

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gary Sabol
360-618-6217

Arlington community member and district administrator recognized with WASA Awards

ARLINGTON- Arlington community member, Cory Duskin, and Arlington Public Schools Director of Categorical Programs, Karl Olson, were recognized with the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) Region 109 school district award on May 26.

Cory Duskin- Arlington Community Member

Duskin received the WASA Community Leadership Award for Arlington Public Schools. He is a graduate of Arlington High School and Washington State University. He is currently the principal owner of Arlington Pharmacy. Duskin's volunteer endeavors include serving as a member of the Rotary Club of Arlington, Board of Directors of Educational Service District 189, Washington State University Everett's Advisory Council, and a community member of the Arlington Public School's Facilities Advisory Committee.

Karl Olson- Arlington Public Schools Director of Categorical Programs

Olson received the WASA Student Achievement Award for Arlington Public Schools. In his first year as the district's Director of Categorical Programs, Olson's leadership resulted in the following: the high school English Language failure rate decreasing by 50% at semester; the English Language teacher now having one class period per day to push-in services, co-teach, or model quality instruction for English Learners; adopting two new, credit-bearing English Language classes for newcomers and students in their second year in the United States; and partnering with Everett Community College to provide a parent English course that also supports relationships with the high school and with fellow adult learners.

"Each of these actions are directly attributable to Karl's leadership, his creativity with resources, and his refusal to allow English Language students to receive anything but the best we have to offer," said Kari Henderson-Burke, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning. "It is for these reasons – among so many

others – that Karl is Arlington's WASA award winner for impacting student achievement.”

“Cory is committed to making Arlington and the surrounding community a better place,” said Executive Director of Operations, Brian Lewis. “Cory's efforts on the Facility Advisory Committee were instrumental in the successful passage of the school district's 2020 Capital Facilities Levy, which is improving security at all buildings, extending the useful life of the district's oldest elementary schools, increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of heating, ventilation and cooling at multiple buildings, and preparing Arlington High School for the future through a nine-classroom addition at the school. Cory is making a positive difference for education in Snohomish County.”

Duskin and Olson received the awards during WASA's annual awards luncheon May 26 in Everett.

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