



INPEA Update January 2015

In This Issue

- [Technology Consortium with DAST Consulting](#)
- [INPEA Technology Meeting](#)
- [Legislative Update](#)
- [Legislative Engagement: Does your school own it?](#)
- [School Choice Rally in Fort Wayne](#)
- [Letter to Voucher Schools Receiving a Null Grade](#)
- [State Testing](#)
- [INPAC Administrators' Conference 2015](#)
- [INPEC Educators' Conference 2016](#)
- [INPEA Dues and Data](#)
- [Budget and Tuition Planning](#)
- [Pre-K Programs: Two Funding Opportunities](#)
- [BrainWare SAFARI Study Opportunity](#)
- [Upcoming Events from Educational Research Newsletter and Seminars](#)
- [Stay connected!](#)

Quick Links



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Jurisdictions

Happy Catholic Schools Week, Lutheran Schools Week and School Choice Week!

Many reasons to celebrate this week! Thank you for all that you do to educate Hoosier students!

Technology Buying Consortium with DAST Consulting

INPEA and DAST Consulting have partnered for a Technology Consortium for our INPEA member schools. DAST Consulting will provide technology procurement services at a reduced rate. The decision by an INPEA school or jurisdiction to utilize these technology procurement services is voluntary. As a part of the partnership, DAST has proposed that INPEA could receive 2% of any proceeds DAST receives from an INPEA member purchase. So all in all, this has the potential to be a **Win** (school cost savings), **Win** (INPEA benefits from the purchase), **Win** (DAST business). **If you have technology purchasing needs, check it out and see if it could be a benefit to your school.**

[Click here to learn how your school can participate in the program.](#)

[Click here to learn more about DAST Consulting.](#)

First Bi-Annual INPEA Technology

[Agudath Israel of America](#)
[Archdiocese of Indianapolis](#)
[Association of Christian Schools International](#)
[Christian Schools International](#)
[Diocese of Evansville](#)
[Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend](#)
[Diocese of Gary](#)
[Diocese of Lafayette](#)
[Indiana Association of Independent Schools](#)
[Indiana Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists](#)
[Lutheran Church Missouri Synod](#)
[The Lutheran Schools Partnership](#)

Resources

[American Federation for Children Council for American Private Education](#)
[Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice](#)
[Indiana Catholic Conference](#)
[Indiana Department of Education](#)
[Institute for Quality Education](#)
[National Center for Education Statistics](#)
[U.S. Department of Education](#)

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Meeting

Feb. 17 at Lafayette Central Catholic Jr./Sr. High School, 9am-2: 30pm

This meeting is for Technology Directors/Coordinators, Technology Coaches, Lead Teachers, and interested Principals. [Click here to see the flyer for more information and the agenda.](#) Space is limited to 32 attendees, so [RSVP](#) early!

Legislative Update

BILL ACTION

- **SB169 (Reading Assessment):** This bill would have changed IREAD testing to second grade, but it was sent to a summer study committee.
- **SB119 (Athletic Physicals):** This would have put stipulations as to when a physical could be given. The bill was dropped.
- **SB500 (Deregulation):** This 300+ page bill attempts to reduce unnecessary or obsolete regulations. This bill was written more from a public school perspective but also has some areas that could impact non-pubs as well. The bill calls for the establishment of a committee to review all state reports and have a temporary moratorium on new reports. There is significant support **and** significant opposition to this bill. It will be a long road. We'll keep you posted.
- **HB1001 (Budget):** The Governor's proposed budget includes the removal of the \$4,800 elementary cap, an increase in the Scholarship Tax Credit Cap to \$12,500,000, as well as an automatic 20% escalator.
- **HB1056 (Student Transfers):** This bill allows non-public school students who attend a non-public school that is in the geographical boundaries of a particular high school that doesn't accept out-of-district transfers but some students reside in other districts to continue with their elementary school cohort and enroll in that public high school if some conditions are met. This bill passed the full House 96-0. It now goes to the Senate.

BILLS TO WATCH

- There are a number of bills focusing on the state board, Superintendent as chair of the board and elected or appointed superintendent of public instruction. It is unclear yet whether these bills will move.
- SB566 replaces ISTEP with the BEST testing program (possibly an off-the-shelf norm referenced test). It would also eliminate the CORE 40 course assessments. This is different than the current IDOE plan. This bill has not been heard yet.
- There are also a number of bills again this year dealing with the health of athletes.

For a full list of bills that we are tracking, [CLICK HERE](#). Please note many of these bills have no chance of getting a committee hearing.

Legislative Engagement: Does your school own it?

Does your school have a Legislative Liaison? It is important that our non-public school grassroots voice is prepared to engage as the General Assembly Session progresses. Please email your liaison's contact info to rsoliven@inpea.org.

Has your school set your two public policy goals? Share your goals on [INPEA's Facebook page](#).

School Choice Rally in Fort Wayne Legislative Engagement in Action

On Jan. 27, more than 300 parents, students, school leaders and supporters celebrated School Choice at a rally at IPFW. It was wonderful to see dance and music performances from the students, as well as hear the stories from families who have been positively impacted by the ability to choose the best school for children. Great job to The Lutheran Schools Partnership, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Blackhawk Christian School, Friedman Foundation and Hoosiers for Quality Education for planning the event! We hope to see these kinds of

events across Indiana! Check out [photos](#) and [news video](#) from the event!

Letter to Voucher Schools Receiving a Null Grade

A number of schools has contacted INPEA about a letter from IDOE regarding Null A-F grades and defaulting these schools to a D or F. IDOE has since sent out a clarification by email to these schools correcting the "default to a D or F" language. There are still issues for small schools that participate in the voucher program that requires an A-F grade, but State Board Rules say you must have 30 students in a single or multiple year cohort. State Board may be discussing this at their February 4th meeting.

State Testing

We have been hearing from both elementary and high schools regarding increased testing with both ISTEP and ECA. IDOE claims this is a temporary issue due to the interim situation with revising ISTEP and ECA based on Indiana new standards and the FEDS requiring they be assessed this year. As you know, the State is working on a NEW college and career readiness assessment for the spring of 2016. Some schools have written to the state board members voicing concerns about increased time in testing.

INPAC Administrators' Conference 2015

Mark you calendars! [INPAC](#) is **October 15-16, 2015** at Indianapolis Marriott North (3645 River Crossing Parkway, Indianapolis, IN 46240).

Theme is "21st Century Leadership: What's in Your Toolbox?" Registration info is coming soon.

INPEC Educators' Conference 2016

Another date to mark on your calendars! **INPEC** is **September 15-16, 2016** in Indianapolis.

INPEA Dues and Data

Many thanks to the schools who have already submitted their annual membership dues and survey data! If you have not done so yet, please contact Rose Soliven at rsoliven@inpea.org if you need your school's dues assessment or your survey login information. Information about individual schools will not be shared without permission; data will primarily be shared in summary form. Having data from all our member schools will help us tell the Indiana non-public school story!

Budget and Tuition Planning

As schools are planning budgets and tuition schedules for the coming school year, PLEASE make sure schools are taking into consideration the compliance issues recently addressed in our statewide compliance study. If you have any questions, please contact IDOE, John at INPEA or your jurisdictional leaders. All INPEA jurisdictions are working on formalizing on-going compliance policies/practices for each jurisdiction.

Pre-K Programs: Two Funding Opportunities

- Grants are available for the **On My Way Pre-K pilot (voucher) program in Allen, Jackson, Lake, Marion and Vanderburgh Counties**. The grants will be used for capacity building (getting people to expand classrooms or participate in On My Way Pre-K and quality improvements). Applications are due February 15th. For more information, visit <http://www.in.gov/fssa/4931.htm>
- **For Preschool/Pre-K providers NOT located in the pilot counties, Early Education Matching Grants** are available through the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning

(OECOSL). This competitive grant is for providers that are Level 3 or 4 on Paths to QUALITY. In order to apply for a grant, providers must complete the Request for Funds (RFF) application. Programs must provide a cash match and meet additional requirements as outlined within the RFF. The deadline has been extended to February 19th. For more information, visit <http://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/4845.htm>

BrainWare SAFARI Study Opportunity

Neuroscience and Education are no longer the strangers they used to be. Indiana schools are now invited to participate in an important state-wide research study on the impact of cognitive skills development on students' learning capacity and their academic achievement. The study will provide your elementary schools with an opportunity to use BrainWare SAFARI at no cost.

This study is being planned by The Center for Evaluation and Education Policy (CEEP) at Indiana University related to Neuroscience and Education.

Overviews of the study, a letter from the director of CEEP, and background on BrainWare SAFARI can be accessed at <http://www.mybrainware.com/who-we-help/educator/indiana-neuroscience-in-education-study>

Informational Session:

- Wednesday, February 4, 2015, 2:30 p.m. Central, 3:30 p.m. Eastern
Join the meeting: <https://join.me/616-357-506>
Join via phone: 734.746.0035
Meeting code: 616-357-506

You may also contact Betsy Hill, President & COO, The BrainWare Company, at bhill@mybrainware.com, 773-250-6467 (office) or 847-644-0093 (cell).

Upcoming Events from Educational Research Newsletter and Seminars

- **Feb. 3** [The Male Brain in Your Classroom: 10 Essential Strategies for Teaching Boys and Managing Their Behavior in the Classroom](#)

- **Feb. 5** [Simple Whole-Class Differentiation Strategies to Meet More of Your Students' Learning Needs in Less Time](#)
- **Feb. 10** [Differentiate for Enrichment: Get Students Excited About Learning Again with Enrichment Clusters](#)

[See all upcoming webinars from Educational Research Newsletter and Seminars](#)

Stay connected!

- Like INPEA on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) for updates for INPEA events, programs and non-public schools-related news.
- Follow [John on Twitter](#) for live updates from the legislature or state board.
- Would you like to advertise for [jobs](#) in your schools on our website? Is your school making news and you would like to share it with the INPEA Community? Please send news to Rose Soliven at rsoliven@inpea.org.

Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,
John

John Elcesser
Executive Director
Indiana Non-Public Education Association

With support from
Rose Soliven
Office and Communications Coordinator
Indiana Non-Public Education Association

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