

Indiana Non-Public
Education Association

INPEA

"A Hoosier Voice for Quality Schools"



INPEA Update January 2014

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Happy New Year!

We hope everyone had a blessed holiday season and have been surviving the weather thus far in 2014! It's hard to believe that half the school year is already behind us. With the General Assembly back in session and INPEC 2014 plans underway, we expect the second semester to be a busy one! Please welcome Rose Soliven, INPEA's new Office and Communications Coordinator. She can be reached at rsoliven@inpea.org or **317-236-7329**.

2014 General Assembly Session

2014 General Assembly Session opened one day late on January 7th. Being a non-budget year (short session), we don't anticipate any major bills, especially any with associated costs. Our primary focus will be defensive: Do no harm - Protect what we have.

We are currently tracking 37 bills that "may" have some impact on non-public schools. Some impact could be very minor. Other bills could be more significant. A number of bills could increase non-pub regulations. One bill SB 162 that would require sending copies of **all** financial eligibility documents for voucher participants was withdrawn. Some other bills of interest include:

- HB 1004 - A Pilot Preschool Voucher
- HB1056 & SB114 - Excused Absences for State Fair Participation
- HB 1048 Possession of Firearms on School Property
- SB113 Cursive Writing
- SB 222 Athletic Concussions
- HB 1202 Required CPR Training for Graduation
- HB 1233 Background Checks 5 Year Renewals

- HB 1264 Campaign Activities & Voucher Schools Staff as Tax Payer Funded Employees
- SB224 Educational Standards SB 275 Full-day Kindergarten

Have you set your Advocacy Goals?

With the General Assembly in session, it is critical that schools engage in advocacy efforts on behalf of Indiana's Non-Public Schools. We have been blessed in Indiana with many legislative victories, but **IT IS NO TIME TO BE COMPLACENT!** We must be alert and engaged to protect these many advances. INPEA has established a grassroots network of Legislative Liaisons to serve as "communication conduits" with your school communities. Because our advocacy engagement is so important, **we are asking all schools to set two public policy goals** (e.g., attend one advocacy event, set goals for a number of legislative contacts to be made per alert).

Feb. 12: Day at the Legislature Advocacy Day Theme: "Quality Education Celebration"

The school choice coalition decided to shift from a rally to a more strategic day focused on advocacy. Specific issues and legislators will be targeted. While there will be still an opportunity to involve students, the hope is to involve more adults. Parents, teachers and administrators can speak directly to legislators about issues important to non-public schools. [Register online](#) or contact Tosha Salyers at tosha@hegnetwork.com to schedule meetings with legislators 8am-3pm. An Abraham Lincoln impersonator will be performing in the atrium for student groups from 11am-1pm to recognize his birthday.

HEA 1005

House Enrolled Act 1005 was passed in the 2013 General Assembly Session.

The intent of HEA 1005 was to cut back on the level of remediation that is required of students after entering

college. There has been a good bit of confusion as to its applicability to non-pub high schools, and if applicable, who pays for the risk screening assessment "accuplacer." We are still trying to get more clarity on if the statute applies. We were told though, if it does apply, the state will be covering the cost of accuplacer. Please note only students at risk of not passing ECAs would be taking the assessment.

INPEC 2014 & Call for Presentations October 23 & 24: "It's a Whole New World in Education"



Mark your calendars! The Steering and Program committees are heavily engaged in preparing one of our best programs ever! Keynoters include Alan November ([see his TED Talk](#)) and [Gary McGuey](#) (from Franklin Covey), back by popular demand from the 2013 Administrators Conference (INPAC). Please keep INPEC in mind as you prepare your budgets and plan usage of your Title IIA dollars. [Plan your budget with this budget guide.](#) There will be almost 100 sessions for educators and administrators. Watch for registration materials. Like to speak? [Click here for a Call for Presentations.](#) See you in Indy for INPEC 2014!

Seclusion and Restraint Plans

In 2013 the General Assembly passed SB 345, which requires public and non-public schools to have a seclusion and restraint plan in place by July 2014. The bill created a commission (on which INPEA has a seat) to develop a model plan and rules for implementing the legislation. INPEA has also put together a small committee to bring the non-public school lens to the model plan developed by the commission. We hope to have a template to schools by March or April.

Weather Waiver

State-accredited schools wishing to apply for a weather waiver for January 6 & 7 must do so by June 1st. The form can be found [HERE](#).

Catholic Schools Week/School Choice

Week

January 26-31 is both Catholic Schools Week and National School Choice Week.

Catholic Schools across the country will be the gift they are to their states and communities with the theme, "Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service."

We will also be celebrating National School Choice Week that same week. Many schools and organizations have events planned. For more information, visit www.schoolchoiceweek.com.

INPEA Dues & Data

Just a reminder that if you haven't submitted your dues or responded to INPEA's online survey data request, please do so ASAP. Thanks!

St. Joan of Arc School Leadership Day

March 4, 9:30am-12pm

Spend a half day learning how students have transformed into young leaders. "Leadership Day" events are held by those elementary schools going through The Leader in Me process. Come see the Leader in Me program in action at St. Joan of Arc. [Click here for registration information](#). Come see the St. Joan of Arc program in action!

Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,
John

John Elcesser
Indiana Non-Public Education Association