

February 14, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Jocelyn McCabe, Director of Communications**
 Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP)
 360.357.7951 or 360.951.5269 (mobile)
 jocelyn@awsp.org

Spokane Educator 2003 Assistant Principal of the Year *Ferris High School's Robert Crabb honored for his leadership*

SEATAC – Those who know and work with Ferris High School's Robert Crabb say he is a role model for both students and staff. On Thursday, his fellow colleagues echoed these sentiments in naming him Washington state's 2003 Assistant Principal of the Year. The announcement was made Thursday night at the Assistant Principal's Conference hosted by the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP).

"Outstanding leadership is essential to developing strong schools and successful students. Bob Crabb has managed to do both through his actions as a teacher, counselor and now as an assistant principal at Ferris High School," said Brian Barker, executive director of AWSP. "It's clear from reading the nominations that Bob is not only an exceptional administrator, but also a colleague, confidant and friend. His outstanding commitment to public education and to his students, staff and fellow administrators speak volumes about not only his professionalism, but his character as a whole."

Crabb started his 27-year career in education as a counselor and chemistry teacher at Cheney High School. He later transferred to the Spokane Public Schools where he has served as a teacher, counselor and student services instructor. According to Crabb, his personal philosophy, "walk the walk," has helped him model the attitude and behaviors he has expected of others at school.

"This isn't a product you can sell," said Crabb. "It is a step by step process of getting to know people. The most important thing about my job is relationships," he added. "My job is to find ways to help people—students and staff—and to draw attention to their successes. That's the most important thing for me about this job."

"Bob Crabb models the very expectation we have for students and staff," wrote Jonathan Bentz, principal of Ferris High School in his nomination of Crabb. "He endeavors to have **all** students succeed no matter what it takes. Students learn quickly his personal commitment to them and their success," he wrote. "He is imaginative, creative, ethical, flexible, very friendly, joyful and confident. I admire and respect Bob Crabb. He is the consummate school administrator for these changing times. He can do it all."

-more-

Assistant Principal of the Year/ add 1-1-1

Each winter, members of the Association of Washington School Principals take time to honor their fellow colleagues through the Assistant Principal of the Year Award. The award alternates each year between middle school level and high school level leaders; the winner is selected through a regional nomination process.

Crabb now goes on to represent Washington state in the 2003 McDonald's/National Association of Secondary School Principals National Assistant Principal of the Year award program next week in San Diego. In addition to an honorary plaque from AWSP, McDonald's will also honor Crabb locally with a \$1,000 award and a plaque as the Washington state winner.

-30-

About Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP)

The Association of Washington School Principals is a professional association serving principals and assistant principals. Formed in 1972, the Association now includes more than 3,300 members from public and private elementary, middle and high schools statewide. The mission of AWSP is to support principals and assistant principals and the principalship in the education of all students. For more information on the Association, visit the AWSP Web site at <http://www.awsp.org>.