

## Washington State Board of Education (SBE) Staff

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Ben Rarick  
Executive Director  
(360) 725-6027



Ben joined SBE in 2011. Prior to serving as the State Board of Education's Executive Director, Ben worked for the Washington State House of Representatives as a senior budget analyst for the Education Appropriations and Ways and Means Committees. Mr. Rarick's career experiences also include time as a Project Coordinator in the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington, and as a Director and Policy Associate for the New Jersey Department of Education.

Kathe Taylor, Ph.D.  
Policy Director  
(360) 725-6028

Kathe joined SBE in 2007. She has worked in education for 30 years in teaching, administration, and state policy. She is the co-author of the book, *Children at the Center: A Workshop Approach to Standardized Test Preparation*. She earned her Ph.D. in Education from the University of Maryland. In her spare time she plays Irish and old-time fiddle.



Sarah Rich  
Research Director  
(360) 725-6311



Sarah joined SBE in 2010, as a research specialist - an instrumental task essential to shaping the Board's continuing work on its five initiatives. Before joining SBE, Sarah served as the Reading First Director at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Aaron Wyatt, APR  
Communications and Legislative Director  
(360) 725-6501

Aaron joined SBE in 2009 as a communications manager. In 2008, Aaron worked for the Office of the Secretary of State as a voter education and outreach coordinator. From 1996 to 2008, Aaron worked as a high school English teacher. He enjoys spending time with his family, working in his shop, playing with all things technology, and fishing with friends.



Jack Archer  
Policy Associate  
(360) 725-6035

Jack joined SBE in 2011. He has more than 16 years of experience as a fiscal analyst in the state House of Representatives, where he was closely involved with education policy. His prior experience includes research director for a Seattle-based non-profit and staff to the Connecticut legislature. When not at SBE, Jack serves as an analyst at the Education Research and Data Center in the Office of Financial Management.



Loy McColm  
Executive Assistant  
(360) 725-6027



Loy joined SBE in 2007. Prior, she held lead administrative support positions, including Executive Assistant to the Secretary at the Department of Corrections for 10 years. Loy was also a small business owner in Olympia for 15 years.

Ashley Harris  
Administrative Assistant 3  
(360) 725-6025

Ashley joined the SBE in 2007. Prior to the SBE, she served four years in the U.S. Army as a Medical Logistics Specialist. She went to basic training in Ft. Jackson, SC and then completed her AIT training in Ft. Sam Houston, TX. Her duty stations included Korea, Qatar, and Washington State.

