com and search for "AWSP") so you don't miss a single video!

Welcome, Emily!



Emily Tate

AWSP is excited to welcome the newest member of our staff, Emily Tate! Emily joins our team as an administrative assistant.

She graduated from Timberline High School and earned her associates at South Puget Sound Community College. She plans to transfer to a university to earn a degree. In her free time, Emily enjoys spending time with her fiancé Kole, going to sporting events, traveling, and shopping. Send Emily a "Welcome!" email at emily@awsp.org.



AWSP's Washington Principal Magazine Wins an Award

That's right – the very magazine that you hold in your hand at this minute is an award-winning publication! In June, *Washington Principal* won an Excellence award from the National School Public Relations Association. Thank you to all our members whose contributions help make this publication a success!

AWSP Office Closure in December

With the winter holidays fast approaching, we wanted to take this opportunity to let our members know that the AWSP office will be closed Dec. 18 – Jan. 2. Watch for an email with additional details this winter!



Jerry Bender



Sue Anderson

AWSP President's Award Goes to Jerry Bender and Sue Anderson

Congratulations to Jerry Bender and Sue Anderson, the recipients of AWSP's 2017 President's Award! Jerry Bender is AWSP's former director of governmental relations, who retired in July of 2017. Sue Anderson is the educator effectiveness office director at OSPI. Both were chosen for the award because of their commitment and support of AWSP and principals across the state. Recipients are chosen by the AWSP Board in consultation with the AWSP executive director. The award is presented at the association's annual conference in June.



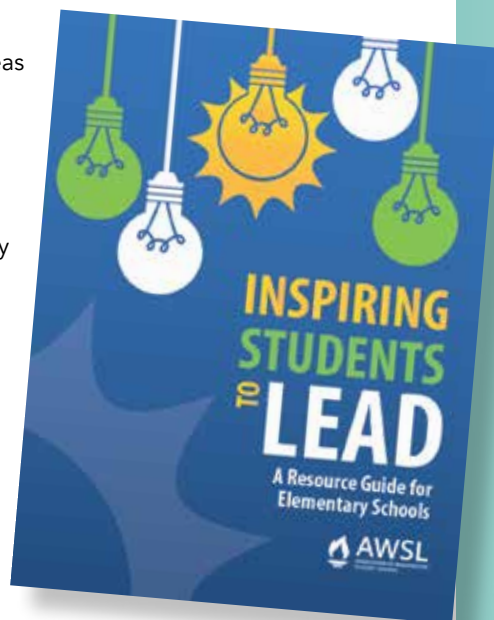
We Saw the Sign...

If you've been by the AWSP office in Olympia lately, you may have noticed our new signage. With the recent rebranding of our association, it was time to update our building with some new and improved signs to help welcome visitors. Check them out next time you're in town!

AWSL Launches a New Elementary Curriculum: *Inspiring Students to Lead*

AWSL's new *Inspiring Students to Lead* publication has workshops, program models and classroom lessons for imparting basic leadership skills to elementary students.

We know that by giving elementary students skills and experiences in the areas of communication, group process, organization, human relations and self-awareness they'll develop the confidence to lead. Their skills transfer to every school they will attend and your kids will become partners in creating a culture, ensuring safety, closing the gap and engaging the community. Visit www.AWSLeaders.org to order.



APPY HOUR

Readable.io

How Readable Is Your Writing?

These days, everyone is extremely busy. When your writing needs to grab someone's attention quickly, Readable.io can help. Readable.io lets you upload



any text you like – from Word docs to websites – and score it for readability. (This includes grade-level scoring, sentiment, keyword density, and even typical reading and speaking times for your text.) It also identifies overly long sentences, clichés and instances of passive voice, and highlights them for you to work on.

Here at AWSP we've built a readability score into our own office style guide. Our goal is to keep written materials at about grade 12 or below, preferably in the grade 8-to-10 range. (This is not because our members read at this level, but because we want to be sensitive to our readers' time!) In terms of reading ease, we shoot for 45 to 60. (By the way, this "Appy Hour" article is written at grade level 8.6.)

Research shows that when it comes to business communications (as opposed to, say, a novel or a play), all audiences prefer simpler writing. No matter whether it is a reader with a Ph.D. or a high school education, people prefer easier reading materials. Let Readable.io help you reach your audience.

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