



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting
June 2, 2015 – 9:30 am to 4:00 pm – Girl Scout Center

State Agency and Partner Updates

Agency/Partner Update

Department of Early Learning (DEL)

For more information please contact Stephanie Liden at Stephanie.liden@del.wa.gov

- Juliet Morrison has retired from DEL as Assistant Director of Quality Practice and Professional Growth. Greg Williamson (Assistant Director for Partnerships and Collaboration) is currently taking on her responsibilities until a new hire joins the team.
- Karen Walker, lead for Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) will retire at the end of June.
- Luba Bezborodnikova has agreed to join the DEL Leadership team on June 1 as the Assistant Director for the Early Start Act. In this position, Luba will take on a leadership role to guide DEL through implementation of this important piece of state legislation, and her primary focus will be on completing the ambitious standards alignment work begun by DEL and required by the Early Start Act. Luba's appointment to the leadership team will also allow her to support the extensive amount of work DEL has to do to comply with the reauthorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant, one of our primary federal funding sources that supports licensing and many other quality improvement efforts such as Early Achievers.
- DEL recently released a call for applications for PAG (Parental Advisory Group). More information about this can be found online at <http://www.del.wa.gov/development/strengthening/pag.aspx>.
- DEL distributed a press release regarding Washington's early learning standings in a National study developed at Rutgers University. To read this article and to find out what Washington's Pre-K standings are, go here: <http://www.del.wa.gov/resources/newsroom/051215.aspx>
- DEL's blog is currently active and reporting stories regarding Teacher Appreciation Week, Activity and Development, Early Intervention for Children with Disabilities and more. Keep an eye out of weekly updates: <http://delconnect.blogspot.com/>

Department of Health & Social Services (DSHS)

- No updates at this time.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

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

- **State-funded full-day Kindergarten Webinar Information:** A webinar on state funding for full-day kindergarten and WaKIDS was aired on April 28. The PowerPoint and a recording of the webinar can be found at: <http://www.k12.wa.us/EarlyLearning/default.aspx>
- **Early Learning Capital Facilities:** DEL, OSPI, the Governor's Office, school districts, WSA,

and others have been meeting to explore possible funding programs for early learning centers and to streamline the regulatory environment. The group met with OSPI's School Facilities Advisory Committee and another meeting is scheduled in late-May.

Conferences:

- **Reading Summit:** Washington will be hosting a second Summit for Struggling Readers, June 22-23, 2015, at the Lynnwood Conference Center. The early May Summit in Seattle is full. The focus will be on kindergarten through Grade 4 instruction 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 at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center. The Institute will bring together early learning professionals and K–12 educators for discussions about implementation of full-day kindergarten, 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

- We are pleased to announce that Tamara Fulwyler is the new contracted Washington State **Essentials for Childhood** Executive Director. Tamara comes to this role with a track record of providing leadership, support, inspiration and coherence to community safety and wellness projects. Tamara's experience includes providing visionary, adaptive leadership, addressing inequities and emphasizing prevention.
 - Tamara (email is asymnet@gmail.com) was recently employed at the South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA), where she directed the planning division. She previously served in a number of roles at SPIPA, including Chief Financial Officer, Senior Grant Writer, and Interim Social Services Director. She also worked as the Outreach Coordinator for the Washington State Governor's Council on Health Disparities, and as the Executive Director of a regional victim services agency in Oregon. She has a Master's Degree in Public Health with a focus on community health.
 - Washington State Essentials for Childhood is a collective impact initiative working toward the vision, "All children in Washington State thrive in safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments." A cross-sector, executive level steering committee, led by Secretary of Health John Wiesman and Department of Early Learning Director Bette Hyde, is developing and championing a Common Agenda to guide the work.
- Dr. Pooja Tandon, a research at UW and a pediatrician at Seattle Children's Hospital, was in the news for a study she did on physical activity in child care centers in Seattle. Dr. Tandon's study took **direct measurements** of children's activity and found preschoolers spent
 - 73 percent of their day in sedentary activities,
 - 13 percent in light movement,
 - and only 14 percent engaged in moderate to vigorous activities such as running

and skipping

- This study, which is being published in *Pediatrics*, points to a need for more attention, resources and training for child care directors and teachers to help boost kids' physical activity.
- Help Me Grow WA Partnership continues to mobilize efforts to develop a statewide system for universal developmental screening. The vision is that universal developmental screening and linkages to appropriate services will be available for all young children in our state. Partners from health, early learning, community and family services have come together to achieve this vision through collective impact Action Teams meet monthly and are open to all interested partners. Each team has a specific area of focus and the strategies include: access to screening, quality training, connection to services, data systems, and policy. To connect with a team or to be on the mailing list for the e-update, contact the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems coordinator, Rebecca Timmen, at Rebecca.Timmen@doh.wa.gov
- **What does your preschooler do in day care? Not much active, study says**
A new study of 10 Seattle child-care centers finds preschoolers are offered only 48 minutes a day of active play, far less than the two hours recommended by national guidelines
http://old.seattletimes.com/html/health/2026333300_preschoolcouchpotatoesxml.htm
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Thrive Washington (Thrive)

For more information please contact Sam Whiting at Sam@thrivebyfivewa.org

- **2015 Leadership Luncheon:** Nearly 500 people joined us on Friday, May 15 to celebrate the importance of early learning and the work Thrive and our partners are doing to help ensure all children in Washington state have the opportunity to get a great start in life.
HIGHLIGHTS:
 - Megan shared how home visiting is helping her be the best mom possible to 15-month-old Bentley [Watch video](#)
 - Thrive CEO Sam Whiting promised that Thrive will be the “fortitude in Washington’s pocket” as we all keep working together to make sure every child gets a great start [Read Sam’s Speech](#)
 - Keynote speaker Dr. Nadine Burke Harris talked about how she and her San Francisco-based pediatric practice are altering the way society responds to kids exposed to significant trauma and toxic stress. Panelists Annett Bovent, Antony Chiang, Geof Morgan and Quen Zorrah followed with a look at what Washington state is doing to integrate research about Adverse Childhood Experiences into programs and create healthier communities statewide
- **NEAR@Home Toolkit:** Thrive worked with its partners in the federal Health Resources and Services Administration Region X (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington) to create and release NEAR@Home, a toolkit for addressing ACEs in home visiting. [Learn more and get the toolkit](#)
- **New Thrive Website:** Check out our site at www.ThriveWA.org!
- **Home Visiting Services Account Convening:** On April 16, Thrive and DEL hosted a meeting for all HVSA cohorts at the Seattle Public Library. The training featured

presentations and discussions on infant mental health professional endorsement, implementation science and the data benchmarks report.