



Washington Association for the Education of Young Children

841 N Central Avenue, Suite 206, Kent, WA 98032

Phone: (253) 854-2565 Fax: (253) 813-3646 Email: waeyc@waeyc.org

Report for Governing Board December 2010

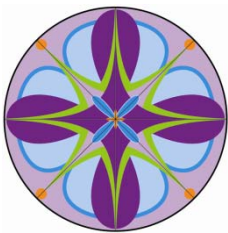
Our Mission: We provide services to members and advocate for policies that enable individuals and businesses to provide high-quality early learning experiences for young children.

Promoting Quality: *We think about, research, publish and disseminate information about what creates a high-quality early learning environment.*

"Going to AEYC meetings always inspires me. The participants always have a way of inspiring child care staff [members] by teaching...and keeping us informed. It is great to get together with other child care workers and see how they are solving problems."

-Eastern WA AEYC Member

Annual Conference



WAEYC thanks all our board members, Eastern Washington AEYC, other volunteers, and staff who contributed to a well received conference! 80% of those completing the online evaluation responded that the collaboration with WSASCD was valuable and beneficial. Approximately 400 people registered for this year's conference compared to approximately 800 in Spokane in 2004. Below is a comparison of financial and registration data. In 2011, conference will be in Bellevue October 27-29. For 2012, Vancouver and Yakima are being considered.

	2010-11 Spokane*	2009-10 Bellevue	2008-09 Tacoma	2007-08 Yakima	2006-07 Bellevue
Revenue	\$98,317.80*	\$235,099.10	\$221,215.90	\$182,750.92	\$172,451.10
Expenses	<u>\$138,891.54*</u>	<u>\$215,930.79</u>	<u>\$221,195.60</u>	<u>\$108,783.35</u>	<u>\$125,034.98</u>
Profit/Loss	(\$40,573.74)*	\$19,168.31	\$20.30	\$73,9677.57	\$47,416.12
Attendees	412	1008	1000	759	1110

*numbers not final until end of fiscal year. Conference revenue will likely increase by \$20,000 this fiscal year.

Applying Science: Vice President Karen Cooper represented WAEYC at a symposium last month highlighting the newest research on children's brains and development, and how to apply it to state policy and practice. Go to www.casey.org/resources/events/earlylearning/wa for symposium materials and resources.

Early Learning Plan: Later this month, the Department of Early Learning (DEL), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and Thrive by Five will release their 2011 priorities from the Early Learning Plan. The plan is a 10-year roadmap for building a statewide early learning system in Washington. In September, the WAEYC board reviewed some of the strategies from the plan to determine whether or not they aligned with our Theory of Action. For those that aligned, we considered how WAEYC could be involved in implementation of the strategy. We'll need to revisit this work in light of the 2011 priorities. Go to www.del.wa.gov/plan to learn more.

Professional Development: Recommendations for the creation of an integrated system of preparation and continuing education for the early learning and school-age workforce will also be released this month. In 2009, House Bill 1943 directed DEL and the Professional Development Consortium (PDC) to make these recommendations, and create a set of core competencies. The core competencies are draft guidelines defining what professionals need to know and be able to do to provide quality care and education. They are being mailed to all licensed child care programs and are posted at www.del.wa.gov/partnerships/development/core.aspx. WAEYC was an active participant in the PDC.

Birth to Three Plan: *Washington State's Birth to Three Plan: building on existing efforts to improve services and achieve measurable outcomes for children and families* is now available at www.del.wa.gov/government/legislature/reports.aspx. Policy recommendations focus on health and developmental well being, home visiting, parents/caregivers, outreach and support for FFN caregivers, high-quality professionals and environments, child care subsidy policy, and infrastructure, partnerships, and mobilization.

Supporting Professionalism: *We promote program quality & professional qualifications and compensation.*

"AEYC's promote the value and necessity of early childhood programs and trainings. I am proud to be associated with this organization. Thank you for taking the time to put together a local chapter that is able to serve our community."

-Puget Sound AEYC Member

STARS Scholarships: WAEYC will continue to administer STARS scholarships and the conference support & scholarship program for the Department of Early Learning through June 30, 2011. DEL asked WAEYC to continue this work, which was scheduled to end December 31, 2010. The executive committee voted to agree to the contract extension.

State Budget, Impact on Early Learning: The Legislature is under pressure to finish the supplemental budget as soon as possible. The November revenue forecast indicated revenue is down \$1.2 billion. Governor Gregoire ordered 6.3% across-the-board spending cuts for state agencies to balance the budget this fiscal year ending June 30th. Agency directors decided how to apply cuts. The House Democratic Caucus released its proposal for the supplemental budget. The good news for early learning is that they didn't propose any of the small across-the-board cuts to DEL that the Governor did. Like the Governor, they did propose a minor cut in the OSPI budget to the PreK planning work group created by Senate Bill 6759, and a cut of \$19,030,000 for TANF program funding.

The state deficit is projected to be more than \$5 billion for the 2011-2013 Biennium. The general fund contains about \$31 billion of which approximately 70% is constitutionally protected for K-12, legal contracts, and debt services. Unless the legislature figures out a way to avoid an all-cuts budget, the projected \$5 billion will come from the remaining \$9 billion used to fund early learning, health and human services, and higher education. It is important for advocates to challenge the notion that the election results are a mandate for an all-cuts budget; the state needs to take a more balanced approach to balancing the budget. We need to educate new legislators and emphasize the proven outcomes of early learning programs.



Federal Funding & Policies: Thank you to all who called Congress November 15th and 30th! Congress and the White House are still negotiating funding and tax bills. The Continuing Resolution has been extended to December 17th. The negotiations continue over the appropriations bill and on the 2001 and 2003 tax changes that otherwise expired on December 31st.

Child nutrition reauthorization passed and has gone to President Obama for his signature. The bill includes new nutrition requirements for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP); allows CACFP providers nationwide to be reimbursed for meals to low-income children after school through the Afterschool Meal Program; and streamlines CACFP administration by giving providers more flexibility, reducing paperwork, and simplifying program requirements.

Facilitating Member Connections: *We enhance learning and sharing connections among early childhood professionals.*

"I am truly grateful for the connection with other Early Childhood leaders. There are many times that you do feel alone in the field and getting ideas, tips or even just sharing experiences is so vital. Thank you so much for providing this wonderful connection."

-East Sound AEYC Member

Affiliate Resources: NAEYC provides a wide-range of resources to help local and state affiliate leaders stay connected and up-to-date!

- **Affiliate Connections** is a monthly e-news sent to senior affiliate staff and all local and state board members listed in their online board rosters.
- **Monthly leadership calls** are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 4:00 PM Eastern. Dial in using this conference call information 1-800-377-8846 Passcode: 52683359#. These calls are designed for affiliate leadership only.
- At www.naeyc.org/affiliates/forms, access archived calls, an annual affiliate planning calendar, orientation modules and much more.

WAEYC also provides a variety of resources for affiliate chapter leaders.

- At www.waeyc.org/affiliateresources.htm, leaders can access tools to help their affiliate be a high-performing, inclusion organization meeting NAEYC's roles and functions.
- The **Affiliate Chapter Report**, on this page, lists additional resources and tips.
- Two **Growing Connections** webinars are being planned this year for affiliate leaders.
- **WAEYC executive committee members** are available to attend affiliate chapter board meetings for the purpose of increasing communication.

Connecting Providers, Advocates & Policy Makers: January 5th 1:00-3:00 pm, at the Department of Early Learning in Lacey, is the next quarterly meeting of early learning and afterschool providers and advocates with leaders from the Governor’s Office, DEL, and OSPI. The purpose of these meetings is to share and discuss policy and budget matters of interest to policy makers and advocates. WAEYC convenes these meetings, as well as the provider caucus, as part of the Early Learning Action Alliance.

Administrative Operations

WAEYC Policy Revisions: The executive committee developed a schedule for regular review of WAEYC’s policies by the Governing Board. The Personnel, Affiliate Council, and Programs & Services policies are all scheduled for review in 2011.

WAEYC Staff Changes: With great sadness, we said goodbye to more valuable WAEYC employees (Georgina and Sunita) in November. Interviews are currently underway for associate director of advancement, programs manager, and program specialist positions. (Job announcements are available at www.waeyc.org.) The decision to eliminate the current positions and create new positions was made in a manner that was planful and appropriate to the needs of the organization as identified in WAEYC’s Theory of Action and 2010-2013 Strategic Plan. Following significant funding reduction and anticipated elimination of the STARS contract in December, the personnel committee evaluated staff roles and responsibilities, and created a new staffing structure. Now that our STARS scholarship contract is extended to June 30, 2010, Vera Sturm will remain as financial coordinator and former employee Rhonda Hartwig will work part-time doing scholarship data entry.

Please Mark Your Calendars!

February 22	Governing Board Meeting, Conference Call & Webinar 6:30-8:30 pm
March 17	Affiliate Council Meeting, Conference Call & Webinar 6:30-8:30 pm
March 28-30	NAEYC QRIS Meeting & Public Policy Forum, Washington, DC
April 16	Affiliate Council & Governing Board Meeting, Kent, WA
May 19	Governing Board, Conference Call & Webinar 1:00-3:00 pm
June 7-11	Western State Leadership Network (WSLN), Juneau, AK
June 12-15	National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, Providence, RI
July 16	Affiliate Council & Governing Board