



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting
April 7, 2015 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm – Lacey Community Center

State Agency and Partner Updates

Agency/Partner Update

Department of Early Learning (DEL)

For more information please contact Justin Montermini at Justin.Montermini@del.wa.gov

- DEL Director, Dr. Bette Hyde recently announced that she will be leaving her position after six years of leading the department. Dr. Hyde will stay until August 31 to complete work in the legislative session which has a heavy early learning agenda and to provide time to find a new director.

“Under Bette’s leadership, Washington has made tremendous strides forward in improving access to high quality early learning opportunities for Washington’s families,” said Gov. Jay Inslee. “I couldn’t be more proud of everything Bette has accomplished and appreciate her role in putting Washington on the map as a leader in early learning. The work of her and her team means thousands of Washington children are on the path to a brighter future.” Read more on DEL’s blog: <http://delconnect.blogspot.com/>

- April is National Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month, a time to recognize that we each play a part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in our communities.

As the Prevent Child Abuse Washington State Chapter we encourage you to join the Pinwheels for Prevention initiative. This initiative uses pinwheels – a timeless symbol for childhood – to represent its campaign. Last year DEL distributed nearly 20,000 pinwheels to communities around the state. Pinwheels for Prevention is a reminder that it is not enough to respond to child abuse and neglect – we must build and support strong families through community engagement, programs, and policies. Strengthening Families Washington is accepting Requests for Proposals to fund community-based family support and child abuse prevention programs throughout Washington State. The Letter of Interest format, application cover sheet, and more information is available on the DEL website at: <http://www.del.wa.gov/about/contracts.aspx>

- Washington’s home visiting partnership recently received support to explore the Pay for Success model. DEL and Thrive Washington (Thrive) will spend the next year exploring the feasibility of Pay for Success as a model to help the state greatly increase the number of children and families served through home visiting programs. Learn more on DEL’s blog: <http://delconnect.blogspot.com/>

Department of Health & Social Services (DSHS)

- No update at this time.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

For more information please contact Bob Butts at Bob.Butts@k12.wa.us

Full-day Kindergarten:

- **Professional Development:** OSPI and ESD 113 have created three Professional Development modules for Kindergarten Teachers. The modules are Child Development, The Learning Environment, and Learning Centers. Trainer of trainer sessions on the modules will be held this spring in both Eastern and Western Washington. For more information, contact Janet Collier at jcollier@esd113.org.
- **Kindergarten Guide:** OSPI is creating a Kindergarten Guide that will provide a framework for how to create classrooms that are developmentally appropriate and rigorous. Version 1.0 will be available this spring

Conferences:

- **Reading Summit:** Washington will be hosting a second Summit for Struggling Readers, June 22-23, 2015, at the Lynnwood Conference Center. Focus will be on kindergarten through Grade 4 and will host National expert Dr. Richard Allington. Target audience is teachers, coaches, and administrators. For more information please visit: <http://www.k12.wa.us/EarlyLearning/pubdocs/Summit9Seattleflyer.pdf>.
- **Starting Strong P-3 Institute:** The 7th Annual Starting Strong P-3 Institute will be held August 3-5 will be held at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center. The Institute will bring together early learning professionals and K-12 educators for discussions about innovation and alignment between systems. For more information visit: <http://startingstrong.net/>

Department of Health (DOH)

For more information please contact Rebecca Timmen at Rebecca.Timmen@doh.wa.gov

- The state Department of Health is offering SmartQuit a free smartphone app to help Washingtonians quit tobacco or e-cigarettes. SmartQuit follows a unique program created at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to help people become tobacco-free. The SmartQuit study found that SmartQuit users were two-to-three times more likely to stop smoking than those who tried to quit on their own. To learn more about getting the SmartQuit App please visit: www.doh.wa.gov/SmartQuit or visit www.quitline.com.
- The Department of Health has applied for the Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) expansion grant from SAMSHA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration). Washington was among the first states to have a LAUNCH grant, from 2008-2013. SAMSHA will be awarding only 5 new expansion grants. If selected, this 4 year grant will expand, through training and technical assistance, the successful elements from the original pilot site of Yakima to 3 new communities in our state. The goal of the expansion is to improve early childhood systems, strengthen parenting competencies, and improve children's developmental and behavioral outcomes in communities.

Thrive Washington (Thrive)

- No update at this time.