Indiana Non-Public
Education Association
INPEA

"A Hoosier Voice for Quality Schools"

INPEA Update
May 2015

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Legislative Session Update

The 2015 General Assembly session came to a close on Wednesday, April 29, at midnight. Overall, it was a pretty good session for non-public schools. For much of the session, we were able to stay under the radar (which is always good). Here's a recap of key legislation:

A. **Budget (HB1001):**

1. The artificial voucher cap for grades 1-8 was removed. PLEASE NOTE: There is still a cap, which is 90 or 50% of the state ADM amount for where the student would attend public school. Now, there is one consistent cap for grades K-12.
2. Scholarship Tax Credit Statewide Cap was bumped to $8.5 million next fiscal year and $9.5 million in the second year of the budget.
3. For the first time, grants will be available to accredited non-public schools for Formational Assessments (Acuity, NWEA, Dibbles). It is unclear at this time what the process will look like to access funds. After consultation with IDOE, we will inform our schools.
4. Increased State Special Education Funding (applying to Choice schools participating in special education vouchers as well as to public schools serving non-public school students).

B. Other than the Budget:

1. **SB500 (Deregulation Bill)**: Main application to non-pubs is a committee to review state reports. INPEA has a seat on the committee.
2. **HB1056 (Student Transfers**): Under certain circumstances, it would allow students in a non-public school that is located in one school corporation to

allow students residing in another school corp to migrate to the school corp high school as a group. There are a number of parameters.
3. **HB1068 (Background Checks)**: Puts some parameters around what organizations can do background checks.
4. **HB1414 (Safety Drills):** Allows a school to substitute a tornado drill or manmade occurrence disaster drill for not more than two fire drills each semester. Provides that the substitutions may not be made in consecutive months. Provides that the governing body of a school corporation may direct schools to conduct additional emergency preparedness drills.
5. **B566 (BEST Test):** The ISTEP/BEST (off-the-shelf test) issue has been referred to a summer study committee, so no action for next year. This bill also addresses the "null school issue" which clarifies schools cannot be "grade penalized" for size alone.
6. **B267 (Dual Language Certification)**: A voluntary program that allows high schools to provide a special biliteracy designation on a student's transcript upon meeting certain criteria.

PLEASE NOTE: Because of the changes in the public school funding formula, school corporations per student ADM amounts may change, which would impact the 90% and 50% voucher amounts as well. We will be working with IDOE to inform you about any changes, including changes to voucher applications that have already been processed. Stay tuned!

Public Policy Goals: A-F?

Now that the session is over, what grade did you get on achieving your school's public policy goals for this legislative session? Thanks so much for your engagement!
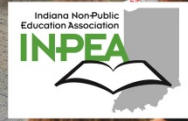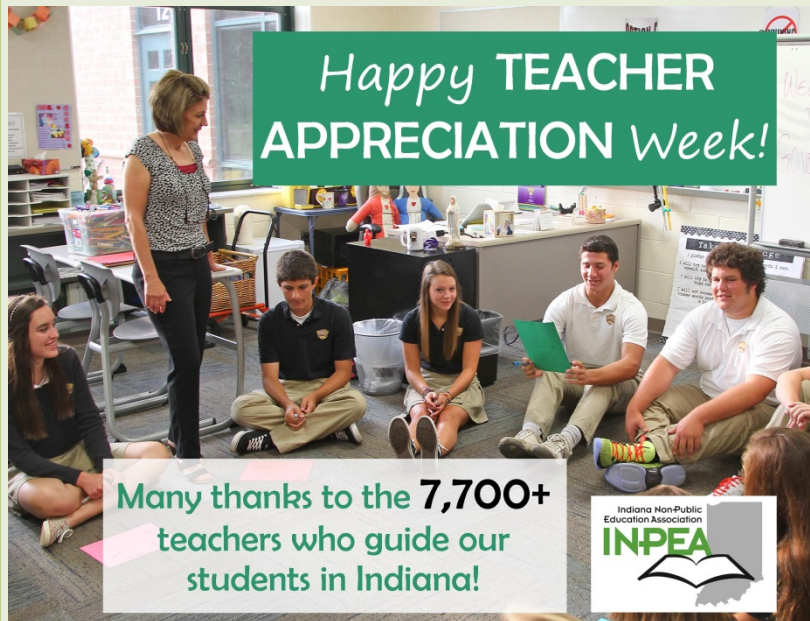
Happy TEACHER APPRECIATION Week!

Many thanks to the 7,700+ teachers who guide our students in Indiana!

We are blessed to have such wonderful teachers in our non-public schools!

Seclusion and Restraint Update

Just a reminder to make sure your S&R plan is in place and posted in some public forum. Remember all accredited non-pubs must have a plan. As you know, a key part of your plan is staff training. There are some training videos on the Commission's website: http://www.doe.in.gov/srcommission. Video training does not include hands-on training for restraint. This must be provided by a certified trainer. A number of jurisdictions have some certified trainers. INPEA continues to pursue funding sources to get other trainers trained. Some folks have utilized Title dollars for fund training.

If you have questions, visit the INPEA website or contact John at jelcesser@inpea.org.

Looking for a good special ed law resource?
Individuals With Disabilities Education Act Guide + Toolkit

Consultant Michelle Doyle did a study of the implementation of IDEA in Indiana a number of years ago. A product of that study was the development of a toolkit. This document has developed into the NCEA document. Visit the NCEA website if interested:

http://www.ncea.org/store/detail.aspx?id=ADM-22-1529

Registration is now open for INPAC 2015

Don't miss the best INPAC ever!

Visit our website to download the Registration Form or to register online. The registration deadline is August 24, 2015, but if you still have Title funds available, be sure to register before the end of the school year!

Sponsored by Cisco Systems in collaboration with DAST Consulting and Five Star Technology, Thursday will focus on 21st Century Thinking and will feature sessions by Travis Allen, President of the iSchool Initiative, as well as sessions presented by Five Star Technology.

Breakout session topics include: Effective E-Learning, Change Leadership, Creating a Culture for Technology Change, Teaching "Grit," New A-F, Effective Use of Data, Legal Issues: Handbooks & Hiring, Special Needs, Staff Morale, Fund Development, Leadership of High Quality Early Childhood Programs AND MORE. Learn about our Friday

Keynote Speaker [Todd Whitaker](#) and Thursday Dinner Speaker [Debbie Silver](#) (the 2010 INPEC Keynoter).

There is a limited number of hotel rooms in our block, so make your room reservation early! Be sure to mention you are with the Indiana Non-Public Education Association.

Looking forward to seeing you at the INPEA Administrators' Conference September 10-11, 2015, at the Marriott North (3645 River Crossing Parkway, Indianapolis, IN 46240)!

Indiana's Four Star Schools

Congratulations to Indiana's Four Star Schools and special kudos to the 62 non-public schools that earned this award! The Indiana Department of Education recognized a total of 281 schools this year. To see the full list of schools, follow this link:
www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/accreditation/2014-final-four-star-list.pdf

On My Way PreK Update

Family applications were received until April 30, and a lottery process was held on May 4th. Schools can still apply to be an approved provider until July 1st. To be eligible, schools/programs must be in one of the five pilot counties, and their early childhood program must be accredited by one of the 8 State Board approved accrediting bodies or Paths to Quality levels 3 or 4. For more info:
https://secure.in.gov/fssa/4899.htm

Freeway Accreditation
Revised Contract

At their March meeting, the State Board of Education approved a revised Freeway Accreditation Process, which now includes a formal contract. Until this time, schools had an implied contract based on the submission of a petition. Dr.

George Frampton, Director of State Accreditation, related that the new contract will be phased in as schools' five-year contracts expire. Schools whose contracts have already expired and were functioning on an extended contract will be addressed first. A copy of the contract can be found HERE. If you have questions, contact Dr. Frampton at Frampton@doe.in.gov.

Tech Tips from INPEA Premier Business Partner CISCO

Choosing a Wireless Access Point - Does price make a difference?

When it comes to laptops, do you choose the $200 model or the $800 model? Most of us realize that price normally determines how much processing power and memory the laptop includes. And this relates directly to the performance of said laptop. This is not only true in laptops but also in wireless access points. More processing power and memory directly relate to better performance for wireless clients. This performance can include not only number of wireless machines served, but performance of those machines in the form of application response times, page refresh time, and data download speed. In other words, poor performance at the access points equals poor user experience.

So the next time you consider wireless access points, consider processing and memory - during the busiest times of the year, can you really depend on "good enough" performance? Keep in mind that your network infrastructure also plays an important role in the performance of your wireless network.

Tune in next month for additional information on the impact your infrastructure can have on your wireless network. More power in the access point often does equate to better user experience!
www.cisco.com/go/ap

https://meraki.cisco.com/products/wireless

Recent Articles on School Choice

- [Debunking a Misleading Report on School Choice](#)
- [Analyzing Indiana's School Vouchers](#)

"Crucial information that you might not get on a school tour"

via GreatSchools.org

This GreatSchools.org article shares 5 important questions that you might what to address when prospective families visit your school:

"As you walk the halls of a prospective school, you learn about everything from reading programs to recess, but asking these 5 questions will give you insight into the most important aspect of your child's education: the teachers."

[Click here to read the 5 questions parents may ask on a school visit.](#)

Technology Buying Consortium with DAST Consulting

Just a reminder that 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.](#)

Many thanks to our INPEA Business Partners!

PREMIER BUSINESS PARTNERS
[Catapult Learning](#)

Contact Person: Pat Lacognata,
pat.lacognata@catapultlearning.com

[CISCO](#)
Contact Person: Laura Zapp, lazapp@cisco.com

[DAST Consulting](#)
Contact Person: David Sexauer,
dsexauer@dastconsulting.com

[Sadlier](#)
Contact Person: Steven Allspaw, SAllspaw@sadlier.com

[VoWac Publishing Company](#)
Contact Person: John Pfeifer, vowac@vowac.com

BUSINESS ePARTNER
[Houghton Mifflin Harcourt](#)
Contact Person: John Hurley, john.hurley2@hmhco.com

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- 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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