



**AWSL**  
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON  
STUDENT LEADERS

**Student Engagement.**  
**Student Empowerment.**  
**Student Voice.**

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2142 Cispus Road, Randle, WA 98377 | P: (360) 497-5323 | F: (360) 497-5324 | [www.AWSLeaders.org](http://www.AWSLeaders.org)

Greetings Advisers –

Thank you so much for registering your students for AWSL's Summer Programs! We are excited once again to offer dynamic, life-changing experiences for students!

The AWSL Summer program staff looks forward to providing students with an enriching learning experience with great excitement and anticipation. Students joining us for our summer programs will be able to develop leadership skills, network with educators and students from around the state, and strengthen their bond as a leadership team heading into the next school year.

Through an interactive camp experience, students learn and practice essential skills such as team building, communication, creative thinking, and leading within their schools. Our AWSL Summer Program staff comprises educators, counselors, administrators, professionals, and college-age role models dedicated to serving our programs and students.

AWSL Summer Programs is a time of adventure and discovery. Although exciting, being away from home may feel like a long time. Our staff is aware of your hesitation and is committed to helping students adjust once they arrive. There are many benefits to attending AWSL Summer Programs. Students leave our programs feeling empowered and confident in their abilities to succeed in all areas of life. Many students experience increased self-esteem, expectations of their future, and the ability to collaborate with others.

Please read the attached Adviser Letter from the session your students will attend.

**Delegate Registration:** The sooner we get delegate registrations in, the better. We know elections, and summer planning, have delayed securing the names of those who will be attending our summer programs. This information supports us in building dorm assignments and meal planning on our campuses. The sooner we can get those in, the better.

**Cancellation Policy:** All cancellations received after May 1 will result in a non-refundable processing fee of \$100 per registered person and applicable transportation costs. 15 days before the start of camp, full charges for camp plus transportation will apply to all cancellations. Same-gender substitutions are allowed up to the day before camp with no fee. Full charges apply for delegates who leave early or do not attend camp. **All cancellations must be received in writing from a school official by the specified date.**

Please feel free to reach out with any questions. We appreciate you and your continued support of AWSL!

**AWSL Team Contact Information and Responsibilities:**

- James Layman, AWSL Director | [james@awsleaders.org](mailto:james@awsleaders.org)
  - Summer Program logistics, operations, and programming
- Greg Barker, WSPEF Managing Director | [greg@awsp.org](mailto:greg@awsp.org)
  - Summer Program reservations and registrations
- Travis Ruther, AWSL Associate Director | [travis@awsleaders.org](mailto:travis@awsleaders.org)
  - La Cima logistics, and coordination
- Dianne Sympson, AWSL Administrative Assistant | [dianne@awsleaders.org](mailto:dianne@awsleaders.org)
  - Summer Program delegate registration

# Camp Columbia Adviser Information Letter

A FOUR-DAY EXPERIENCE THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Washington State Middle-Level Leadership Camp August 9-12, 2024

at Cispus Learning Center, Randle, WA

Sponsored by the Student Leadership Program of the Association of WA School Principals



## Camp Columbia Mission Statement

Camp Columbia Staff is committed to fostering an environment that challenges each individual to develop lifelong leadership within self and community.

## Goal For Your Students Attending Camp Columbia

Please encourage your students to be present, be engaged, be inclusive, be a learner at Camp Columbia to get the very most out of their experience. They will have the opportunity to gain leadership skills, knowledge and cultivate connections with other leaders from around the state.

## Responsibilities for the Adviser of Camp Columbia delegates

Remind students that they have been selected to represent your school at this leadership conference. They will be one of over 250 delegates at camp. As a representative of their school, they will be expected to be a positive participant in all the activities. In general, camp rules shadow basic school rules: respect yourself and others, be on time, and wear appropriate clothing at camp.

***Those students who do not follow the camp behavior expectations will be sent home.***

## Camp Columbia Experience (Staff and Curriculum)

Columbia Middle-Level Camp is a leadership experience designed specifically for middle-level students. By participating in this experience, students will develop their leadership potential, meet new friends, and discover how to better serve their school and community. The staff is composed of enthusiastic, highly trained, and dedicated teachers, counselors, administrators, and college students. The curriculum is based on the goals and objectives of Washington Student Leadership, a division of the Association of Washington School Principals. They will gain new skills in Growth Mindset, Building Connections, Action and Service, Emotional Intelligence, and Social and Personal Awareness. The camp experience is inclusive, energizing, and structured. The curriculum and its emphasis on the experiential learning process encourage students to maximize their potential. The camp staff teaches and models lifelong leadership and social skills through large-group and small-group activities. Students learn a variety of valuable skills that will help them in their development as positive school leaders.

## Prepare and Reassure Your Students

Students will see their families on days one and four of camp. Day two and three will be filled with leadership activities from morning until night. Cell phones and calling cards will not work at Cispus; students will not be able to call during camp. Please realize they will not be in contact with their families for only two days. If there is an emergency, a camp staff member will contact their family. **PLEASE** have this conversation with your students to help them understand that they will have a great time at camp and will get to tell you and their families about it when they get picked up on the last day or return to school.

**Facebook**-Camp Columbia has a Facebook page. We encourage you to "like" us so you may begin networking and sharing ideas.

## Students Assigned To Cabins

Two students from your school will be assigned to stay overnight in a cabin. We cannot fill requests for certain people together in cabins. **Please make sure this is clear to the students attending camp and their parents.** A student will be without someone from their school in a cabin if they are the only male or female attending from your school. We put all the singletons in one cabin together to foster friendships and to be with people with similar experiences.



## Arrival and Departure (Have your students carpool as much as possible)

Please register students who can commit to attending camp from START to FINISH. The opening session will begin on August 9, at 1:00 p.m. Plan to arrive between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. This will give delegates plenty of time to move into cabins and to have lunch in the dining hall before we begin. Camp will conclude at 12:30 p.m. on August 12. Delegates will receive a sack lunch for the road as they depart.

*Travel Time: Seattle—3 hours / Yakima—2 hours / Tacoma—2.5 hours / Tri-Cities—4 hours  
Vancouver—2 hours / Olympia—2 hours / Bellingham—4 hours / Spokane—5 hours*

**Camp Shirt/Etcetera**-Optional: Bring money for a camp shirt. Please keep other valuables at home.

## Medical Care

- A Health and Wellness Professional is on duty to handle routine and emergency medical situations. If a delegate becomes so ill that they need a doctor's attention, parents will be contacted & billed for the visit.
- ALL student medications MUST be turned in at the Nurse's station during the registration process at camp. **(Remember to bring the delegate's medication to the Medical Station in a plastic bag with her/his name on it for registration)** Every delegate must have a completed medical form on file at camp.
- The accident insurance of the Association of Washington School Principals' Student Leadership Program is secondary to family coverage.

**Special Concerns: Please** let us know if any of your students attending camp need any extra accommodations to help make their camp experience and transitions as smooth as possible. (Ex: Wheelchair or ADA access) Also, remind the students to make note of any food restrictions or medical concerns in their registration forms.

**Helpful Hints for Your Students Registration**-Please make sure your students put your name, spelled correctly for the Adviser/Teacher's name, and your correct email address for the Adviser/Coach/Teacher fill-in boxes on the Registration Forms.

**If You Attend The Adviser Session**-If you are attending as an adviser, be prepared for an active, information-filled seminar. On a few occasions, you will be with the student delegates. However, the bulk of your program will be with other advisers as you gain new skills to enhance the student activities at your school. Plan to arrive and depart at the same time as the student delegates. Advisers will be housed in an adult cabin. Twenty (20) clock hours (\$40) are available.

Cancellations something happens, and a delegate will not be able to attend camp; it is essential that you do the following: 1) Before August 1st, contact James Layman, AWSL Director, at (360) 497-5323. Please attempt to find another student to attend in that delegate's place. Otherwise, your ASB will forfeit the space and the money paid. 2) From August 1-6, contact the Directors of Camp Columbia. (Phone numbers listed below)

## Questions-

Prior to August 6th please contact

Lana Yenne, Camp Director (360) 790-5656 or Susie Bennett, Assistant Director (509) 834-0897

After August 6th please contact

**During Camp, call the office at (360) 497-5323 FOR EMERGENCY ONLY AFTER HOURS (360) 497-7131**

**Cispus Web Page: <https://awsleaders.org/columbia>**