

WFIS eMemo

June 2010

Our 40th year of serving private schools

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Thanks for a Great Year!

The Washington Federation of Independent Schools, its Board of Directors chaired by Ron Taylor, Superintendent of Bellevue Christian Schools, Executive Director Judy Jennings and Jan Morrison, the Assistant to the Director, want to thank our member schools for their support. Because of your financial commitment and your tireless advocacy, WFIS was successful lobbying a variety of legislative bills that would have had a major impact on the 84,000 K-12 students as well as the 10,000+ pre-school children that attend Washington's private schools.

We also want to thank our appointees who sit on all of the major educational boards, councils and PEABs in the state. They continue to present our perspective as private schools when programs are being developed and legislation is being implemented. Because of the many volunteers at every level, WFIS continues to be "the advocate and voice of Private Schools" in Washington.

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Does Private Education Have a Future?

The answer is "yes" IF we do not sit back and bask in our many successes without careful thought to the future of our movement. At the Board of Directors' April Meeting, Mark Siegel, Executive Director of the Oregon Federation of Independent Schools (OFIS), presented a seminar on the future of education in a technological age and how private education must survive. His core belief is that private education must change.

We need to, first, have Boards of Directors that understand that their sole purpose is to keep the organization for their children's children. They need to focus not only on the financial stability of their school,

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but position the school's services in such a way as to be nimble enough to change with changes in educational delivery systems. They should also be experts in long range planning with their school head. **Second**, our schools must educate their parents about the education their school provides. According to Siegel, today's parents tend to know more about the cars they drive than the school their children attend. Because the only other alternative is a behemoth state education system that has difficulty changing, there really is little democratic educational choice. Our schools are vital for our democracy to continue to flourish and to provide alternative viewpoints and educational pedagogies. **Third**, our schools are under a major technological threat. Today's traditional classroom format is outmoded. Reports from a variety of sources (*2010 Horizon Report from Higher Ed.*, *Tech Trends Magazine*, *Ed Week*) see the future as individual learning for all students. Students will be able to learn at their own pace, at their own most convenient time.

Today's schools operate with seat time as the constant and learning as the variable. Tomorrow's educational platforms will have learning as the constant and seat time as the variable. Students can digitally access classes even now from major universities and other on-line sources. While, traditionally, groups of students have been kept together for long term, age-related reasons with access to one or perhaps a few teachers, tomorrow's classrooms will be extremely fluid. Students will group around learning concepts, teaching and learning from each other. The teacher will no longer be the lecturer, but the facilitator who helps students access learning. Credits will be granted solely on proficiency, not attendance.

How will our private school community respond? We need to use our ability to make change happen to be the demonstration exemplar for a variety of models for education in the 21st Century. Because we have the ability to be nimble, to meet the needs of our students, we will survive - if we listen.

Judy Jennings
Executive Director

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WIAA Update

Topics of discussion at the recent WIAA board meeting:

Tournament participation opportunities for private schools with requests for honoring their Sabbath or other religious process. Further conversation, including the private schools representative, will be engaged with the individual private schools who submitted requests.

Education

Transfer eligibility process and need for change; no decisions made.

Washington State Library Updates

National tournaments; WFIS position is that the WIAA focus on its core mission within the state of Washington.

Possibility of instituting a per participant fee for the state music contest in order to offset expenses.

Alliance for School Choice

Potential creation of a new regional basketball tournament format in order to improve financial efficiency as well as overall participation.

Institute for Justice

Ken Axelson was awarded the Gareth Giles award for his years of service to schools, his district, and as a former WIAA board member. His acceptance speech was an exhortation to all of us to keep doing our very best for young people, as they are our future!

The Heritage Foundation

Next WIAA board meeting is July 26-27. Please contact Ross if there are any private school issues you would like addressed.

Ross Hjelseth

Private Schools Representative

Washington Interscholastic Activities Association

Head of School, Life Christian School and Academy

Thank you, Ross, for your diligent representation!

WFIS 2010-11 Calendar:

June 21-22:

Statewide Private
Schools Conference

Sept. 24:

WFIS Board Meeting

Oct. 19:

Private Schools
Workshop, PSES

Dec. 9

WFIS Board Meeting

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WFIS Membership Renewal Time!

STOP!

Take a few moments to consider why your WFIS membership is critically important to your school's budget, planning and future.

1. WFIS is **THE** recognized voice for all private schools in Washington State.

April 14:

WFIS Board Meeting

June 2011:

Statewide Private
Schools Conference



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Washington
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2. WFIS is the **ONLY** watchdog and advocate for all private schools in Washington State.

3. WFIS advocates for **ALL** private schools in the State Legislature, OSPI, WIAA, State Board of Education, and U.S. Department of Education.

Through WFIS your school is given the capacity to influence, challenge, redirect, and support issues central to its uniqueness. This empowerment is critically needed in these uncertain times. WFIS exists to assure that private schools are given a voice in the Governor's Office and through multiple state committees. WFIS is the appointing agency for all private school PEAB representatives. WFIS refers scholarships and grants to member schools and offers professional development opportunities to all private schools in Washington State. WFIS exists to serve and support our private schools in meaningful and practical ways.

STOP. Take the time to join or renew your WFIS membership now. Private schools need to be included in the education debate, and WFIS exists to assure your needs are represented. WFIS offers private schools a place at the table of discussion and decision-making in Washington State.

Go to www.wfis.org/member and enter your school code and password to update your account and print out your statement. If you have any questions, just send a quick e-mail to jmorrison@wfis.org to help expedite the process. We also ask you to consider a Pacesetter membership in order to allow full membership to schools whose finances may not allow it.

Please join or renew your WFIS membership as soon as possible. Should you have any questions, check out the website at www.WFIS.org or call the WFIS office at 253.912.9347.

We are committed to serving and strengthening private schools in Washington State. It is your membership that makes our advocacy on your behalf possible.

Sincerely,

Ron Taylor, Chair, WFIS Board of Directors
Superintendent, Bellevue Christian School

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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, and those institutions with sponsorship within the Jewish and Islamic communities. The WFIS Board of Directors consists of

June 2010

The June 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/Outlook356.pdf>

In Outlook this month:

- NJ Gov. Chris Christie on School Choice
- Supreme Court to Hear Arizona Scholarship Case
- Sec. Duncan's Favorite Teacher
- Oklahoma Approves Scholarship Bill
- And More!

Outlook is sponsored by NAIS's [School and Student Services](#), providing comprehensive financial aid services for private schools. Learn more at sss.nais.org.

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Teacher Professional Certification 2010-11

Plan ahead...now!

For one remaining year, 2010-2011, Teacher Professional Certification may be accomplished directly through one of SPU's many ProCert courses hosted by public or private school district partners. Due to state changes, this is the final year the university will retain the privilege of directly evaluating and granting certification based upon a candidate's successful documentation of a positive impact on student learning. The one-year cohort course begins fall of 2010. 4 credits - \$150/credit

SPU's Professional Certification support program begins this fall, as well, for those candidates registering for Washington State's ProTeach assessment.

Contact: Bree Aseltine, SPU's Professional Certification Coordinator to begin your process. breeber@spu.edu or call 206.281.3520

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WEATHERFEST IS COMING TO SEATTLE!

American Meteorological Society
January 23, 2011 - Noon-4 p.m.
Washington State Convention Center

An interactive science and weather fair for ALL AGES!
A great place to gather with your students and families!

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).

Teachers! Here is a chance for your students to plan and present a weather related project. We are looking for fun, hands-on experiments and demonstrations. (Booth space is free or nominal fee if power and/or wi-fi desired.)

Meet and talk with TV and National Weather Service forecasters!

Free Admission

Watch for more info this fall or for more information:

<http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/annual/weatherfest.html>

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SAVE THE DATE!

Private Schools Day -- October 19, 2010

This special all-day forum for private and independent schools in our region will again be highlighted with informative presentations by private school staff, and by ESD, WFIS, state department staff. A vendor showcase will also be on hand for you to browse services and support that are available to private schools at special discounts and rates.

Audience: All private and independent school administrators, teachers, paraeducators, technology specialists, and interested parties from the preschool and K-12 educational community.

We look forward to seeing you at Puget Sound ESD on October 19!

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Congratulations, Student Photographers!

The Professional Photographers of Washington have announced their

annual student photography awards.

Congratulations to **Gregory Moser of Academy Northwest School** for making the top 10 finalists! The top finalists were singled out for their high achievement in the photographic field, scholastic studies, and the student's wish to further their studies in the photographic arts.

The Professional Photographers of Washington applaud these schools for their quality teaching in the photographic arts and preparing their students for their future careers.

Go to <http://gallery.me.com/wm7n#100251> for samples of our top 4 finalist's work. You may download images from this site for publication.

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The Bulletin Board

College Fair at the Puyallup Fair

Sunday, September 26, 2010 (10 am - 10 pm)

Puyallup Fair Pavilion (Gold Gate)

For Tickets, School Counselors Contact Stan Cross 253.848.8883

- Over 35 two-year, four-year and technical colleges
- Information on financial aid, curriculum requirements, campus life, student activities, athletics, admission requirements, veteran's benefits, Worksource
- Free Fair admittance to each high school student attending
- Tickets distributed through high school counselors only

The FTC has delayed enforcement of the **Red Flag Rules** one more time, through December 31, 2010. Please see <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2010/05/redflags.shtm>

The Spring 2010 School IAQ Newsletter is now available on the WSU Energy Program website:

http://www.energy.wsu.edu/documents/building/iaq/nl/10_spr_iaq_nl.pdf

This edition includes some interesting facts about comfort to help schools provide effective learning environments for all. Also read about

FANG's trip to Washington DC.

Private Schools wishing to maintain a booth at the Puyallup Fair or entertain on the education stage, please contact Stan Cross at 253.848.8883.

The Center for Nonprofit Success is pleased to invite you to its fourth annual Seattle Fundraising Summit. If you are looking for ways to raise more money for your organization, this conference features a truly outstanding lineup of speakers, and you can see who they are by going to: http://www.cfnps.org/Seattle_10.aspx?target=speakers

Sign up for the entire conference, or take advantage of the unique a la carte registration system.

Ecology, EEA, and Beyond Benign are holding a Green Chemistry workshop for middle school teachers at the Ecology Lacey building on July 27-29. Clock hours, lunches, and all materials for just \$50. See <http://www.beyondbenign.org/> for more on Beyond Benign.

Subscribe to Washington State Library Updates - Current Topics include:

- 1) MARKETING 101 - PR FOR NON-PROFESSIONALS
- 2) HOW VALUABLE IS YOUR LIBRARY?
- 3) MORE TRAINING FOR DOWNLOADABLE AUDIOBOOKS
- 4) WEBINAR EXPLORES BENEFITS OF PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS
- 5) REVISED STANDARDS FOR SERVICE TO YOUNG ADULTS
- 6) TRENDS IN TEEN LIT - THE INDEPENDENT VIEW
- 7) DIGITAL PHOTO MANAGEMENT FOR LIBRARIES
- 8) THE FUTURE IS MOBILE - IS YOUR LIBRARY READY?

<http://list.statelib.wa.gov:8180/read/?forum=wslupdates>

WSAME Fall Conference

Saturday, October 30, 2010, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

North Seattle Community College

[Washington State Association for Multicultural Education](#)

Keynote Speaker: Latoya Peterson

Social media is the new medium for a generation raised on Facebook, Twitter, and blogs. It has transformed the media landscape, disseminating events instantly via social connections. Writer, speaker, activist, Latoya Peterson considers herself to be an "edupunk." She is the editor of Racialicious, a bold blog where the intersection of race and pop culture meet. Challenging the media status quo with a "take no prisoners" fervor, Peterson constantly

critiques the questionable media representations dependent on stereotypes. She represents the new generation of multicultural/diversity/social justice activists.

"Transforming Difficult Conversations" Thursday June 17th (9:00am - 4:00pm)

This session focuses on difficult conversations and is based on the book, "Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most" by Douglas Stone, Bruce Patton, and Sheila Heen.

Approved for 5.5 CEUs for Licensed Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Mental Health Counselors

Trainers: Sarah Knowles & Colleen McAuliffe

Register: <http://kcdrc.org/training/registration.html>

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www.WFIS.org