

## PRESS RELEASE

### 2010 Washington State Superintendent of the Year Honor Awarded to Steve Chestnut, Selah School District

**Olympia, Washington**—Steve Chestnut, superintendent, Selah School District, was selected as Washington State's 2010 Superintendent of the Year by the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA). The announcement was made today in Seattle at the association's annual superintendent's meeting.



Chestnut will represent Washington in the National Superintendent of the Year Program, which is sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) and ARAMARK Education, ING Foundation. In February, the 2010 National Superintendent of the Year will be announced and recognized along with the national and state finalists at the AASA National Conference on Education in Phoenix, Arizona.

"It is an honor to be selected as Washington's 2010 Superintendent of the Year; and I would like to thank WASA for this recognition. Much of what I have learned about being a superintendent is a result of the excellent professional development that I have received from WASA. It is humbling to receive this award from such a great organization. I would also like to thank my colleagues in the Moses Lake School District with whom I had the privilege of working with for the past twelve years. Their excellent work during that time made this recognition possible."

Chestnut was the superintendent for Moses Lake School District for twelve years until he recently became superintendent of Selah School District. His main goal during his tenure at Moses Lake was to improve academic progress. Leading by example, Chestnut was able to set aggressive goals to meet the needs of students and staff. He remained involved in both state and national associations, engaged in community activities, and set standards based on his knowledge of state and federal legislation.

"Steve's leadership has been instrumental in the success of Moses Lake School District. Under Steve's leadership, and with the school board and staff, he has set aggressive goals in the areas of student learning, attendance, reducing the dropout rate, integrating technology, increasing parent and community involvement and support as well as improving our facilities to meet the needs of a growing student population," says Monte Redal, deputy superintendent and Michelle Price, superintendent, Moses Lake School District. "We believe that the success of the Moses Lake School District is due in large part to Steve's leadership."

Chestnut received his doctorate in education from Seattle University and his master's in education from Central Washington University. Since 1991, he has held superintendent positions with Dayton School District, Moses Lake School District, and Selah School District. Currently, he is an adjunct professor at Eastern Washington University and Heritage University. He is presently active with the Washington Association of School Administrators, American Association of School Administrators, North Central Washington Association of School Administrators, Employee Relations Negotiations Network, and Kiwanis Club of Selah. Chestnut has been involved in numerous professional development activities and published several articles and presentations on education.

*The **Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA)** is a statewide professional association representing 1,600 members including superintendents, central office administrators, and building principals. WASA is committed to leadership in providing equity and excellence in student learning, and leadership in developing competent, ethical, and visionary leaders. To learn more, visit WASA's website at [www.wasa-oly.org](http://www.wasa-oly.org).*

Ed. Note:

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