

EMPOWERING Native Education



Zoie Cross, 4th grade Fife School District

Celebrating 40 Years!



WASHINGTON STATE INDIAN
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION



APRIL 1-3, 2025
NORTHERN QUEST RESORT/CASINO
100 NORTH HAYFORD ROAD
AIRWAY HEIGHTS, WA



Welcome to the Kalispel Tribe's Northern Quest Resort and to the Washington State Indian Education Association's 40th Annual Conference. This year, we proudly focus on a theme close to our hearts: *Empowering Native Education*.

When I first began my journey in Indian Education, it was just a job. Little did I know that 49 years later it would transform into something much greater—a lifelong mission. Throughout the years I have had the privilege of attending conferences across the United States, working with various school districts, and, most importantly, meeting incredible people. Every conversation and experience taught me lessons that I could pass along to my family, friends, educators, and community.

This work became more than just a job—it became a joyful, friendly, and dynamic learning environment. When you are surrounded by such positivity and engagement, you can't help but absorb it and share it with others. Together, we inspire, we teach, and we grow.

Hope, at its core, is something we all hold within us—a spark to lift each other up when we need it most. **Resilience** is the strength we develop through challenges, guiding us to overcome obstacles with grace and determination. **Impact** is recognizing, respecting, and addressing the needs and cultural differences of our families, educators, and communities—acknowledging their unique voices and contributions.

Let us come together with hope, resilience, and a commitment to impact those around us. Together, we empower Native Education and create a brighter future.

Martha Sherman

WSIEA Chairperson

Washington State Indian Education Association

Article II. Purpose

- Sec. A. To assist educators of American Indian/Alaska Native (hereinafter referred to as Native) children with the identification, promotion, and implementation of appropriate curricula and teaching styles suited to learning styles of Native students.
- Sec. B. To identify and promote educational excellence for Native students through the encouragement of parental, tribal, and community involvement.
- Sec. C. To effectively influence and recommend educational policy development and implementation at federal, state, regional, and local levels.
- Sec. D. To encourage and render assistance to school districts, school boards, colleges, and educational associations to assure cooperative involvement of Native communities in working for promotion of higher educational achievement of students.

Article III. Membership

- Sec. A. The membership of this organization shall be open to anyone interested in improving educational opportunities for Native youth and adults. Membership is not limited to residents of Washington State.
- Sec. B. All individuals and affiliate organizations shall have voting privileges carrying one vote. Affiliate organization members shall designate one voting delegate only.

2024-25 WSIEA Board of Directors

Martha Sherman, Chairperson
Mary Wilber, 1st Vice Chairperson*
Rachael Barger, 2nd Vice Chairperson
Toni Jones, Treasurer
Alisa Woodruff, Secretary*
Sally Brownfield, Elder Representative/West*
Anna Armstrong, Elder Representative/East
Otellie Trujillo, Member at Large
Elese Washines, Parent Rep. East
Vacant, Parent Rep. West (one year term)*
Rebecca Purser, Higher Education Student Representative*
Calaiya Caldwell, High School Student Representative*
Joan Banker, Ex Officio

****term of WSIEA Board membership ends 2025***

AGENDA—WSIEA 40th Annual Conference

Tuesday – April 1, 2025

| | | |
|--------|---|-------------|
| 7 a.m. | WSIEA Registration/Information Area Open..... | Promenade |
| | Vendor Set Up (Otellie Trujillo)..... | Eddy |
| 7-9:00 | Breakfast Available..... | Pavilion IV |
| 8:00 | Vendor Area Open..... | Eddy |

8:00-12:00 1st General Session Pavilion IV

- 8:00 >Posting Colors and Invocation
- >Blessing and Welcome on behalf of Kalispel Tribe

WSIEA Welcome/Conference Overview

- >Martha Sherman, WSIEA Chairperson
- >Introduce WSIEA Board Members

9:00-4:00 Youth Day Activities Northern Quest Loft

- 9-10:30 **What's Happening in the Office of Native Education (ONE)/OSPI**
 - >Henry Strom, Assistant Superintendent
 - >Rebecca Purser, Native Educator Cultivation Program Supervisor
 - >Destiney Petty, Tribal Language Program Supervisor
 - >Maxine Alex, Tribal Consultation Program Supervisor
 - >Shandy Abrahamson, Career Connect Learning Tribal Liaison Program Supervisor

10:30-11:00 Ice Breaker

11:00-11:45 **Keynote: Jerad Koepp**, Native American Program, North Thurston School District, and 2022 Washington State Teacher of the Year

12-1:15 Lunch On Your Own Pavilion Corridor **→Raffle Opens!.....**

1:30-2:30 **1st Concurrent Workshop Session**
(see Workshop Descriptions/Locations document in your folders)

2:45-3:45 **2nd Concurrent Workshop Session/Culture Room Open**
(see Workshop Descriptions/Locations document in your folders)

4:00-5:00 2nd General Session Pavilion IV

- >WSIEA Board Election Process: Nominations (Martha and Otellie)
- >WSIEA Resolutions
- >Amended WSIEA Bylaws Introduced for Vote

- >Door Prize Drawing

5-7:00 Dinner on your own

7:00 p.m. **Craft Activity/Snacks/Movie to be determined** **Pavilion IV**

AGENDA—WSIEA 40th Annual Conference

Wednesday - April 2, 2025

| | | |
|-----------|--|------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. | WSIEA Registration/Information Area Reopens..... | Promenade |
| 7-9:00 | Breakfast Available..... | Pavilion IV |
| 6:50 | Fun Run/Walk..... | Gather by Registration |
| 8:00 | Vendor Area Open..... | Eddy |
| | Raffle Open..... | Pavilion Corridor |

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 9:00-1:45 | Youth Day Activities a.m. | Northern Quest Loft |
| 1:45-4:00 | Youth Day Activities p.m. | Kalispel Ballroom |

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 8:00-10:30 | <u>3rd General Session</u> | <u>Pavilion IV</u> |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|

8:00 >Blessing and Welcome on behalf of the Kalispel Tribe
 >Announcements
 >*Door Prize Drawing*

8:30 **Partners in Education**
 >Washington State School Directors’ Association
 >Jennifer LeBret, Chair, Washington State Native American Education Advisory Committee
 >Rachael Barger, Chair, Western Washington Native American Education Consortium

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-11:45 **3rd Concurrent Workshop Session**
 (see Workshop Descriptions/Locations document in your folders)

12:00-1:30 LUNCH ON YOUR OWN – Take advantage of this time to check out the raffle and vendors

**12-5:00 p.m. VOTING FOR 2025-26 WSIEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 AND ANY BALLOT ITEMS -- Ballots available at Registration**

1:30-2:45 **4th Concurrent Workshop Session**
 (see Workshop Descriptions/Locations document in your folders)

2:45-3:00 Break

3:00-4:15 **5th Concurrent Workshop Session/Culture Room Opens**
 (see Workshop Descriptions/Locations document in your folders)

**REMEMBER TO TURN IN YOUR BALLOTS AT THE REGISTRATION
 TABLE PRIOR TO 5:00 P.M.**

4:00 WSIEA Youth Day activities concludes

5:00 Raffle Closes

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 6:00 p.m. | WSIEA Awards Banquet | Pavilion IV |
| | >Performance: Salish Karaoke | |
| | >Award Presentations | |

AGENDA—WSIEA 40th Annual Conference

Thursday - April 3, 2025

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 7-9:00 a.m. | WSIEA Information Area Reopens..... | Promenade |
| 7-9 | Breakfast Provided..... | Pavilion IV |
| 8:00 | Vendor Area Open..... | Eddy |
| 8:30-12:00 | <u>4th General Session</u> | <u>Pavilion IV</u> |
| 8:30 | Opening: >Blessing >Welcome/Announcements | |
| 9:00-9:20 | >Graduation Requirements: Anne Ricks, Washington State Board of Education | |
| 9:30-10:45 | >Right to Wear Regalia: Rachael Barger and Otellie Trujillo | |
| 10:45-11:00 | Martha Sherman <i>"Hope, Resilience and Impact"</i> | |
| 11:00 | >Introduction and installation of new WSIEA Board members -- <i>Otellie Trujillo, WSIEA Board Member</i> >Recognition of outgoing WSIEA Board members -- <i>Martha Sherman, WSIEA Chairperson</i> | |
| 11:30-12:00 | Wrap Up/Adjournment >Closing Remarks >Retiring the Colors | |
| 12:00-1:30 | 2025-26 WSIEA Board of Directors Meeting | Pavilion IV |

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for being part of our milestone 40th Annual WSIEA Conference. We hope you found it to be a worthwhile experience and will join us again in 2026.

Other Pertinent Information

Culture Room – Prairie Room

We are excited to host the “culture room” as a positive and nurturing part of our conference. The purpose of this room is to provide a hands-on experience for educators to participate in culturally relevant activities within the Native American culture. Native American artisans have been invited to be part of this interactive culture room. Artisans will set up a station to teach an activity to people attending the conference.

Time in the culture room will be offered on Tuesday, April 1, coinciding with the workshop times of 2:45-3:45 p.m. and Wednesday, April 2, coinciding with the workshop times of 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Fun Run/Walk – Wednesday morning, April 2:

Please gather at the registration table in the Promenade by Pavilion IV on Wednesday morning at 6:50. All runners/walkers completing the run/walk will receive a WSIEA T-shirt, backpack, bag, or mug.

Clock Hours/Continuing Education Units:

20 clock hours will be available for conference participants. Clock hours are offered free for WSIEA Conference participants.

Door Prizes/Raffle:

WSIEA will be drawing tickets for some really great door prizes throughout this year’s conference and **you must be present to win!!** Drawing times are noted in the conference program. Door prize tickets are included in each registered conference participant’s packet.

We are also sponsoring a raffle in the Pavilion corridor with \$1 and \$5 tickets available to purchase for the item(s) that catch your eye. Funds raised through this event support our student merit awards.

Jerad Koepp Biography

Jerad Koepp, *Wukchumni*, is the Native Student Program Specialist for North Thurston Public Schools, the 2022 Washington State teacher of the year, and the first Native American educator to earn the distinction in the state. He is a leader in Native education, policy, and government to government relationships. As an educator, trainer, presenter, consultant, and advocate, Jerad also created and supports his district's dual-credited high school Native Studies program.

WSIEA would like to express our appreciation to Jerad for agreeing to serve as our keynote speaker at this year's milestone WSIEA conference.

2025 WSIEA Cover Art Winner

Zoie Cross, 4th Grade student, Fife School District, is the winning artist of this year's WSIEA Conference Program cover. Thank you Zoie!

Thank you to our donors!



WSIEA would like to thank the Washington Education Association for their generous donation to support our 40th Anniversary Conference



WSIEA would also like to thank College Spark of Washington (<https://collegespark.org/>) for their financial support of this milestone anniversary conference. It is appreciated!

WSIEA also extends a big thanks to the Yakama Nation for hosting the beverage station each morning. We all appreciate it!