



Connections

Wisconsin Association of School Personnel Administrators

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Our Mission

To enhance Wisconsin K-12 public education by connecting colleges, universities and educators to schools and students through human resource best practices.

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That Wonderful Time of the Year

This is that time of year when we HR and college placement folks prove our worth to the rest of our educational colleagues . . . students are graduating, looking for teaching positions and our schools are hiring those very same people.

If you have been in this game for a number of years you can attest to the fact that the products colleges are putting out in the marketplace these days are better than ever. Years ago (before WECAN) we would have two stacks of applications . . . those that were great and those that were far from great. Today we only have the one stack and they are all good. The difficult job before us is to find the right "fit" for these graduates and our districts.

One of the ways we can effectively and efficiently do that is through job fairs (or as we used to call them recruitment fairs). We have three planned this year; one in Wisconsin Rapids (WTID) on April 5th; one in Brookfield on April 12th; and the most senior

one(WERF) in Madison on May 31st. Details for the fairs are found on our website.

If you are an HR person, you need to be at one or more of these to find those talented candidates. Bring a team if you can. It's a great experience for building principals. If you are in college placement, you need to be there to volunteer your services and support your graduates. A special thanks to all of those behind-the-scenes folks who put these together.

Our spring conference in Green Lake is just around the corner. Watch for your program and registration coming your way within the next few weeks. This is THE networking opportunity of the season. This is where we learn from each other.

These are tough busy months ahead for all of us . . . take time for your own professional development and respite at Green Lake!

John

John Hedstrom
Executive Director

WASPA Presents WECAN at WASB

Each year WASPA has a booth at the Wisconsin Association of School Boards Convention in downtown Milwaukee. Thanks to all of you who helped “man” our booth this year. Jennifer Sielaff, South Milwaukee, did a superb job in generating the necessary volunteers and setting up the booth itself with computer (for WECAN demonstration), the backdrops, brochures, and all the necessary components that made us look just like those professional firms that sell everything from bleachers to school buses. Thanks also to Paul Roberts for coming out of retirement to shake a few hands and draw folks into our booth!



“Committee: a group of individuals who keep minutes and waste hours”

- Milton Berle

Your Board in Action ... here to serve

Your WASPA Board is here to represent you and to help you with any questions or issues you may have in your daily world of human resources or college placement. While you are always welcome to write or call us at the WASPA office, feel free to call any of our board members anytime.

Below is your 2007-2008 board; Chris Hedstrom, Membership Chair; Mary Mosier, By-laws Chair; Executive Director John Hedstrom; President Tabatha Gundrum; Treasurer Judy Mueller; Past President Jim Kling; Marketing Chair Jennifer Sielaff; WTID Chair Kay Marks; President Elect Jeff Gress; Member-at-Large Connie Beth; Member-at-Large Brenda Leahy; and Secretary Vickie Laughren. Not pictured: Steve Head, WECAN & WERF, and Mark Kapocius, Legislative Chair.



Spring Conference in Green Lake, April 17-18

Jeff Gress is busy putting together our spring conference and if you have ever been in charge of such a task you can appreciate the long hours and creativity one must possess to pull this off!

The evaluations you completed at our fall conference will be the springboard for conference planning and your suggestions are taken very seriously when we identify specific sectionals and presenters. If you have any suggestions that have come to mind since that time, give Jeff a call.

Our conference will be at the beautiful Heidelberg House Resort in Green Lake.

Feel free to bring your spouse for these days. You'll enjoy great speakers and networking with your colleagues.

We will be having a number of hour-long sessions, which allow us to bring even more resources to the conference. Watch for more hands-on types of sessions and breakouts for the university group.

Think PI-34, visas for international teachers, grievance mediation practices, staffing models and a look at retirement options for our employees. See you there!



"I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about . . . besides homework!"

*Edith Ann
(Lily Tomlin)*

Retirees

One of the major benefits of being a member of WASPA is being able to network with members who face the same issues and frustrations that you do. Most of the solid advice you receive is from those who have preceded you in this profession; those who come to the table with experience; those veterans who have formed the foundation of our organization.

This year, as in so many past, we lost some of those veterans to the wonderful world of retirement or career change. These past twelve months we lost Rob Baxter, Paul Roberts, Tena Dayne, Randy Hawley, Bob Huston, Rhonda Bird, Elliott Moeser, Ronda Ewald, Jim Martin, and Heidi Laabs,

And now we are going to lose Mary Mosier (UW-Stevens Point), Gary Schumacher (Monona Grove) and Dean Schultz (Hamilton-Sussex); all whom have announced that this is their last year in this profession of ours.

On behalf of all the members of WASPA, we thank each of you for your contributions to our profession over these years and for your willingness to develop those who are new to human resources and college placement.

We wish you the best as you now enjoy the retirement you have worked for.

AASPA IN SEATTLE

We are entering the busiest time of the year for most of us as we develop our budgets and staffing FTEs for the upcoming school year. One of the major events you want to budget and plan for is our national association's annual convention to be held on October 16-18 in Seattle, Washington. Join fellow WASPANs and affiliates from around the country for this outstanding event.



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We're on the Web!
 See us at:
www.waspa.org

Your Ballot is Important

You should have received your ballot for the 2008-2009 officers. Please return it if you have not already done so. Each year we elect a President-Elect and, in alternate years, we elect a secretary or treasurer. Members-at-Large and Committee Chairs are appointed positions.

The recommendation for President-Elect is Jack Bothwell, Executive Director of Human Resources for the Waukesha School District. The recommendation for treasurer is Patty Mayer, Human Resources Coordinator, for the Cedarburg School District,

President-elect Jeff Gress (Wausau) will be moving into the President's chair currently held by

Tabatha Gundrum (Middleton-Cross Plains). Tabatha now moves into the board role of Past President.

We will be losing Judy Mueller (Franklin) who has faithfully served as our treasurer. We thank her for her hard work and dedication to this position.

The Board will be looking for a replacement, if there is such an individual, for Mary Mosier who has served as the by-laws chair. If you are interested in serving in this capacity please contact John Hedstrom.

Board positions are for one year terms, following our fiscal year (July through June) except for the treasurer and secretary.

About Our Organization...

WASPA is a non-profit professional association of Wisconsin school district human resource professionals and Wisconsin college and university educational placement officials.

181 school districts and 15

Wisconsin colleges and universities are active members of WASPA.

WASPA hosts semi-annual conferences, sponsors WECAN, sponsors teacher recruitment fairs, and facilitates professional development.

Annual Calendar of Events

April 5
 Wisconsin Teacher
 Interview Day
 Lincoln High School
 Wisconsin Rapids

April 16
 State Board Meeting

April 17-18
 Spring Conference
 Heidel House
 Green Lake

May 31
 Wisconsin Educational
 Recruitment Fair
 Madison

November 6-7
 Fall Conference
 Osthoff Resort
 Elkhart Lake

April 16-17, 2009
 Spring Conference
 Location TBD

2007-08 Board of Directors

President – Tabatha
 Gundrum, Middleton

President-Elect – Jeff
 Gress, Wausau

Immediate Past President –
 Jim Kling, Eau Claire

Secretary – Vickie
 Laughren, DeForest

Treasurer – Judy Mueller,
 Franklin

Membership – Christine
 Hedstrom, Elmbrook

Legislative – Mark
 Kapocius, Elmbrook

By-Laws – Mary Mosier, UW-
 Stevens Point

WERF & WECAN – Steve
 Head, UW-Madison

WTID – Kay Marks,
 Wisconsin Rapids

Executive Director and
 Newsletter – John Hedstrom,
 Whitefish Bay

Members at Large
 Brenda Leahy, UW-LaCrosse
 Connie Beth, Waunakee

Marketing – Jennifer Sielaff,
 South Milwaukee