



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 September 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."

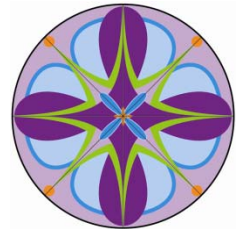
-Eastern WA AEYC Member

Annual Conference

It's in Spokane October 14-16 with preconference seminars October 13th.

New this Year! Help get the word out!

- Online brochure and registration at www.waeyc.org - *Stepping up with current technology and going green, brochures will be mailed only if requested. Conference details are at www.waeyc.org, postcards are being mailed 9/13, the brochure will be available 9/15 and online registration later this month.*
- Partnership with Washington State ASCD - *On Friday and Saturday, attendees select from sessions provided by WAEYC and from the Washington State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.*



Registration Costs

- \$135 per day
- Scholarships and member, 3-day, and early (by September 30th) discounts available
- Preconference, tour, and event fees at www.waeyc.org

Hotel and Air Travel Reservations

- Link from www.waeyc.org or call (800) 222-TREE to book a room at the Doubletree Hotel Spokane City Center for WAEYC rate of \$127+tax. Make your reservation by September 17th
- Alaska Airlines is offering a discount to WAEYC conference attendees. Make reservations at www.AlaskaAir.com and enter ECCMB1483 in the Discount Code Box.

Keynote Speakers

- Andrew Meltzoff, Ph.D. - *Endowed Chair and Co-Director of the UW's Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences whose discoveries about infant imitation have revolutionized our understanding of early cognition, personality, and brain development*
- Michael Gurian - *A New York Times bestselling author and co-founder of the Gurian Institute whose work spans neurobiology, brain science, and the ways in which boys and girls learn*
- José-Luis Orozco - *Children's author, recording artist, and bilingual educator who makes Spanish language, Latin American culture and musical heritage come alive*

Washington Association for the Education of Young Children

Promoting excellence in early learning

Special Events

- Future of Early Learning – *Hear state leaders talk about the vision and their priorities in the Early Learning Plan*
- P. J. Party – *Join other conference attendees for a Spa Party Thursday night at Highlands Day Spa. Wear your p.js. and enjoy hours of pampering \$50*
- Field Trip for Grown-Ups - *First stop Friday night is the Cowgirl Co-op for a Wild West show and shopping and then on to the Trezzi Farm and Winery for dinner and a tour \$35*

Preconference Seminars

- Effective Practices for Working with Children with Autism - *in-depth instruction on how to implement key components of verbal behavior with children birth through five years of age with autism, Dr. Shira Ackerman, Wednesday 9am-5pm, \$120 includes lunch*
- Safe Medication Administration – *provides the information you need to administer medications safely in early childhood settings and afterschool programs, Catherine Dewar Paul, RN, MPH, and Roni Turner, Spokane Health District, Wednesday 1-5pm, free!*

Volunteers

- Many thanks to Eastern Washington AEYC! This amazing affiliate planned educational tours and fun evening events, are catering meetings & receptions, and coordinating WAEYC Assistants and other volunteers.
- WAEYC board members and others are asked to sign up for specific volunteer tasks. Contact Sunita at sunita@waeyc.org or (253) 854-2565 x23

Future Conferences

- In 2001, we'll be in Bellevue October 27-29.
- For 2011, Vancouver and Yakima are being considered.

High-Quality Inclusive Programs: WAEYC is launching free online training on transitioning families and children with special needs at age three, child assessment, and other topics related to inclusive education. This work is funded from a grant from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) which WAEYC has received for over 20 years to support inclusion of preschoolers with special needs into programs with typically developing children.



Later this month, applications will be available for school districts to apply to WAEYC for funding to support partnerships between their early childhood special education program and community based early childhood programs. The purpose is to ensure that inclusive environments exist and seamless transitions happen for children with special needs. A participant this past year said, *"This project provided the means for targeted relationship building with a very interested and committed community partner. It helped us develop a model for working with others!"*

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

Core Competencies: Washington State's Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals are a set of guidelines that define what professionals need to know and be able to do to provide quality care and education. In 2009, the legislature asked the Department of Early

Learning and the Professional Development Consortium to create a set of core competencies. The draft is available at www.del.wa.gov/partnerships/development/core.aspx.

Working Connections Child Care: Fewer families are now eligible for Working Connections Child Care subsidies. Eligibility was reduced from 200% to 175% percent of the federal poverty level (a monthly income of less than \$2,670 for a family of three) due to a \$51 billion shortfall in the WorkFirst program. WorkFirst is Washington's "welfare to work" program that includes Working Connections Child Care.

There will likely be an additional \$62 million in cuts to Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) programs in Washington State unless Congress passes an extension of the TANF Emergency Fund. Contact Senators Murray and Cantwell asking them to do everything they can to pass an extension. Families in Washington State are already struggling and facing deep cuts to TANF-funded programs including critical child care supports for low-income working families. To email them, go to <http://murray.senate.gov/public/> and <http://cantwell.senate.gov/contact/>.

On a positive note, eligibility periods are extended for some families. Effective September 1st, families that have a child in Head Start, Early Head Start or an Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) classroom, and are eligible for WCCC subsidies may qualify for 12 months of eligibility before having to reapply for WCCC. This change is a result of House Bill 3141, meant to promote stability and quality of care for children from low-income households.

Dedicated Education Funding: Vote YES on Initiative 1098 in November and urge others to. WAEYC supports I-1098 – designed to reduce the burden on middle income families and increase funding for education and health. The initiative would reduce the state property tax by 20% and decrease the tax burden on small businesses. New revenue would be raised by adding an income tax on the wealthiest 3% of households in Washington. 70% of the new revenue will go to the Education Legacy Trust Fund for K-12 class-size reductions, extended learning opportunities, pre-kindergarten, and expanding access to higher education. 30% of the new revenue will go to the Basic Health Plan, public health services, and long-term care services for people with disabilities. For information on other initiatives impacting children and families, go to www.childrensalliance.org/our-current-work/2010-elections-and-endorsements.

NAEYC Accreditation: *"My child loves his school...Accredited programs tend to attract [teachers] who, not only view themselves as educators, they consider themselves child advocates."*

NAEYC wants to hear from you, other early childhood professionals, and families who have an inspiring or unique story to tell about their connection to a program accredited by NAEYC. The best stories will be recognized during an NAEYC Accreditation 25th Anniversary special event at the 2010 Annual Conference & Expo in Anaheim, California, and featured on NAEYC's website! Submit your story at www.naeyc.org/academy/anniversary.



NAEYC understands that fees for NAEYC Accreditation may present a challenge in the current economic climate. To ensure that all programs for young children have the opportunity to seek NAEYC Accreditation, the NAEYC Accreditation Scholarship Program subsidizes fees associated with achieving and maintaining NAEYC Accreditation. To learn more, call the Program Support Information Center at (800) 424-2460, option 3, option 1, or go to www.naeyc.org/academy/primary/helpscholarships.

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

Connections at Conference: As a board member, please attend these conference events.

- Welcoming Reception, Wednesday October 13th 4:30-6:30 pm, Doubletree Salon III
- Leadership Reception, Friday October 15th 6:00-7:30 pm, Doubletree Suite 1502.
- WAEYC Annual Business Meeting, Thursday October 14th 12:15-1:15 pm, Doubletree Suite 1502

The Affiliate Council will meet Wednesday October 13th 1:00-4:00 pm, Doubletree Suite A. Past presidents are invited to a luncheon Friday October 15th noon-1:30 pm, Doubletree Suite 1502.

NAEYC Annual Conference: Going to conference in Anaheim November 3-6? Attend these free affiliate related events. An affiliate staff meeting/professional development session is also scheduled.

- **Leadership Day:** Wednesday 8:00 am-4:00 pm, Anaheim Marriott, Orange County Ballroom. It's a day devoted to setting the stage for a national dialogue examining the relationship between NAEYC and its Affiliates; facilitated by Stacie Goffin. Continental breakfast and lunch provided. RSVP by September 24th at <http://naeycleadershipday2010.eventbrite.com/>
- **Leadership Reception:** Wednesday 5:45-7:00 pm, Anaheim Marriott, Grand Ballroom J/K. Come following the Opening Session for networking, hor d'oeuvres, and a cash bar. RSVP at <http://naeycleadershiprecep2010.eventbrite.com/>
- **Affiliate Council Meeting:** Saturday 8 am-noon, Hilton Anaheim, California Ballroom B. Space at the rear of the room is available for guests and interested AEYC members.

On behalf of WAEYC, President Brenda Boyd and Executive Director Agda Burchard will attend the conference and NAEYC Affiliate Council Rep Jamie Ashton will attend the affiliate council meeting. Contact Jamie at jashton@whatcomday.org if you have any questions or issues you would like Jamie to raise at the meeting.

Western States Leadership Network: Mark your calendars for a fun time connecting and learning. WSLN's function is to bring together affiliate leaders of the 13 western states to share information, resources and leadership techniques. Pierce County AEYC will host WSLN in Washington in July 2012. WSLN 2011 will be in Juneau, Alaska in mid June.

NAEYC Innovation Grant: WAEYC, and nine other state affiliates, applied for an Innovation Grant. The purpose of the grant is to build capacity within affiliates, enhancing their ability to engage members meaningfully, and drawing potential members into programs, initiatives, and networks that strengthen member involvement. WAEYC will use the grant to pilot the member hub model in Central Washington. On September 10th, we'll hear if we are one of the five states awarded a grant.

Connecting Providers, Advocates & Policy Makers: September 20th 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. The purpose of the provider caucus is to raise policy and budget issues to bring to the larger Early Learning Action Alliance. The next provider caucus meeting will be in Seattle in October. For more information, go to www.waeyc.org/PublicPolicy.htm.

Administrative Operations

Affiliate Chapter Dissolutions: Members from three of our affiliate chapters recently voted to dissolve their affiliate chapter. Palouse Area AEYC members are now members of Eastern Washington AEYC (or North Idaho AEYC if they live/work in Idaho). East Sound AEYC members are becoming members of Puget Sound AEYC. Central WA AEYC members will become at-large members of WAEYC as we pilot the member hub model in Central Washington.

Board Members: We thank Brian Kenneweg for his long service as Treasurer. He recently resigned and the executive committee appointed Jill Brenner as Treasurer. The board will vote to elect Jill at their September 11th meeting. The affiliate council elected Tina Smith-Klan as Chair. Tina, Kathy Zimmerman, Bunny Walters, and Nancy Chambers serve on the board as representatives from the affiliate council. We are seeking board candidates for Member-at-Large. Position descriptions and an application can be found at www.waeyc.org/Board.htm.

Committees: Committee chairs begin bimonthly conference calls September 15th with WAEYC president Brenda Boyd and executive director Agda Burchard. The purpose is to support committee chairs in carrying out the charge, role and responsibilities laid out in that committee's Charter. We are still seeking WAEYC members and others with expertise and interest to serve on committees. Go to www.waeyc.org/Board.htm to learn more. To nominate yourself or someone else, contact Sunita at sunita@waeyc.org or (253) 854-2565 x23. Committee priorities this year are

- Communications: Create *Marketing Plan*. Create *Technology Plan*.
- Finance: Develop 3-Year Budget 2010-2013.
- Fund Development: Develop pool of individual donors and annual campaign. Provide board and staff education.
- Governance: Create a board recruitment and election process including a nominations plan. Develop state chapter and member hub models.
- Organizations: Implement Growing Connections. Support Affiliate Council in helping affiliate chapters learn from each other and meet NAEYC "roles & functions" as high performing, inclusive organizations.
- Professionals: Create *Research and Publications Agenda*. Implement Growing Connections. Develop online training.
- Public Policy: Create 2011 Legislative Agenda and key advocacy messages.

Staff Changes: With great sadness, we'll again say goodbye to valuable WAEYC employees. Due to significant funding reduction and elimination of the STARS contract in December, the personnel committee evaluated staff roles and responsibilities, and created a new staffing structure. All current positions, with the exception of the executive director, are being eliminated. The new positions will be associate director of advancement, programs manager, and program specialist, and WAEYC will contract with a bookkeeper. Current staff, if eligible, may apply for a new position or to be the contracted bookkeeper. 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. The staff transitions will occur between mid October and mid December. Job announcements are available at www.waeyc.org.

Audit: Our annual audit by Watson and Associates is wrapping up; the report will be available next month.

Direct Deposit: NAEYC is striving to make dues payments to affiliates by directly depositing funds into affiliates' bank accounts. Working together NAEYC Affiliate Relations, IT, Legal, and Finance departments developed a process to safely collect direct deposit information from each state and local affiliate. Before implementation, 100% of all local and state affiliates need to have submitted

the following information to NAEYC: bank name, bank account number, bank routing number, and account type. WAEYC and 7 of our 11 affiliates submitted their information. NAEYC is asking state affiliates to connect with their locals who have not submitted.

Please Mark Your Calendars!

September 11	Governing Board Meeting, Kent, WA
October 13	Affiliate Council Meeting, Bellevue, WA
October 14-16	WAEYC Annual Conference, Spokane, WA
November 3-6	NAEYC Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA
December 9	Governing Board Meeting, Conference Call & Webinar 9:30-11:30 am
February 22	Affiliate Council Meeting, Conference Call & Webinar 6:30-8:30 pm
March 17	Governing Board 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 12-15	National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, Providence, RI
June TBD	Western State Leadership Network (WSLN), Juneau, AK
July 16	Affiliate Council & Governing Board