

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arlington teacher named Washington Traffic Safety Education Association Teacher of the Year

ARLINGTON- Arlington High School Special Education Teacher and Traffic Safety Coordinator James Brooke has been named the Washington Traffic Safety Education Association Teacher of the Year. The "Cliff Boyce Teacher of the Year in Traffic Safety" award is given each year to a traffic safety education teacher in the state who goes above and beyond to make a difference in the area of traffic safety.

Brooke has taught traffic safety for the past 25 years at Arlington High School. In addition to a regular informational meeting for parents, Brooke hosts a second parent meeting that includes a panel of speakers who talk about traffic safety to the students and parents. Brooke said it's incredibly important for a young driver to take some sort of driver education course before they earn their license.

"Statistics show that drivers between the ages of 18 to 21 who don't take a traffic safety course before earning their driver's license are 80 to 90 percent more likely to have a traffic collision," said Brooke. "Driving is a lifelong activity and we want to make sure our students are fully prepared to drive a vehicle. In addition, Arlington High School students can earn a .5 credit by taking the class. It's great to have such a supportive school board and district and high school administration that values driver education at the high school."

"This award is very well deserved," said Arlington High School Principal Duane Fish. "James doesn't do anything halfway and is very dedicated to traffic safety education."

Brooke received the award during the Washington Traffic Safety Education Association Fall Conference that was held Oct. 12-13 in Wenatchee.



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