

## **WSTA is proud to award Anne Kennedy the 2005-2006 Special Recognition Award for Excellence in Science Education.**

Anne Kennedy has a motto: “Great Science, All kids, Everyday.” The extraordinary thing about Anne is that she lives this motto daily gifting the students of our state and the nation with her wisdom, insight, knowledge and enthusiasm for the highest quality science education. Anne has done and continues to do amazing pioneering work in the area of Science Education reform in Educational Service District 112, our state, and nation. She is a model of excellence to us all.

The science reform organizations that Anne has created, nurtured and participated are to numerous to count but a number certainly need to be mentioned: the Science and Math Education Resource Center (SMERC) in Southwest Washington, Assessing Student Knowledge (ASK) project, her dedicated service to WSTA and her long term leadership role in the Washington State LASER program. Anne has an infectious ability to motivate and encourage colleagues, staff members, legislators, business leaders, and administrators to come together, forming trusting communities that do what is needed to support excellence in science education for all. Her Superintendent, Twyla Barnes tells us that “Now every school district in SW Washington uses the same K-8 science curriculum and materials. Every teacher in every classroom receives the professional development and materials needed to teach quality science every day of the school year. Anne developed a business model that ensures sustainability of the program for the future—no small feat.” Dennis Schatz and Jeff Estes, Co-Directors of Washington State LASER, share with us, “All the school districts in ESD 112’s service district area are now engaged in science education reform due to Anne and her staff’s efforts. All school districts have attended a LASER Strategic Planning Institute and have implemented, or are implementing an inquiry-based science program in the K-8 grades. Due to Anne’s leadership a number of high schools are now expanding into adopting an inquiry, standards-based approach.” Counting in what matters most, this equates to approximately 50,000 students experiencing “Great Science, Everyday”.

Anne is a bold and courageous science educator that brings the vision of science education reform to life for our state leaders. Seeing Anne and her staff in action with students, Terry Bergeson, the State Superintendent of Education, threw her support behind statewide science educational reform, where it firmly remains to this day. We all owe Anne a debt of gratitude for showing Terry and all of us the face of discovery in our students and teachers.

Anne’s colleagues see her as a tireless, generous, compassionate and flexible professional educator who provides leadership, counsel and nurturing for all who seek help. Carolyn Landel, Project Director for the North Cascades and Olympic Science Partnership (NCOSP), shares that Anne’s assistance to her organization has been invaluable to them. This year alone, she was instrumental in working with staff at NCOSP to assist them in developing a cooperative of 15+ school district serving students and teachers in Northwest Washington.

Anne is a unique and beautiful science educator that has truly moved science education reform forward in Washington State. It is a privilege for WSTA to celebrate and honor Anne Kennedy, with the receipt of the 2005 Special Recognition Award for Excellence in Science Education. A small token of gratitude for a life's work dedicated to providing "Great Science, to All Kids, Everyday."