

Linda Thompson, President



Email: lthompson@wvsspa.org

Linda Thompson was born and raised in Huntington, WV. Linda has a twin sister, along with three additional sisters and two brothers. Like her mother and many close relatives, Linda graduated from Huntington East High School. She attended Marshall University for one year before marrying her high school sweetheart. As a newlywed, Linda moved to Washington D.C. and worked for the FBI.

Linda currently resides in Crown City, OH with her husband. She has a strong devotion to her Baptist faith and to her family. She is the mother of two children, Tara and Alan, and the proud grandmother to six grandchildren, Tori, Lexi, Kali, E.B., Tyler and Caleb.

Linda currently works as the Executive Secretary in the elementary education department for the Cabell County Board of Education. Linda has been an active member of the West Virginia School Service Personnel Association from her very first day of employment on September 12, 1978. Prior to her election of President of the WVSSPA in the spring of 2014, Linda served as a Vice President of the state executive committee for 12 years. Linda formerly served on the American Federation of Teachers-West Virginia (AFT-WV) Executive Board, and on the Policy and Procedure Council for AFT-PSRP (Paraprofessionals & School Related Personnel).

Linda strongly believes in the mission statement of the WVSSPA. She strives to uphold and protect the WVSSPA ideals, standards and goals set for service employees throughout West Virginia's school buildings.

Joe White, Executive Director



Email: jwhite@wvsspa.org

James Joseph “Joe” White was born in Parkersburg, WV. He was raised in Clothier, WV.

Joe graduated from Sharples High School in Boone County, WV. Joe currently resides in Chapmanville, WV, with his wife Brenda, his family and three beloved dogs Daisy, Muffin and Sissy. He is the father of two sons, Joseph II and Tyler, and a daughter, Andrea. He has three grandchildren, Mckenzie, Tyler and Rowan.

Immediately after high school graduation Joe moved to Florida to start his family. For nearly 10 years he worked as a district manager for Baron Oil Company. In the early nineties, Joe returned to his home state and began working for Logan County Schools.

In 1994, Joe became a member of the WVSSPA, and has served the association in many different roles. In 2007, Joe worked as a Field Staff representative for the WVSSPA, recruiting new members from all over the state. He served as Vice President of the state executive committee from 2007-2010. In January 2014, Joe served as the Political Director for the WVSSPA. In March 2014, he was hired as the association’s Executive Director.

A devoted WVSSPA member for over twenty years, Joe has a strong commitment and vision for the association.

WVSSPA History



The West Virginia School Service Personnel Association (WVSSPA) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to advance the interest and welfare of its members, to establish and maintain greater equity in working conditions and to create a deeper sense and knowledge of the importance of non-instructional services to the West Virginia education system.

In order to provide an organization dedicated to the needs and concerns of service personnel, the WVSSPA was established in 1965, by visionary leader Kenneth Legg. For the past 50 years, the WVSSPA has been front and center on issues affecting service personnel.

Since its founding, the WVSSPA has negotiated with school boards to provide improved benefits and better working conditions. Additionally, many legislative improvements have been achieved through the efforts of the WVSSPA including greater job security, health and safety protections and increased salary and benefits. The WVSSPA represents over 8,000 school service employees in West Virginia.

Between the years 2008-2015, the WVSSPA was recognized as a fully autonomous local affiliate with American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the AFT-WV. On December 12, 2015, the WVSSPA reclaimed autonomy by unanimous vote of the executive committee to disaffiliate from the AFT and the AFT-WV.

The WVSSPA membership categories include: active, substitute, retired employee and associate. Active membership is open to all regular school service employees and substitutes who are assigned in the following service personnel groups: office, school transportation, general maintenance, custodial care, and school lunch and teacher aides, including paraprofessionals.

The WVSSPA is a democratic organization comprised of members who actively participate in developing programs and policy. Members develop county associations and participate in the Association's annual spring general assembly to elect officers and executive committee members. Program and policy actions result from recommendations of executive committee

members, county associations, WVSSPA officers and individual members attending the general assembly.

High resolution WVSSPA Logos

WVSSPA

