

WFIS eMemo

December 2010

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[Fran Baum, Agent](#)

Greetings,

We take a moment during this busy holiday time to wish you peaceful, calm moments with family and friends. Soon the pace will accelerate and we will all be back to full speed. In the meantime, we have a few interesting and exciting offerings to share with you.

Best of Washington Winners Selected

The WFIS Board of Directors has made its selections for the annual Best of Washington Awards. Winners have been notified and you will receive a formal announcement soon. Please make plans now to join us in celebrating private education at the annual Winter Dinner in Puyallup on February 10th. Keynote speaker for the evening will be **Maureen Dowling**, Director of Private Education, U. S. Department of Education!

Executive Director Search

The search continues for a new leader for the federation. The job description is available at <http://wfis.org/>. Interested individuals should submit a cover letter and resume to Briel Schmitz, Board Chair, at briels@sprucestreetschool.org.

Fall Workshop Scheduled

The date has been set for the WFIS/PSESD Fall Workshop. Please reserve Friday, October 21, 2011, for this full day of workshops relative to private schools. We will do a survey to determine the offerings, so be thinking about what workshop sessions would be valuable to you!

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2011 Healthy Schools Summit

Tuesday, May 24, and Wednesday, May 25, 2011, 8:00 am-3:30 pm
Seattle Airport Marriott, Seattle, WA

Save the date - Call for Presenters - Apply for Scholarships

Please visit the [Healthy School Summit Website](#) for information.

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CAPE Update

December 17, 2010

New Tax Law Includes Key Education Provisions

The tax-cut measure that President Obama signed into law this afternoon preserves for another two years the historic Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, which were first enacted in 2001. The accounts allow families to earn tax-exempt interest on \$2,000 in annual savings for specified expenses, including tuition, associated with elementary, secondary, or post-secondary education in a public or private school. The new law also extends for two years the above-the-line deduction for certain expenses incurred by elementary and secondary school teachers. Classroom teachers and certain other personnel in public and private schools may continue to deduct \$250 for their out-of-pocket expenditures for books, computer equipment and software, and other materials and supplies used in the classroom.

The December 2010 issue of **CAPE Outlook**, a monthly newsletter from the Council for American Private Education, is available for download as a free PDF document by clicking [here](#) or by entering the following URL in your browser:
<http://www.capenet.org/pdf/Outlook360.pdf>
In Outlook this month:

- Why D.C. Students Have Reason to Hope
- Teacher Survey Yields Surprising Findings
- Digital Learning for All Students
- School Choice Saves Money
- And Much More

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Professional Development Opportunity

The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse will offer this summer:

Exploring the Past: Archaeology in the Upper Mississippi River Valley

[Alliance for School
Choice](#)

[Institute for Justice](#)

[The Heritage
Foundation](#)

**WFIS 2011
Calendar:**

January 10, 2011

**Legislative
Session Begins**

**February 10,
2011**

**Winter Dinner
and Best of
Washington
Awards**

**February 11,
2011**

**Seattle Public
Schools Federal
Programs
Workshop**

**April 14, 2011
WFIS Board
Meeting**

Walking beside thousand-year-old burial mounds, flaking raw stone into tools, learning how potsherds tell us about human behavior, and understanding how humans adapt to complex, ever-changing environments. The 2011 NEH Summer Institute features all this and more.
July 11-29, 2011

Application and other information on the Institute is available online at
<http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac/neh.htm>.

The deadline for applications is March 1, 2011.

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Washington Policy Center

2011 Education Breakfast!

**What We Can Learn from Baltimore Schools
Featuring Baltimore City Public Schools C.E.O.
*Andrés A. Alonso***

Thursday, January 20, 7:30am - 9am | Seattle Westin, 1900 5th Ave.
\$25 registration | \$20 WPC supporter rate | \$200 Table of 10
For information on sponsorship opportunities contact Anna at 206-937-9691
[Register online](#)

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From the Office of Non-Public Education

Teaching Ambassador Fellowship Accepting Applications - Open to Private School Teachers. For the first time since the inception of the program, private school teachers are eligible to apply for the U.S. Department of Education's Teaching Ambassador Fellowship program (TAF). The Office of Non-Public Education encourages teachers in private schools to consider applying to be a fellow.

The TAF program offers two, year-long tracks: the Washington Fellowship, which is a full-time appointment based at the Department's Headquarters in Washington, DC; and the Classroom Fellowship, which enables teachers to remain teaching in their schools and participate on a part-time consultancy basis for the Department, working in collaboration with the Department's Regional Offices.

Fellows spend a year gaining greater knowledge of the content of key federal programs and policies, in addition to the context and process by which they are designed and implemented. Fellows share their expertise with federal staff members; provide outreach and communication about federal initiatives to other educators on behalf of the Department; and facilitate the involvement and understanding of teachers in developing and implementing these efforts at the federal, state and local levels to improve the

June 2011
Statewide
Private Schools
Conference

October 21, 2011
WFIS/PSESD
Private Schools
Workshop



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likelihood of their success.

Desirable TAF Applicants Have:

- * Demonstrable and meaningful impact on student achievement,
- * A record of leadership in the school and community settings,
- * Strong written and oral communication skills,

- * The ability to provide relevant insight from school and classroom experiences to education policy, programs and initiatives,
- * Experience with activities that have effectively prepared them for Fellowship work, and
- * Support from school, community and other educational leaders.

The deadline for applying for the TAF program is January 17, 2011.

For additional information about eligibility, follow this [link](#).

To apply for the program, visit this [link](#).

Nominations Sought for Regional Advisory Committees

The Secretary is establishing Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) in order to collect information on the educational needs of each of the ten regions served by the Regional Educational Laboratories. The RACs will seek input regarding the need for the technical assistance activities described in section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act and how those needs would be most effectively addressed. In order to achieve this purpose, the RACs will seek input from chief executive officers of States; chief State school officers; educators, including teachers and administrators; local educational agencies; librarians; businesses; State educational agencies; parents; and other customers within each region.

Not later than six months after each RAC is convened, the committee will submit a report based on this needs assessment to the Secretary. Each report will identify the educational needs of the region and how those needs would be most effectively addressed.

The Secretary will establish priorities for the comprehensive centers to address, taking into account these regional assessments and other relevant regional surveys of educational needs, to the extent the Secretary deems appropriate.

Any interested person or organization may nominate one or more qualified individuals for membership. The membership of each RAC may include the following: Representatives of local educational agencies, both rural and urban; representatives of institutions of higher education, including those that represent university-based research on education and on subjects other than education; parents; practicing educators, including classroom teachers, principals, administrators, school board members, and other local school officials; representatives of business; and researchers. Each RAC will be composed of approximately 12 members.

View the notice of establishment of 10 Regional Advisory Committees [here](#).

Request for nominations to serve on the Regional Advisory Committees is located [here](#).

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The Washington Federation of Independent Schools (WFIS) is the umbrella organization for private education in Washington State. With seventy percent of the independent student population enrolled in member schools, WFIS is the only statewide vehicle for regular communication and strategic development between the many different constituencies. WFIS schools are affiliates of the Catholic dioceses in the state; the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI); the Christian Schools International (CSI); Lutheran Schools; Montessori schools; the Pacific Northwest Association of Independent Schools (PNAIS); the Seventh-day Adventist Schools (SDA); and numerous other religious and independent institutions, including the Waldorf Schools, Hutterian Brethren,

27th National Space Symposium

April 11-14, 2011
The Broadmoor Hotel
Colorado Springs, Colorado
www.NationalSpaceSymposium.org/3m3

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Volume 6, December 9, 2010 for the WSL Updates:

Topics include:

- 1) FREE BOOKS FOR DISCUSSION KITS OR COMMUNITY READS
- 2) WALNET RFQ RELEASED
- 3) WCOG EVENT HONORS BALLARD AND THOMPSON
- 4) IMLS NATIONAL LEADERSHIP GRANTS
- 5) NANCY PEARL PRESENTS - BOOKS THAT MAKE GREAT GIFTS
- 6) FREE CE OPPORTUNITIES NEXT WEEK

Washington State Library Updates
<http://blogs.sos.wa.gov/library/?s=updates>

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Position Opening

St. Mary's Christian School in Lakewood seeks a part-time bookkeeper. Prefer private school experience. Contact Clare Bungay at bungays1@comcast.net.

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The winter edition of the quarterly Puget Sound ESD **One-to-One Newsletter** is now online at www.psesd.org/121.

In this issue you will find:

- * Making Your School a Bully-Free Zone

and those institutions with sponsorship within the Jewish and Islamic communities. The WFIS Board of Directors consists of eighteen school heads representing the major constituencies chosen regionally by their respective bodies. WFIS is networked with similar organizations in other states through the Council for American Private Education (CAPE).

- * Now Enrolling: 2011 Arts Impact Teacher Training Program
- * Kentwood High School's Jay Maebori, 2011 Washington Teacher of the Year
- * Tobacco: Bad for Health and Student Success
- * Online Education Technology Professional Development Programs
- * Four Ways to Add an Endorsement to Your Teaching Certificate
- * 2011 Regional High School Art Show
- * 2011 Knowledge Bowl
 - * New classes and workshops!

The *One-to-One* provides the latest news, resources and workshops available to support you in helping all students succeed. You can sign up to receive the *One-to-One* directly to your email at www.psesd.org/subscribe

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