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| **January 2013** |
| **INPEA Legislative Update** |

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| **General Assembly 2013**  The 2013 General Assembly already has two weeks under its belt. The Senate Education committee has met twice and the House Education committee met for the second time on Tuesday morning. At last count, there are approximately 90 bills filed and assigned to these two committees. There are a  number of other education related bills assigned to other committees as well. All in all it's going to a busy session! Some bill profiles can be found below. |

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| **House Ed.** In the first meeting of the House Education Committee, they heard bills dealing with Expanded Background Checks (HB1160) and the Sale of Public School Buildings (HB1012). The expanded background check would involve requiring a national check (instead of state or local) at the expense of the applicant. On Tuesday (January 22) they heard a bill focusing on high school graduates in need of remediation(HB1005). According to testimony of the 60,000 high school graduates attending Indiana's public colleges, 10,000 require some type of remediation. The intent of the bill is to shift responsibility for remediation from the colleges to the high schools. The bill includes the use of a college readiness exam to assess students who are at risk for the need for remediation. Weaknesses would be addressed in a student's written graduation plan and more holistically in a school's improvement planning. We expect a large school choice bill (HB1003)to be heard in this committee. It would include a number of expansions to all three choice programs (i.e. Voucher, Scholarship Tax Credit and Parent Tax Deduction). Some of the expansions include:-increasing the parent tax deduction from $1000 to $3000-establishing a preschool Scholarship Tax Credit Program-providing voucher access without means testing to military families, foster care children, special education students and siblings-removes prior year public requirement on voucher and scholarship tax credit programs (will be a tough sell!)-increases $4500 elementary cap $1000/year for the next two years- allows families eligible for a voucher to keep it if their income increases up to 300% of free and reduced lunch level. Other bills we expect to be heard include:Early childhood/preschool pilot (HB1004)School Accountability (HB1337)Graduation Waivers(HB1340) ...among others. For more information on House Ed. bills [Click Here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001iAQP-X-C4mCnWyrGpsHXBPd12ywxP5oLDoONe0JyZZZ-DjGXOnbsPeqORpi2VGiPQ_Iii4DHilxJAV3qf0Q13llBmUWPPiJukGuNd1KBbRYBA3KuUixBANDo1n1VdLsJ7882QGWvCssMjdkELXViLuCr8KnVDHCiIQJmqS-lyeOWi9Y0HkBTyRoTlxCRzpJFylDU4FobaKCm4i37fstiePYm3TaTiHoYWUjz4bmjWiO6ecfyyGpcuuWjJt3alUt2ne7x7mFLqF1QOMUUaly3Bg==) |

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| Senate Ed.   During their first meeting of the session, Senate Ed. heard bills focusing on Cursive Writing (SB120), School Choice for Siblings (SB184), Performance Rewards for School Districts (SB189) and a bill regarding the sale of public school buildings (SB135)    SB120 (which was introduced last year also) would require the teaching of cursive writing in schools including state accredited nonpubs. It will be voted on by committee on Wednesday.  SB184 would allow siblings of voucher students to receive a voucher without meeting the prior year public requirement. Because this would include currently enrolled siblings one member of the committee (Senate Luke Kenley of Noblesville) questioned the fiscal impact. If passed out of Senate Ed. it would then be reassigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee(chaired by Senator Kenley). There is a slight possibility that the bill could be amended to apply only to new students/siblings.  SB 189  (Common Core Standards) Last week the committee heard over 5 hours of testimony regarding whether the state should continue its work with the Common Core Standards. The bill originally called for the elimination of Indiana's work with the standards. It seems like the bill will be amended to require further study while continuing to move forward. INPEA has not taken a position but did inform legislators that most schools have already begun work on the standards, including significant professional development.   This week Senate Ed. will also hear a bill on Accreditation (SB330). This would allow the use of regional and national accrediting organizations. The bill would also review how these bodies are approved while also monitoring how schools meet legal standards.  We "may" also see bills dealing with preschool education, school accountability (A-F & Growth)and Reading Plans to name but a few.   For more information on Senate education bills [Click Here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001iAQP-X-C4mBHF-p7VQsHqwc_tJdcUn5Ya1aXWaTUrzEaCNNrnWMdmpldm7OXyqzFMHzMK0FpYqeyhoin96-VR3x-O8URGJ8QVJFi-hlJVZhoXFpodgf3H7pCQg8OEvSwMa3VuyeNZdrY1796GntPb2kZM6Wxu5USMu7CN13OHgaHMhCC3vkbxYNmJqXsFD0ISrrDliVEUvO_RYRfwlj2m-SSTo_W83MSNIbTggmLJoL911am5EHSnd7J6MiS1JpHzErwFIkFUom1F2wEnj7cgjihnFRwBXncJffBO7k0ZfiuFI5OUPKBHA==) |

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| **Legislative Liaisons**It is very important that we have an engaged grassroots effort for what looks to be a busy education agenda. If your school does not have a legislative liaison please appoint one and provide our office with their contact information. Two webinars were held earlier this month. We will have one "make-up session" on **February 4th at 4:00pm ET.**Please e-mail sjennings@inpea.org if you or your liaison plan on participating.      |

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| **Dates to Remember** **National School Choice Week - January 28- February 1****School Choice (Ed Reform) Rally at the Statehouse - March 11th**     |

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| INPEA Legislative Action Center  INPEA has an easy way to contact your legislator. You can access the Legislative Action Center through the INPEA website ([www.inpea.org](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001iAQP-X-C4mAbjfWCohfDh6CnwvbFpFCPjUqsu1Umko7nEREe21fjLi4o068rYMh7nCu1P4OaJY0-r8h73cO-JeTayYvHSYc1ouH-wvwiZJI=)) under the public policy drop down menu. |

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| Use this area to provide your subscribers information about your organization. **Sincerely,**  |

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| John ElcesserIndiana Non-Public Education Association |

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