

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FEMA approves Arlington Public Schools' Hazard Mitigation Plan

ARLINGTON- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved Arlington Public Schools' (APS) Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan approval allows APS to apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants through 2022.

"This is a terrific accomplishment for the district," said Brian Lewis, APS Executive Director of Operations. "Only 28 schools in the state have completed the Hazard Mitigation Plan."

Ed Aylesworth, APS Director of Child Nutrition and Support Service, headed up the project for the district. The district received a grant in fall 2013 from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to begin development of the plan. The goal of the plan is to assess natural disasters which could impact the district, the level of risk for each hazard and identify potential steps for mitigation.

"I'd like to thank Ed Aylesworth, Scott Black of OSPI, the state of Washington Emergency Management Division, and FEMA for their efforts and assistance in completing this plan," said Lewis. "Completion of the plan makes our district eligible to apply for FEMA grants to plan for and respond to natural disasters like earthquakes, landslides and wildfires."

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Pioneer Elementary Assistant Principal, Kim Caldwell, and Teacher on Special Assignment, Cindy Christoferson, review a reunification plan for the school. FEMA recently approved Arlington Public Schools' Hazard Mitigation Plan.