



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A high-quality education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.

Title:

- As Related To:**
- Goal One: Develop and support policies to close the achievement and opportunity gaps.
 - Goal Two: Develop comprehensive accountability, recognition, and supports for students, schools, and districts.
 - Goal Three: Ensure that every student has the opportunity to meet career and college ready standards.
 - Goal Four: Provide effective oversight of the K-12 system.
 - Other

- Relevant To Board Roles:**
- Policy Leadership
 - System Oversight
 - Advocacy
 - Communication
 - Convening and Facilitating

Policy Considerations / Key Questions:

- Possible Board Action:**
- Review
 - Approve
 - Adopt
 - Other

- Materials Included in Packet:**
- Memo
 - Graphs / Graphics
 - Third-Party Materials
 - PowerPoint

Synopsis: The ESD 112 Regional Teacher of the Year, Ms. Bethany Rivard, will present to the Board.



ESD REGIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR BIO

The Board will host Regional Teacher of the Year, Ms. Bethany Rivard, for lunch on November 5.

Ms. Rivard's Bio from the OSPI Teacher of the Year website:

Bethany teaches English Language Arts at Fort Vancouver where she is a passionate advocate for equity and justice. Bethany's initial dreams of becoming a teacher were delayed by the financial strains of study and working in New York City. She used her undergrad education to become a content expert. Now over a decade into her teaching career, she still seeks better ways to work by researching international models and networking with colleges and universities.

She puts this expertise and research to good use in her international lit course, with her writing club, and in her work to connect students with the stories behind stories. Bethany's students learn from Peace Corps volunteers, Holocaust survivors, and, perhaps most importantly, each other. Colleagues report with some envy that her classroom discussions are legendary and she "does something amazing in class pretty much every day." Also legendary is her ability to relate to and build relationships with students. Student achievement soars because of Bethany's unwavering belief in their abilities. Students know that in Bethany, they have found a teacher who truly understands them.



Bethany's dedication to lifting up the struggling or marginalized student is unmatched. She has started a Chicano student group, piloted an early admission program for Washington State University, helped secure numerous scholarships for students, and is the unofficial lunchroom for students who need a safe place. Bethany has a particular concern for students who are English Language Learners, recent immigrants, or undocumented, and she is their tireless advocate in the big questions of education improvement and reform.

"To watch her teach is like watching a master conductor in front of a symphony, calling for more from some, encouraging others, and helping each musician/student find their voice," says colleague Ben Jatos. "Having a student find his or her true authentic voice is what she does best. Bethany Rivard is seriously just an absolute teaching wizard. She inspires students to be better people and learners each class period."