

Head Start & ECEAP News!

August 27, 2014

We've had a busy summer here at WSA, and we have great plans for the upcoming year. Scroll down to see what we've been up to, and what's coming for Head Start and ECEAP!

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Letter to Members

Our Executive Director Joel Ryan shared some of the ideas our board developed during our strategic planning process this year, plus our upcoming budget and some board policy decisions that will impact our work during the session in Olympia next year.



Quick Links

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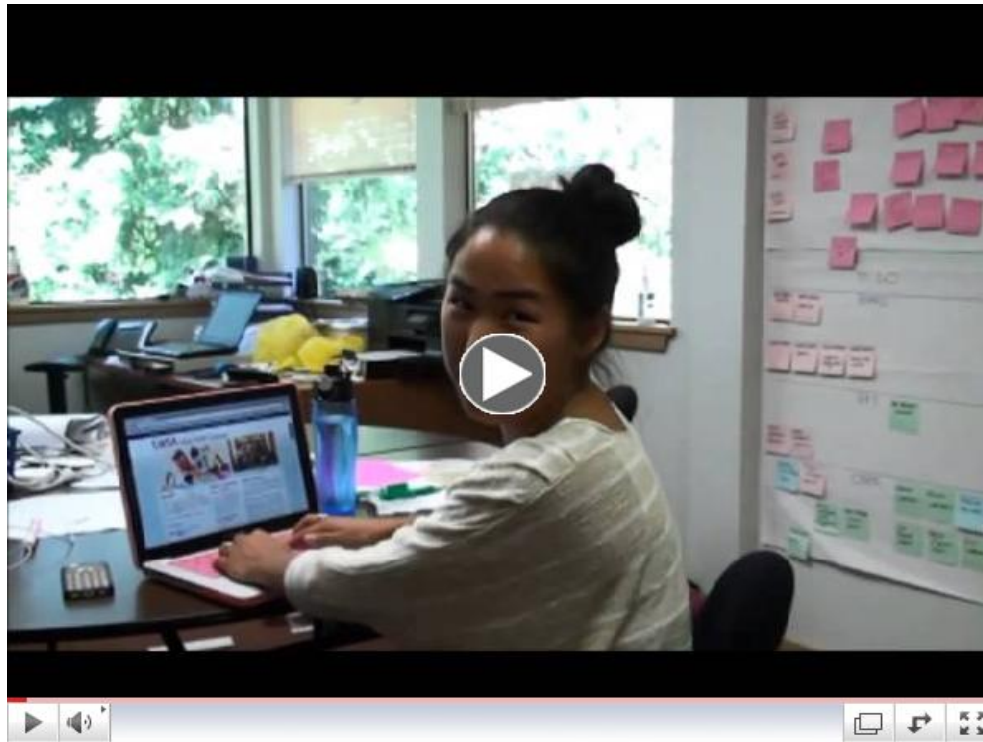
[WSA Facebook](#)

[Click for the whole letter.](#)



What can you do to advocate?

We have some ideas! Check out our [Advocacy Resources](#) page for some materials you can use at your program, and watch our new video below!

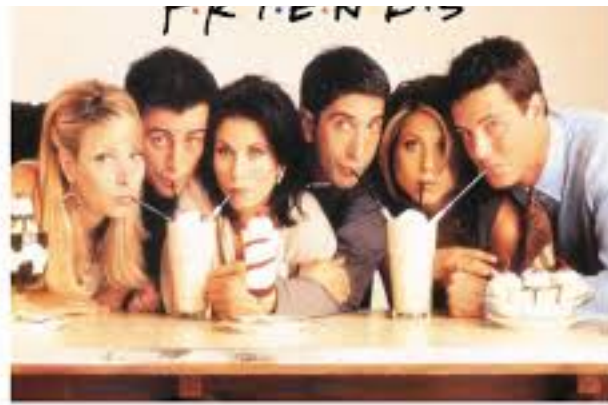


WSA Blog - Did Friends Win the Emmy this Week?

No, we're not that far out of touch.
So why is Head Start still getting



hammered by a 2002 study that was done back when Friends won the Emmy, KISS was performing their final concert, the Seahawks were still at the Kingdome, and we barely knew what 'texting' meant? Head Start has made great strides since 2002 and we need to make sure policy makers and pundits understand that. Joel wrote a great blog that outlines some of those changes and the recent research that contradicts the Head Start Impact Study. [Read the whole thing here.](#)



How does the 'McCleary Decision' affect ECEAP?



Everybody (at least everyone who's interested in advocacy) is talking about the [McCleary Decision](#), in which the Supreme Court has told the legislature to find much more money for K-12 Education to meet our state's constitutional requirement. What does that mean for early learning and other programs that help our families? Well, it's not good.

The legislature needs to come up with billions for K-12, so they either need to raise revenue (taxes, fees, close loopholes, etc) or cut other non-K-12 programs like early learning, housing, health, disabilities, TANF, food programs, etc.

Right now the state spends less than 1% of its budget on early learning,

which research has shown is a critical strategy for getting kids school-ready and making sure we get the kind of successes in the K-12 system that they're looking for. We're going to need to convince legislators that investing in quality early learning should be considered as important as investing in older kids. Check out [our news release](#) for more information.

Featured Sponsor - Kaplan Early Learning Company



[Kaplan Early Learning Company](#) understands and supports the goal and needs of Head Start and ECEAP programs. Head Start and ECEAP programs have been a primary focus for our company for decades; please take a look at our [Early Head Start](#) and [Head Start - Specific Resources](#) on our website. You can find information about the five essential domains of the Framework based on Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center resources plus helpful HS and EHS classroom list and product alignments.

[Click here for a flyer - 17% off, and free shipping for orders over \\$300!](#)

The 2014 Election is Approaching Fast.
Are you registered to vote?

Did you know that rich people are twice as likely to vote as low income Americans?



How do you think this affects the decisions that our elected officials make? The future of Head Start and ECEAP depends on the votes of people who care about early learning and the families we serve.

This November there is an election to choose your member of Congress and some of your state lawmakers. You can register to vote on-line [HERE](#).

In Washington it's easy to vote, you don't even have to go to a polling place on election day. So when you get your ballot in your mailbox, **VOTE!!**

Upcoming Events

Meetings/Trainings:

WSA Fall Meeting - October 15-17, Pasco Red Lion. The agenda is coming soon - we have some great presenters already scheduled, including folks coming in from the DC Office of Head Start, the New America Foundation, and more.



STEM Institute (Hopefully) at Microsoft - December 2-3 - still waiting on our partners, but we're hoping this is a go! The first day will be a STEM Summit, with K-12 folks as well, and the second day would be focused more on practical information and skills for practitioners. Stay tuned.

WSTC Head Start/ECEAP Directors Meeting - Dec 3-5, Embassy Suites

Tukwila

And we have lots of **webinars** coming up (connection info to come) starting with -

What's new at WSA - September 17, 10-11AM.

We'll update folks on what's going on in Olympia and Washington DC that affect local programs, staff and parents, as well as what's going on here at WSA. [Sign up here.](#)

Don't forget to



Thanks for your support of children and families -

Joel Ryan

Executive Director

Washington State Association of Head Start & ECEAP/
Washington State Training Consortium

p.s. You're on our email list because you've either signed up on our website or attended one of our many WSA or WSTC events. We use these periodic emails to keep the ECEAP/Head Start/EHS community aware of what's going on in state and federal government that affects low-income families, as well as providing info about upcoming training and meeting opportunities.

If you'd like to unsubscribe, just scroll to the bottom of this page and click the 'safeunsubscribe' button.