

Indiana Non-Public
Education Association

INPEA

"A Hoosier Voice for Quality Schools"



INPEA Update February 2014

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Accuplacer

HEA 1005 has produced a good bit of confusion over its applicability for non-public schools. The intent of the legislation is to reduce the need for remediation of high school content in post-secondary institutions. Most of the discussion has revolved around the Accuplacer diagnostic assessment, who needs to take it, and who pays for it. The IDOE sent out some conflicting guidance, which further complicated the issue. Currently, students in Choice Schools, Traditionally state accredited schools, and Freeway accredited schools are required to take Accuplacer. There is still some confusion over schools that are not choice schools that are accredited by an outside entity. We hope to have that cleared up soon. The bill requires that students who score at a certain level on PAT or fail ECAs on multiple occasions must take Accuplacer if they need to be remediated.

Waiver Days

Weather waivers have also caused a lot of confusion. Waivers are focused in the public schools on being funded for the day. So, from a traditional sense, waivers don't apply to non-pubs. With that said, there is an expectation of state accredited non-pubs to conduct 180 instructional days. If days are missed, they should be made up, not only because of state expectations but also because it is a part of our contractual obligation to parents who pay tuition. The guidance sent from DOE created confusion as to whether the "approved way" to make up days applies to non-pubs. In conversations with Dr. George Frampton and IDOE attorneys, non-pubs may use the suggested methods but are not limited to those. They also don't need to have those approved (waived) by the state since it is not a funding issue for our schools. Even in voucher schools, the parents technically are the recipients of voucher dollars, so they are due

instruction like any tuition-paying family.

Voucher Payments

Voucher payments will be one month later than last year. IDOE explained it was a combination of a funding calendar change and the workload of also processing special education voucher payments by the end of February.

Voucher Data/Friedman Response

The Friedman Foundation published a response to IDOE data release challenging the accuracy of the number of voucher students who didn't attend public school. The response can be found [here](#).

INPEA Dues and Data

INPEA is currently sending out reminders to schools who have not paid their dues or submitted their annual online data report. Your response will be greatly appreciated. If you have questions, please contact the office at rsoliven@inpea.org or 317-236-7329. Thank you!

INPEC

[Indiana Non-Public Education Conference](#)

Do you have October 23 & 24 on your school calendar for next year? Registration will open soon. We have two great keynoters, Alan November and Gary McGuey. See Alan's invitation to INPEC 2014 [here](#). Gary's invitation is coming soon. Spread the word about the conference on Twitter: [@INPECConf](#) and #INPEC2014.

Common Core/College and Career Readiness Standards

As you have probably read, the General Assembly has charged the State Board of Education with the development of new Indiana Standards. The IDOE released a draft on Wednesday, February 19, and have scheduled three public comment sessions around the

state: February 24, 25, and 26. It is very important that teachers and administrators review the draft standards and then weigh in through the written option or at one of the public meetings. [Click here for more information.](#)

CoreLink

We have been in conversation with IDOE attorneys about CoreLink's applicability to non-public schools. Again we are getting conflicting information. We will update you as soon as we know more.

Cisco Technology Webcast Series

Cisco Systems has partnered with INPEA and DAST Consulting to provide a series of technology webinars. Each session will last 60 minutes and has been designed for non-public school leaders, teachers, and technology specialists.

March 4, 3-4 p.m. CT / 4-5 p.m. ET
Trends in Technology for Education: The 21st Century Learner

March 11, 3-4 p.m. CT / 4-5 p.m. ET
How to Develop a Technology Plan

April 29, 3-4 p.m. CT / 4-5 p.m. ET
Unified Access: On-Premises versus Cloud Solutions
What Can You Move to the Cloud to Save Money?

May 6, 3-4 p.m. CT / 4-5 p.m. ET
Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) 1:1
Initiatives: What Questions Do You Need to Answer Before Jumping In?

May 19, 3-4 p.m. CT / 4-5 p.m. ET
Finding the Money: Grant Resources, Financing, and Certified Refurbished Gear

Agenda

Welcome, Speaker Introductions, and Topic Discussion: 3-3:45 p.m. CT / 4-4:45 p.m. ET
Q&A Session: 3:45-4 p.m. CT / 4:45-5 p.m. ET

Please click the registration link to join some or all of the sessions: www.cisco.com/go/semreg/cc_inpeawebseries2014/

[pdf](#)

Webcast details available upon registration.

Advocacy Goals

Is your school benefiting from recent legislative successes (e.g., school vouchers)? Is your school engaging in advocacy to protect those advances? INPEA has asked each school to set two advocacy goals to help ensure we don't go backwards. Have you set your goals? Want to know how you can help? Contact John at jelcesser@inpea.org.

Special Education Webinar: April 9

IDOE (Becky Bowman, State Special Education Director) will partner with INPEA's John Elcesser to present a webinar regarding the special education voucher program. Mark your calendars: April 9, 3-4:30pm ET.

Tuition Structure Reminders

As schools do their fiscal planning, a couple reminders about tuition and vouchers:

- You can only charge the state what you would charge that parent if they didn't have a voucher (exclusive of need-based assistance).
- All non-need-based "discounts" (scholarships/financial assistance--whatever you choose to call it, i.e., employee discounts, multi-student discounts, parish or church member discounts) must be excluded from the voucher amount.
- Remember you can't include textbook fees in your voucher amount and claim textbook reimbursement dollars.

IDOE will be scrutinizing these issues more and more closely. We must keep this program beyond reproach!

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Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,
John

John Elcesser
Indiana Non-Public Education Association