

# WFIS eMemo

March 2011

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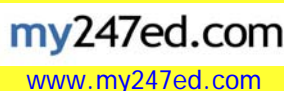
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## Legislative Update: February 25, 2011

Thank you to all of you who have contacted your legislators regarding [SB 5639](#)! It is making a difference. Your voice is significant in determining the future of private school representation in governmental affairs that affect all of our schools. I have received many positive comments from both Senate and House members regarding your input. It has also been gratifying to hear from your parents and community members that have been vocal in their support of our issue.

To date, we have provided testimony to both Senate Education and Ways and Means Committees, spoken with staff and legislators in each of their offices, met with the Governor's policy director, and are working collaboratively to craft workable language to reinstate our representation in P-12 education in our state.

Our work is by no means over! **Please continue to be available** to work with WFIS to communicate with our elected representatives as this bill continues to move forward.

WFIS continues to work with the Washington State Catholic Conference to move [House Bill 1163](#) (concerning harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention) on to the next level. The substitute offered in the House on February 18, 2011, requires the Office of the Superintendent of the Public Instruction and the Office of the Education Ombudsman to establish an ongoing workgroup regarding prevention of bullying, intimidation, and harassment in public schools. The substitute bill specifies issues for the workgroup to examine and requires a biennial report. The substitute bill directs the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Higher Education Coordinating Board to compile and analyze bullying and harassment prevention policies at colleges and universities and submit a report by December 1, 2011. The substitute also includes mental health and suicide prevention education in classroom-based assessments of health and fitness learning standards.

Other bills of interest that WFIS continues to monitor are:

[House Bill 1756](#) (authorizing a non-expiring license for early

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**WFIS 2011 Calendar:**

**January 10, 2011**

**Legislative Session  
Begins**

**February 10, 2011  
Winter Dinner and Best  
of Washington Awards**

learning providers). Substitute offered in the House on February 17, 2011, requires the DEL to establish timeframes for monitoring visits to non-expiring licensees. The substitute bill defines an agency in good standing as one that does not have: valid complaints; history of noncompliance related to those valid complaints or pending from prior monitoring visits; or, other information that when evaluated would result in a finding of noncompliance. The substitute bill also requires the DEL to consider whether an agency is in good standing when determining the most appropriate approach and process for monitoring visits, and clarifies that the license renewal process does not apply to non-expiring licenses.

**[Senate Bill 5848](#)** (concerning education vouchers). Introduced by Sen. Dan Swecker(R) on February 22, 2011, to authorize parents who choose to educate their children outside the public education system to receive an education voucher for each child educated outside the public education system. This bill creates the education support account.

Even though the Annual State Budget continues to be the most critical of tasks facing our government, education continues to be at the top of the priority list for legislators. There have been 117 bills introduced. While many have little chance of passage, others can be critical to our schools without our representation at the table. Thank you again for your participation in the democratic process by making our voice heard in Olympia!

Judy Jennings

Executive Director

## Private Schools Summer Conference

Sponsored by: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction  
In Partnership with: Seattle Pacific University's Center for Professional Education  
Gonzaga University's School of Education

**Focus: Differentiation and Assessment in Light of Brain Research**  
Internationally renowned presenter and author, Gayle Gregory, examines the basic principles of differentiation and assessment in light of brain research. She uses practical teacher/student-friendly strategies based on sound research that educators find easy to use in the classroom. Learn how to make the most effective curricular, instructional, and assessment choices.

February 11, 2011  
Seattle Public Schools  
Federal Programs  
Workshop

April 14, 2011  
WFIS Board Meeting

June 2011  
Statewide Private  
Schools Conference



*The WFIS eMemo is a  
publication of*

Washington Federation  
of Independent Schools  
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[www.WFIS.org](http://www.WFIS.org)

Judy Jennings  
Executive Director  
[jjennings@wfis.org](mailto:jjennings@wfis.org)

#### Dates

Seattle Pacific University  
Session 1: June 20-21  
Repeat of Session 1: June 22-23

Gonzaga University  
June 28-29

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00pm

Registration Opens May 2, 2011

Space is Limited  
12 Clock Hours Available  
Training Materials Provided  
Continental Breakfast and Lunch provided

#### Cost

Free to all private school educators employed by State Board  
approved private schools

#### Contact

Terri Shephard  
Administrative Assistant  
[terri.shephard@k12.wa.us](mailto:terri.shephard@k12.wa.us)  
(360) 725.6340

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A Conference for Educators and Parents  
March 19, 2011 - Black River Conference Center, Renton  
[International Dyslexia Association, Washington Branch](#)

#### Presenters

Elizabeth Smith, PhD  
Linda Azure, MS, CCC-SLP

The presentations will cover the purpose of diagnostic testing, deciphering  
and understanding results, clarifying commonly used terms, fundamentals of  
language development, 'red flags' for language and auditory processing.

8:30 - 12:00 Focused on the needs of Educators  
12:30 - 3:00 Focused on the needs of Parents & Families

Participants are welcome to register for one or both sessions if they  
like. [On line registration](#) is now open. For all of the details, check  
our website [www.wabida.org](http://www.wabida.org)

For a downloadable flyer about this conference, [click here](#). Help us

Jan L. Morrison  
Assistant to the Director  
[jmorrison@wfis.org](mailto:jmorrison@wfis.org)



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, 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).

spread the word about this event by posting this in your school staff room or sharing with friends and colleagues.

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## Puyallup Fair Activities

**September 16-17, 2011:** Private schools interested in hosting a (free) booth or providing entertainment on the Education Stage during **Private School Days** at the Western Washington State Fair, please contact Stan Cross, Education Building Superintendent, at 253.848.8883.

**College Fair at the Fair** will take place on **September 25** - School counselors should contact Stan Cross at 253.848.8883 to obtain passes for interested high school sophomores and juniors.

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The Clarice Smith National Teacher Institutes  
Smithsonian American Art Museum  
July 18-July 22, 2011 or August 1-August 5, 2011

Be inspired this summer at the Smithsonian American Art Museum as you join colleagues from across the country for an exciting exploration of the connections among art, technology, and your curricula. Attend the week-long institute in the nation's capital, Washington, D.C. Stay connected with your newfound colleagues and Museum staff throughout the year.

Middle/junior and high school core subject teachers may apply as individuals or as part of a team. Priority will be given to social studies and English/language arts teachers.

Applications are due Friday, April 8, 2011.  
Registration Fee: \$200 per participant  
For more information and the application please visit:  
<http://americanart.si.edu/education/dev/cs/>

Graduate credits, scholarships, and low-cost housing accommodations are available. For more information, please contact us at [AmericanArtClariceSmithInitiative@si.edu](mailto:AmericanArtClariceSmithInitiative@si.edu).

*The Clarice Smith American Art Education Initiative is supported by a generous gift from The Robert H. Smith Family Foundation.*

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## Washington Ag In the Classroom

P.O. Box 3638  
Lacey, WA 98509-3638

E-Mail: [info@waic.net](mailto:info@waic.net)

Gaynor L. Edwards, Executive Director  
509.349.8833 or 509-989-0253  
[gedwards@scml.us](mailto:gedwards@scml.us)

### WANTED

Artwork-Poems-Stories

Discuss what you have read in the current issue of  
Ag@School: <http://www.waic.net/teacher.htm>

Write a story or poem or draw a picture about agricultural  
technology in your county or Washington State.

Contest details at [www.waic.net](http://www.waic.net)

**Deadline for Entries: March 4, 2011**

Winning entries may be featured in future issues.

Send entries to:

Gaynor Edwards  
443 Road T NE  
Warden, WA 98857

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There's still a chance to attend SAMA's 4th Annual Knowledge is Power Luncheon on March 4, 2011! Registration has been extended to midnight, February 28.

[Purchase seats online here](#) »

Addiction is one of the major health crises in the U.S., but the disease is stigmatized and receives scant resources when compared with other chronic diseases. Science and Management of Addictions was launched five years ago to change this: Our mission is to end the disease of

substance addiction in youth by advancing research, education and treatment.

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### [Washington State Library](#)

Volume 7, February 17, 2011

Topics include:

- 1) FREE GENEALOGY EVENT - BING CROSBY'S FAMILY HISTORY
- 2) WLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - REGISTER NOW
- 3) PUBLIC RECORDS & OPEN MEETING FORUM
- 4) FREE WEBWISE CONFERENCE
- 5) HOST THE KING JAMES BIBLE TRAVELING EXHIBIT
- 6) FREE CE OPPORTUNITIES NEXT WEEK

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Global Exploration for Educators Organization (GEEO) is offering 13 different travel programs for the summer of 2011. Educators have the option to earn graduate school credit (3 credits through Indiana University) and professional development credit while seeing the world. The trips are 8 to 23 days in length and are designed and discounted to be interesting and affordable for teachers. Detailed information can be found at [www.geeo.org](http://www.geeo.org) or toll free at 1-877-600-0105.

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[www.WFIS.org](http://www.WFIS.org)