

Indiana Non-Public
Education Association

INPEA

"A Hoosier Voice for Quality Schools"



INPEA Update June 2014

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End of the Year Report

As we close out another school year, let me first thank you for your support of INPEA and, more importantly, for your wonderful efforts on behalf of Indiana's students. It has been an exciting and challenging time for education in Indiana over the past 3-4 years. I have been proud to see how the non-public school community has embraced those challenges.

Unfortunately, those challenges will not be going away anytime in the near future and, as a matter of fact, may increase before we reach the other side of the mountain.

Indiana continues to be the model for states around the country. Our education reform efforts have enabled thousands and thousands of children to find schools where they can be successful; but as you know, success does not come easily--it requires lots of hard work. INPEA pledges to continue to "have your back" here in Indianapolis. We also are always looking into how to support your success so you can support the success of your students. We are always open to suggestions on how we can help. Never hesitate to reach out.

As we look back over the past school year, we saw record numbers of students accessing non-public schools via vouchers and scholarship tax credits. We saw private donations to scholarship granting organizations hit record highs and come very close to reaching tax credit caps.

We saw a legislative session with some "whacky" bills being passed. Some (maybe even many) of those bills

[Schools](#)
[Indiana Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists](#)
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[The Lutheran Schools Partnership](#)

Resources

[American Federation for Children](#)
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were insignificant (e.g., state fair absences), but others could have a more significant impact on our non-public schools (e.g., gun bill).

So as we begin to plan for the 2015 General Assembly Session, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of all our schools owning their role in public policy by actively and strategically engaging your entire school community in the legislative process. This can be done by communicating with your elected representatives, attending legislative events and being a positive voice locally by talking to your neighbor or engaging in social media. We will need you ...ALL of you! We are anticipating that this will be a tough session. There will be no room for apathy! Start planning now on how your school will engage. Let us know how we can help!

Pre-K Voucher Update

Indiana continues to move forward on establishing structures for the Pre-K Voucher (grant) pilot. Eighteen regions are still in consideration for participation. Only five regions will be selected. Once the regions are determined, public and private providers can apply to be an approved provider. Some of the qualifications for participation include:

- If your Pre-K is part of a school structure, the Pre-K program must be accredited by an approved accrediting body which has early childhood standards (State Accreditation would not count because IDOE does not accredit preschools). **OR** the program has attained a level 3 or 4 in the FSSA's Pathways to Quality Program. **OR** is accredited by national body like NAEYC.
- Agree to a number of assurances including administering a Kindergarten readiness assessment, having a parent engagement program and agree to participate in a longitudinal effectiveness study.

Tentative Timeline:

- 5 counties determined by the end of July 2014

- Provider application open by end of August
- Program opens January 2015 (doubtful) or July 1, 2015

You may find more information on the [FSSA website](#).

We will keep you posted on developments or updates.

State Reporting Service

On May 22, 2014, INPEA sent a survey inquiring about interest in a [state reporting service](#) being offered by a State Reporting Expert. A number of schools responded positively about their interest in participating. **In an effort to give schools one last chance to respond and to make sure we have the appropriate contact information from all interested schools, please click this link and answer this brief survey by July 7, 2014.** In order to receive a follow-up e-mail regarding contracting for the services, you must provide your school's contact information in the survey. Thanks!

Seclusion and Restraint Update

Reminder that accredited non-public schools are to have their seclusion and restraint plans in place by July 1, 2014. Plans do not need to be submitted but need to be available locally.

Training programs are currently being developed. You will soon be able to access information regarding free or paid training programs on both the [Commission website](#) and [INPEA's website](#). We will be looking for some folks in different regions who would be trained in a train-the-trainer model on the safe and appropriate use of restraint. If you are interested, e-mail Rose Soliven at rsoliven@inpea.org.

For further implementation guidance, access the [webinar powerpoint](#) and the [sample plan](#) on [INPEA's website](#). Or call John at 317-236-7329.

Standards and Assessment

As you know, the State Board of Education approved new college and career readiness standards to replace previously adopted Common Core and prior Indiana Standards. The Department has been developing resource materials to assist teachers and administrators in implementing the new standards. We assume those resources will be accessible soon on [IDOE website](#) and/or learning connections. Amy Horton, Assistant Superintendent at IDOE, will be presenting a session on the new standards at [INPEC](#) 2014.

In terms of assessment, the plan is that the current ISTEP+ will be revised to be in alignment with the new standards and will be administered in Fall 2015. A NEW assessment is being developed for the 2015-16 school year which will reflect the new standards and the new approach to college and career readiness. There is much discussion on this issue and its impact on student test scores during the initial time of transition. Someone from IDOE Assessment division will be presenting on the new assessments at INPEC as well.

Legislative Guidance

The IDOE recently released guidance on some legislation passed in the 2014 session. Please review the guidance, as well as all the newly passed education laws, with the appropriate staff at your schools.

- [HEA 1063 - Charter School Compacts](#)
- [HEA 1290 - Health of Student Athletes](#)
- [SEA 114 - Excused Absences from School for State Fair Matters](#)
- [SEA 222 - Student Athlete Concussions](#)
- [SEA 229 - Firearm Matters](#)
- [SEA 245 - Schools and Auto-injectable Epinephrine](#)

INPEA Membership Dues for 2014-15

The INPEA Board voted to increase school dues to \$3/student for K-12 and maintain Pre-K dues at \$1/student. As you know, dues are the cornerstone of INPEA's operational budget and enable our association to represent your interests at the General Assembly, State Board of Education and with IDOE. Thanks for your dues support!

Capacity Survey with the Friedman Foundation

Thanks to all the schools who responded to the Friedman Foundation's survey on private school capacity in Indiana. Preliminary data shows that there are approximately 20,068 seats available in Indiana's private schools. Please understand this is an estimate because not all private schools responded.

Congratulations to Rabbi A.D. Motzen



Congratulations to INPEA Board Member, Rabbi A.D. Motzen, who is being honored with the Spetner Memorial Avodas Hakodesh Award at this year's Agudath Israel of Illinois dinner on Sunday, June 29 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. A.D. was recently promoted to National Director of State Relations for Agudath Israel of America. An avid supporter of private schools, A.D.'s knowledge and experience in public policy have not only benefited INPEA but schools in the Midwest and across this country. Congratulations, A.D.!!

GreatSchools

INPEA is partnering with the [Institute for Quality Education](#) and [GreatSchools](#) to give parents good information when choosing the right school for their student.

[GreatSchools](#) is a national nonprofit that works to help millions of families find information about local schools like yours. Last year, nearly 700,000 Indiana parents visited [greatschools.org](#). By using this FREE tool, you can create an online profile for your school. This is an opportunity to

- Highlight your school's unique qualities and strengths
- Add photos and videos to showcase the climate in your school
- Update school contact information
- Give parents and community members a chance to share positive comments about your school

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to tell about the great things that are happening in your school! Setting up a new profile only takes about 10-15 minutes. A representative from your school can register at [www.greatschools.org/osp](#) to get started, and outreach staffers with the Institute for Quality Education are happy to answer any questions you may have!

INPEC - A Whole New World of Learning

October 23-24, 2014, Indianapolis

School may be out for the summer, but it's not too early to plan for [INPEC 2014](#)! Don't forget to take advantage of the early bird and group registration discounts [found here](#).

Read about the sessions we're offering in the [Registration Brochure on our website](#).

NEW THIS YEAR: You will have the opportunity to browse exhibitors, educational sessions, presenters and other highlights before, during and after the conference from your smart phone or mobile device. The new mobile app will put the latest conference technology in

the palm of your hand to quickly navigate the conference, build your own schedule, locate a booth, view exhibitor contact information and much more. Stay tuned for helpful tips on how to use the new conference mobile app!

Looking for some summer reading???. Consider books by [INPEC keynoters](#) and then join our INPEC discussion blogs hosted by Mary McCoy (Archdiocese of Indianapolis) blogging on Gary McGuey's book *The Inspirational Teachers* or Josh Sommermeyer (Concordia Lutheran High School in Fort Wayne) blogging on Alan November's book *Who Owns the Learning?* You may find the [blog on our website](#) starting in July!

Professional Development Opportunities

Check out these upcoming opportunities:

- [INPEC](#) (of course!) - PGP credits will be available
- [Choice School Administrator Training Conference](#) presented by the IDOE, July 23, 2014, at IUPUI - downtown Indianapolis
- Huntington University is proud to offer a [Master of Education in TESOL w/EL Licensure & TESOL Certification](#) starting this fall in Ft. Wayne -- call 855-765-8729 for details.

Stay connected!

- Like INPEA on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) for updates for INPEA events, programs and non-public schools-related news.
- Check out our [YouTube](#) and [Pinterest](#) pages for updates on INPEC. INPEC is also on [Twitter](#), too.
- 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.

Hope you have a wonderful summer, and 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