

# WFIS eMemo

September 2010

## Our 41st year of serving private schools

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### WELCOME BACK!

It is difficult to imagine that summer has once again flown past and a new school year is upon us. As the Washington Federation of Independent Schools begins its 41st year of advocacy, we want to wish each of you as school leaders a successful and learning filled year. Because WFIS is made up of schools from many diverse backgrounds and philosophical foundations, our membership has the broadest base of any organization representing private schools in our state, and in many cases, nationally. To that end, we strive to represent our schools as their advocate and voice in maintaining their independence from undo government regulation and intrusion.

We seek to partner with those in the public sector in order to provide equitable participation and equitable application of federal dollars for qualified private school students.

We actively support and sponsor programs designed to recognize and enhance professional instruction in Washington's private schools.

We continue to devote efforts in pursuit of educational choice for all children and their parents who desire to receive a world-class education in a private setting.

We vigorously encourage visionary leadership and innovative forms of outstanding educational practice in our membership programs.

WFIS resources are always available to you, our state's private schools.

Best wishes for an outstanding school year!

Judy Jennings  
Executive Director

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### Why PNAIS Schools are also WFIS

Our thanks to Meade Thayer, Executive Director, Pacific Northwest Association of Independent Schools (PNAIS) for his recent encouragement to business managers:

*"WFIS is the legislative lobbying group that represents all private schools in the state. It is important to be a member as WFIS helps keep all of us in the know about issues that might impact our independence. If the impact is negative, they help alert us as to the steps we can all*

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[2010 Best of Washington](#)

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*take to counter the specific legislative initiative.  
... So ... the relative small membership fee is well worth it  
... as one means to help protect our independence!"*  
(Emphasis added.)

May all Washington's private schools value and recognize the significance of their WFIS membership.

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## Private Schools Day 2010

October 19, 2010; 8:00-3:00  
Location: Puget Sound ESD, Renton

WFIS and Puget Sound ESD are proud to again present this special all-day forum for private and independent schools in our region. Join other administrators, teachers, paraeducators, technology specialists, and interested parties from the preschool and K-12 educational community in hearing informative presentations by PSESD, Seattle Pacific University, and private school 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.

*Keep checking the following webpage - breakout session descriptions and vendor participation will be added soon:*

[http://psed.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=589&Itemid=342](http://psed.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=589&Itemid=342)

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## Insurance Alert:

According to a recent Washington State Attorney General's opinion, as of December 31, 2010, faith-based schools may no longer participate in public/private insurance pools. Please contact your insurance broker for more information if you feel your school may be affected by this ruling.

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## CAPE Outlook/Update

September 9, 2010

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## Education Secretary Duncan Names Blue Ribbon Schools

[The Heritage Foundation](#)

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan today announced the names of 304 schools identified by the U.S. Department of Education as the National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2010. Schools were selected either because they dramatically improved student performance on standardized tests in reading and math or because their test scores placed them in the top ten percent of schools in the nation or state.

### WFIS 2010-11 Calendar:

Fifty private schools were among the awardees this year, the maximum number of private school awards allowed. Each state's commissioner of education nominates public schools for the award, and CAPE nominates private schools. All the schools nominated by CAPE received the award.

Sept. 24, 2010:

WFIS Board Meeting

"Our nation has a responsibility to help all children realize their full potential," Duncan said. "Schools honored with the Blue Ribbon Schools award are committed to achievement and to ensuring that students learn and succeed. Their work reflects the conviction that every child has promise and must receive a quality education."

Oct. 19, 2010:

Private Schools Workshop, PSESD

Click [here](#) for more details about the announcement, including the list of awardees.

Dec. 9, 2010:

WFIS Board Meeting

*Private Education: Good for Students, Good for Families, Good for America*

Feb. 10, 2011

Winter Dinner & Best of Washington Awards

The September 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/Outlook357.pdf>

April 14, 2011:

WFIS Board Meeting

In Outlook this month:

- CAPE Joins Brief in AZ Choice Case
- Student Safety in Private Schools
- Vouchers Improve Graduation Rates
- CAPE on YouTube
- And More!

June 2011:

Statewide Private Schools Conference

Joe McTighe  
Executive Director  
email: [update@capenet.org](mailto:update@capenet.org)  
phone: 301-916-8460



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P. O. Box 449  
DuPont, WA 98327  
253.912.WFIS(9347)  
[www.WFIS.org](http://www.WFIS.org)

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

**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

## Concerned about Concussion in Youth Sports?

A New FREE CDC Online Training Helps Prepare Coaches and Parents in Less than 30 Minutes.

[Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports](#) is a free online training available to coaches, parents, and others helping to keep athletes safe from concussion. The training was developed by CDC's Injury Center in partnership and other leading organizations. It features

interviews with leading experts and interactive exercises to help coaches and parents recognize a concussion and know how to respond if their athlete might have a concussion.

Learn more about concussion at

[www.cdc.gov/Concussion](http://www.cdc.gov/Concussion)

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## E-Rate Assistance

Robert Teegarden, a longtime private school administrator and public policy advocate, has become a senior consultant with E-Rate Program LLC. Teegarden will assist private schools in the western half of the United States with E-rate funding. He spent more than 21 years as a private school administrator on the West Coast. Teegarden says, "I understand the financial pressures faced by these institutions. That's why I am eager to help private schools receive their share of E-Rate dollars."

According to Teegarden, most private institutions don't have the time, staff, or experience to wade through the complicated filing process. With the help of his firm, Teegarden estimates that most schools will spend less than 2 hours on their E-Rate process. "E-Rate Program LLC understands every step of the filing process. We have the staff and expertise needed to maximize reimbursement and minimize the workload."

Contact: Robert Teegarden, E-Rate Program LLC

Telephone: 866-222-7774

<http://www.erateprogram.com/index.html>

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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).

## SAVE THE DATE!

WFIS Winter Dinner and Best of Washington Awards

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Guest Speaker: **Maureen Dowling, Ed.D.**, Office of Non-public Education, Office of Innovation and Improvement, U. S. Department of Education

Watch for Best of Washington nomination forms available soon.

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Volume 6, August 26, 2010 for the Washington State Library Updates mailing list

Topics include:

- 1) ELLUMINATE TRAINING FOR MODERATORS
- 2) EARLY LEARNING SYMPOSIUM
- 3) GOING TO YOUR CUSTOMER - OUTREACH AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
- 4) I LOVE MY LIBRARIAN NOMINATIONS OPEN
- 5) BEST SMALL LIBRARY IN AMERICA AWARD NOMINATIONS
- 6) YALSA RESEARCH GRANT
- 7) K-12 FIELD TRIPS GRANTS
- 8) FREE COLLEGE OF DUPAGE TELECONFERENCES

<http://blogs.sos.wa.gov/library/>

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## The Bulletin Board

Visit Private Schools at the Western Washington State Fair on Saturday, September 18, in the Education Pavilion.

[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

### **"Bring the Power of Digital Storytelling into Your Classroom."**

Popular one-day workshop for educators on how to teach students to produce digital stories about their lives, communities and common global issues and then share them with their peers around the world. Applicable to many subjects. Proficiency in technology not required. Presented by [Bridges to Understanding](#). September 25, 2010, 8:45 am - 5:00 pm; Getty Images, 601 N 34<sup>th</sup> St, Seattle (at the Fremont Bridge.) \$175 includes Bridges curriculum. To register: [www.bridges2understanding.org](http://www.bridges2understanding.org).

Contact: Tania Westby, Program Director, [tania@bridges2understanding.org](mailto:tania@bridges2understanding.org)

**Effective Integrated Pest Management Programs: Inspection is the Cornerstone**

Tuesday, September 21

12:00pm-1:15pm EASTERN

[Register Now!](#)

### **Present the Building School Culture™ Workshop**

November 5, 2010 · 8am to 5pm

The Institute for Global Ethics' day long, highly interactive workshop for building school cultures of integrity helps teachers, staff and administrators build awareness about why ethics matters, come together around their core ethical values and their common purpose in schools, and consider ways to forward ethics across their school culture.

Register online with AASA by visiting: [www.aasa.org/Calendar.aspx](http://www.aasa.org/Calendar.aspx)

Questions or for more information contact:

Molly O'Neill, Meetings Manager at the American Association of School Administrators

801 N. Quincy Street, Suite 700 · Arlington, VA 22203 · Tel: 703-875-0704 [moneill@aasa.org](mailto:moneill@aasa.org) · [www.aasa.org](http://www.aasa.org)

### **Washington State Department of Health School Environmental Health & Safety**

Fall 2010 Workshop

Registration, Agenda, and Driving Directions:

[www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/school/wkshops.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/school/wkshops.htm)

### **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.

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