

# Jayme Taylor

**City and state:** Lake Stevens, WA

**High school attended:** Clover Park High School

**Graduation year:** 1999

**Colleges attended/degrees earned:**

- Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication from the University of Washington, Tacoma
- Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership, Chapman University



**Current career/job:**

Director of Communications for Lake Stevens School District

**Describe the path you took from high school graduation to where you are today:**

After graduation from Clover Park, I earned a bachelor's degree from UW and worked in a temporary position for Clover Park School District while someone was on military leave. From there, I held communication positions with the Association of Washington School Principals and Administrative Office of the Courts before returning to CPSD, full-time for five years. During this time, I also held many leadership positions on the board of the Washington School Public Relations Association. In December of 2012 I moved with my family to Lake Stevens to begin my new career.

**How did your experiences in Clover Park School District help prepare you for this path?**

I was fortunate to attend Clover Park schools and to grow up in Lakewood. I was exposed to racial, financial and cultural diversity and also became familiar with military students and their families. I have a great respect for this diversity and have made many lasting friendships and contacts that are very important to me. Not everyone has this opportunity, and I'm very grateful.

**Who was the most influential teacher or administrator to you as a student in the district? Why?**

I had a great respect for Brad Purvis who was my principal at Lochburn Junior High (before it became a middle school). He gave me many opportunities to learn and grow in my leadership abilities. Ray Kurtz was and is a phenomenal teacher and helped me appreciate math, even though it was challenging. He is an inspirational educator, coach and friend.

**Do you have any favorite memories from when you attended school in Clover Park School District?**

In 2000, the year after I graduated, Clover Park finally beat Lakes in football! I think the alumni in attendance were more excited than the current students. Football games were always my favorite times. I was on the Dance Team and my boyfriend (now husband) played football. Fall Friday nights were the best!

**What opportunities exist in your career sector for new graduates? Is post-secondary education required for this field?**

The communications/public relations field is constantly growing and changing. There are numerous opportunities in a variety of areas. Overall, post-secondary education is required along with strong writing skills, the ability to research, understanding of technology, social media skills and photography, video and design. Communications professionals do it all!