

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

2023

AWSP Priorities

GROW: Partner with other organizations to identify, recruit, and develop future school leaders with a focus on underrepresented groups.

SUPPORT: Support and equip all school leaders with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to foster positive school culture, build equitable systems, and lead learning in their respective school contexts and communities.

SUSTAIN: Support all principals in their capacity to be effective long-term leaders, specifically in highly impacted schools where strong and consistent leadership is needed most.

AWSP Equity Statement

Educational disparities based on race, economics and other dimensions of difference are eliminated. Positive school outcomes are distributed equitably across all demographic and identity groups.

AWSP Mission

AWSP exists to support all principals and the principalship in the education of each and every student.

AWSP Vision

School Leadership Matters. We exist to ensure schools have a culture of hope, systems to support that culture, and collaborative learning and leadership among students and adults.

Attract and Retain a Highly-Effective Educator Workforce to Support Students

We are in a leadership crisis. Principal workload, increasingly unrealistic expectations, and job vulnerability are impacting current administrators' willingness to stay and causing prospective administrators to choose other career paths. Research from the Wallace Foundation* shows that "it is difficult to envision a higher return on investment in K-12 education than the cultivation of high-quality school leadership."

Our state must unite to respond to the education workforce crisis through a holistic and multi-faceted approach addressing current policies, legislation, and funding so that we can attract and retain highly effective educators, including principals and assistant principals.

If schools are the hub of communities, then we must have enough staff to meet the needs of students.

We need the 2023 Legislature to:

- Fix the pay gap for assistant principals and principals in administrator salary allocation.
- Update the prototypical school funding model ratios for principals in order to meet student and staff needs.
- Prepare and support new assistant principals and principals by increasing funding for administrative internships and mentorship programs.
- Provide better job protections for assistant principals and principals by creating better terms of employment.
- Fund additional professional development days to support systems and learning.
- Remove all barriers for access to health and mental health services for students.

*Wallace Foundation Report: https://bit.ly/3SU8xnB



Strong Leaders. Strong Schools. Strong Students.

AWSP | 1021 8th Ave. SE | Olympia, WA 98501 | 800.562.6100 | www.awsp.org Contact Roz Thompson, Government Relations and Advocacy Director | roz@awsp.org | 800.562.6100