

“A hero’s journey begins with a call to adventure. Listen and be brave.” ---Shannon Flahery Randall They say a journey begins with a simple step. This is true, but it takes courage to take that step. I will always appreciate the opportunity that WSNA and our members gave me that enabled me to take this adventure as your president. The first step was for my benefit by joining WSNA for my education and growth as a school service professional. Attending conferences and networking to earn my certification was the next step. Then the next step took me to places I did not think I would go: area representative, membership chair, and president of WSNA. Each step has taken me on new and exciting adventures; and I have benefited by gaining education and making great friendships! Most of all, this adventure has given me the passion to help all our members gain courage to take that first step on a journey. This year’s journey has provided a wonderful opportunity to work closely with WSNA leaders. President-elect Vickie Ayers planned and conducted four well-attended Fall Workshops. Vickie has spent the remainder of the year working on breakout sessions for our Annual State Conference in Tacoma that will provide an exciting and educational #Mission for Child Nutrition. Vice President Pam Milleon planned the Spring Workshop in Wenatchee with a full day of key area breakout sessions, and she is currently working on coordinating Fall Workshops. The WSNA executive board and committee chairs have been dedicated and passionate working on the goals of our Association. I cannot thank each one of them enough for all the time, challenging work, and support that they have dedicated to WSNA. WSNA Annual State Conference Chair Kathy McKibbin-Manuel and her committee have planned an outstanding event in Tacoma August 6-8. Executive Director Peggy Rieper and Executive Assistant Kathy Buchanan are our two dedicated professionals who continually make our association extraordinary. I’m am so grateful to all these individuals coming together to help make my adventure as president so very rewarding and abundant. SNA President Lynn Harvey quoted an African proverb in the April edition of SNA’s School Nutrition Magazine: “If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together.” We are stronger together, so let us come together in Tacoma for our Annual State Conference. There will be great opportunities for education, networking, and fun. Come and find your super power, it may even be your moment to take a step on a journey of great adventure! Oh, the places you will go and the people you will meet by being members of WSNA. We are stronger together, and I thank each and everyone of you for giving me the courage to take this journey.