As Perspectives has evolved, founding members and new members agree: Perspectives has offered a service to ESAs for 20 years and there are many more great editions yet to come!

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This month, AESA thanks two longtime members of AESA’s Perspectives Editorial Board who are “retiring” from their service to AESA’s Perspectives and welcomes one new member to the Editorial Board.

After 20 years, Bill Keane, founding member of Perspectives, encourages future contributors

Bill Keane, who is a founding member of the Perspectives board, joins Wayne Bell in leaving the board while Chris Moddelmog is joining the board.

Keane is retired but spent 15 years as the Dean of the School of Education at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan after having served as Superintendent of Oakland Schools ISD in Michigan. Nearly 20 years ago, he brought his years of experience to the editorial board of the new Perspectives magazine.

“At the time, we felt there were advantages and disadvantages to service agencies, and one of the disadvantages was that you didn’t get to share ideas and talk to other agency members unless you attended a national conference,” Keane says.

“Another disadvantage was that we needed visibility to others, including legislators in different states. Some states were flourishing while legislators in others were threatening budget cutbacks and even shutdowns of service agencies. We needed to show that ideas that worked in some states could work in others.”

Keane admits that while Perspectives has been successful in the first goal, the second goal has been more difficult to attain not only because of the makeup of 50 different legislatures, but the different responsibilities and funding mechanisms for service agencies in 50 separate states.

Looking back, he says the most difficult part of working on Perspectives was coaxing written content from members. “There were always a lot of good ideas, but members would say ‘we’re not writers.’ Just getting the ideas to the editorial desk was challenging. The fact that we’ve
been able to keep it going for 20 years is proof that Perspectives is a good idea and has a good future.”

**Wayne Bell will retire in 2018, leaving his Perspectives’ ‘editor’s pen’ to others, too.**

Wayne Bell, who will retire as Administrator for ESU 10 in Kearney, Nebraska at the end of the year, started with the Perspectives board in 2001. He says that while the magazine’s style has changed from a peer journal to more of a magazine that focused on topics of interest, the content has remained strong and he has enjoyed being a part of the community.

“I have been very impressed with my peers and the quality, depth and breadth of the articles that have been distributed through the years,” Bell says. “I enjoyed working collegiality with very smart people.”

**New Editorial Board member, Chris Moddelmog, wants to give back to Perspectives.**

Chris Moddelmog, the Executive Director of Smoky Hill Education Service Center in Salina, Kansas, will be joining the Perspectives board.

“Perspectives was very helpful to me when I was new as a director of an ESC, and this is a way for me to give back,” Moddelmog says.

Spreading good ideas to other ESAs is his goal. “Perspectives shows ESAs what works around the country and what ideas they can use. If I can get information out there in a professional and usable format that can best help people, then I want to be involved in that process.”

Perspectives is an online, on demand publication that publishes formal research, news about ESA innovative programs and short articles that highlight ideas for ESAs. Find current and past editions on the AESA web site.