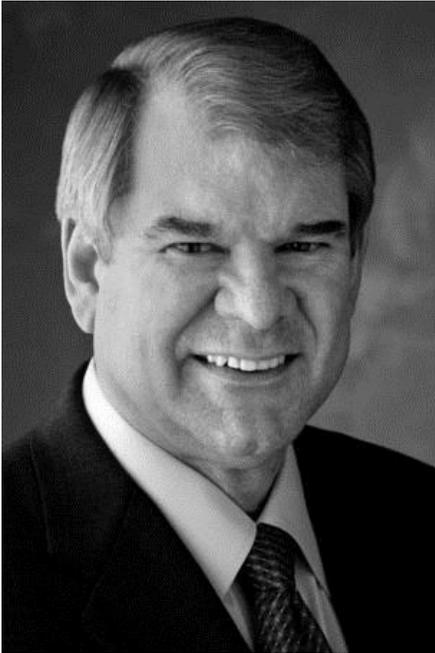


After 33 years, David Moore to hand over the reins at Junior Achievement

SUBSCRIBER CONTENT: Oct 4, 2017, 5:49pm PDT



David Moore is stepping down from his role as president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Washington.

Moore has been involved in JA for a half century, back when he was a high school junior and involved in the program as a student.

After 33 years at the helm of Junior Achievement of Washington, President and CEO **David Moore** is stepping down, effective Dec. 31.

Moore has been involved with JA for 50 years, when, as a junior in high school, he was elected to head a JA company called "Junior Achievement Products of [Kaiser Aluminum](#)."

He started as an employee of the organization in 1984, when JA was serving 8,000 Puget Sound-area students. Today it reaches about 115,000 students statewide each year.

Moore told the Puget Sound Business Journal he feels the time is right to turn the reins over to someone who can take JA to a higher level.

"I have served under the direction of some incredibly talented business executives and community leaders," he said. "Truly, I've been blessed. I have given Junior Achievement my very best and am proud of all our accomplishments."

Seattle Mariners President **Kevin Mather** serves on the Junior Achievement of Washington's executive board and says Moore's departure is a big loss for the organization.

"What David Moore did for JA over that 33 years is absolutely unbelievable," Mather said, "most especially for the 115,000 kids he reaches every year and makes a big positive difference in their lives."

Moore is most proud of the business education programs JA World in Auburn and Yakima, which he feels "is the largest single achievement that JA has offered in 100 years."

About 300,000 young people from all over the state have gone through JA World's programs including JA Finance Park and JA Biztown, two intricate exercises in real-world finance. It even now offers a mobile finance park which goes to Spokane.

“In Yakima, children of farm workers are teaching their parents how to maneuver through the economic system of the United States,” Moore said. “These kids who go through this program are embracing financial literacy and economic success; and all of us are watching as we change the future economic course of our state through young people.”

Moore shines the spotlight on others — the countless executives and business people who teach JA courses in classrooms, and those who volunteer at JA World on both sides of the Cascades, teaching children from all over the state who come to learn.

Specifically, he credits volunteer and community advocate **Cheri Marusa** for spearheading the growth of JA in Yakima; and the late **John Fluke Sr.** for bringing JA to the Seattle area in 1953.

He points to Kevin Mather and his deep involvement in JA as one of his own heroes.

“He gets it. He knows we don’t chase numbers. We chase dreams. Every one of those students has a dream they want to become, and we encourage them and show them how,” Moore said.

A search committee will be looking for Moore’s replacement.

In his immediate future, Moore will be helping with a startup non-profit involved in teaching young people to cook healthy foods, as well as a new winery in the Red Mountain area of Washington.

Moore says he definitely wants to continue to serve the community through other ventures.



Patti Payne

Columnist

Puget Sound Business Journal