



Northwest Leadership
Associates, on behalf of the
Toppenish School District,
invites applications for the
position of
**Special Education
Director**

Toppenish School District
Toppenish, Washington



Toppenish School District
We are Greater Together!



The Toppenish Community

Toppenish is a vibrant community deeply connected to its rich heritage and diverse cultures. Residing on the Yakama Nation reservation, Toppenish is a pivotal hub in the fertile Yakima Valley, celebrated for its orchards, vineyards and hop farms.

The community celebrates its cultural heritage throughout the year through festivals, parades and events such as the Toppenish Rodeo, MLK March, Toy Train Christmas and the annual Lighted Christmas Parade. There are also opportunities provided directly through the Yakama Tribal Nation including Pow-Wow events, Salmon dinners, wildlife habitat fieldtrips for students and other cultural celebrations within our schools and the community at large.

Titled the Mural Capital of the World, Toppenish boasts over 75 outdoor murals which depict its rich history. This adds to the small-town charm of Toppenish, attracting visitors from near and far.

The community is home to unique museums, including the American Hop Museum, offering insights into hop cultivation, and the Northern Pacific Railway Museum, providing a glimpse into the era of steam-driven locomotives. The Yakama Nation Cultural Center showcases Yakama history through dioramas, exhibits and extensive Strongheart collection.

Toppenish thrives on its rich agricultural offerings, with nearby wineries, orchards and fruit stands providing a taste of Yakima's Wine Country. From grapes and apples to peaches and mint, local cuisine and markets celebrate the region's abundance. This blend of heritage, cultural diversity and economic vitality makes Toppenish a truly unique and dynamic community.

For more information about the community of Toppenish visit:

www.toppenish.gov



The Toppenish School District

Established in 1944, Toppenish School District serves 3,580 students in K-12. Nestled in rural Central Washington, this educational community thrives in a vibrant and diverse setting enriched by descendants of the Yakama Nation, a significant Hispanic community and individuals from various backgrounds. The district benefits from strong community support, prioritizing diversity and inclusion, and promoting a collaborative work culture. Staff find

purpose in positively impacting the lives of students by fostering a supportive learning environment.

Celebrating a diverse range of achievements, the district takes pride in programs such as choir, band, CTE, College in the Classroom, and inclusive education, Indian education, as well as engaging in extracurricular activities like TSA, HOSA, debate, ASB, DECA, Skills USA, and a variety of athletics. Beyond the classroom, collaborative partnerships with ESD 105, Heritage University, Yakima Valley College, YV-Tech Skills Center, University of Washington, Eastern Washington University, Central Washington University, Northwest Action Community Center, Yakama Nation, and the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic enhance our collective impact. These alliances contribute to the district's success, emphasizing community engagement and providing valuable resources for an enhanced educational experience for all students.

We are also very proud of the work that was undertaken this year in collaboration with varied stakeholders to develop the district's values, strategic priorities and portrait of a graduate that is ongoing and intentional work to enhance the education and outcomes in Toppenish School District.

Toppenish School District serves approximately 3580 students in a PreK–12 system housed across 8 schools. The district is known for its personalized approach to education, strong staff commitment, and focus on meeting the needs of every student.

Students benefit from a well-rounded educational experience that includes academic programming, extracurricular activities, and opportunities that connect learning to the local community. Staff are highly dedicated and work collaboratively to support student success in a small-school environment.

The district maintains a strong connection with families and the broader community, fostering a supportive atmosphere where students are known, valued, and encouraged to succeed.

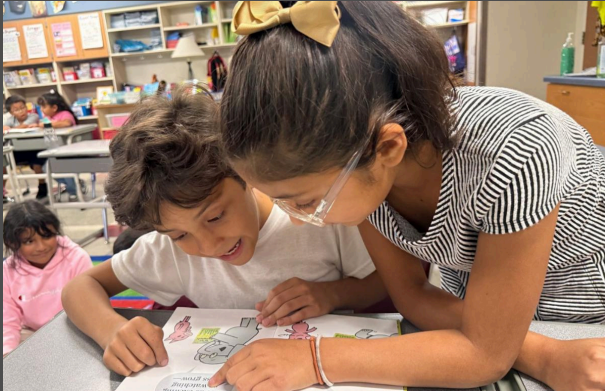
For more information about the Toppenish School District visit:

www.toppenish.wednet.edu



A Unique Leadership Opportunity

The District is seeking a Special Education Director to provide steady leadership and support. This is an opportunity to serve a highly engaged community and work alongside a committed staff and administrative team.



Compensation and Timeline

Compensation will be regionally competitive and commensurate with experience. The anticipated start date is July 1, 2026 (or as soon as candidate is available thereafter).

Application Packet

A completed application packet should include the following:

- A letter of interest
- A completed application form (available upon request)
- A current resume
- Three letters of recommendation

Please submit materials electronically to:

Joel Aune, Owner/Chief Operating Officer: gunderaune@gmail.com
Tom Rockefeller, Owner/Chief Operating Officer: rockefelleratom34@gmail.com

The position will remain open until filled.

Application materials will become property of NWLA and the school, and will not be returned to the applicant

Please do not contact the school directly regarding the selection process for this position.

All inquiries, including those from applicants with disabilities who need help in completing application materials, should be made to the following NWLA Associates

Joel Aune | Email: gunderaune@gmail.com

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