

**Washington Afterschool Network Partnership Group Meeting**  
**Friday, December 3, 2010**  
**Burien, Washington**  
*Meeting Minutes*

**Next meeting date is Friday, March 4, 2010 at the Puget Sound  
ESD #113 in Olympia, WA**

**Welcome and Introductions:** Jack Albaugh, Mandy Aaberg, Pam O'Brien, Kelly Huxter, Travis Smith, Darla Camp, Shana Hawk, Norm Luther, Mari Offenbecher, Emily Emerson, Jackie Jainga-Hyllseth, Ka'ohé Wong, Sherrie Belt, Joe Garza, Lauren, Randi Solinsky, Danielle Baer, Kevin Wright, Julia Garnett, Brian Brandt, Janet Frieling, Pang Chang, Emilia Holbik, Lauren Lee, John Tupper, Jeff Sikora, Som Acharaya, Bernard Koontz .

**Context and Overview of WAN:** Janet Frieling welcomed those attending for the first time and spent a brief time giving an overview of the Washington Afterschool Network. This is a statewide effort led by School's Out Washington with WAN serving as the action arm and advisory group. With a small amount of funding from the C.S. Mott Foundation, Washington is one of thirty-eight states selected to build a national movement that will help raise awareness around afterschool at both the state and national level. School's Out Washington, is the key intermediary organization in Washington and serves as the lead agency for the Network. This mobilization effort was built on already existing work around creating a statewide table for those interested in supporting and promoting the many benefits that afterschool programs play in the lives of children and youth. The Network brings together policymakers, educators, childcare providers, youth development workers, program developers, advocates, parents, and others interested in improving outcomes for children and youth through school-based/school-linked afterschool programs. Washington State received another three-year grant to continue its work from the C.S. Mott Foundation.

For the next three years, the Network will focus on an Achievement Phase of the C. S. Mott Foundation funding focused on **Healthy Youth, Healthy Futures Washington**. This effort will engage and connect a diverse set of community stakeholders – including those not previously involved – to strengthen afterschool programs' role in physical fitness; nutrition, science and environmental education; obesity and drug prevention; connecting children to nature; and promoting civic engagement related to health and environmental issues. By addressing these areas through creative activities, quality afterschool programming can not only help youth engage in healthier behaviors but also support their academic success. SOWA and WAN will continue to take a comprehensive approach to enriching the State's afterschool system. While new activities are proposed for our Achievement Initiative, our focus on healthy behaviors will weave through all of our core work on sustaining school-community partnerships, affecting policy development and improving the quality of programs.

All C.S. Mott funded states are working on the same three goals and are utilizing approaches specific to the needs of their state. These three goals include:

**Goal 1** – Create a sustainable structure of statewide, regional and local partnerships particularly school/community partnerships focused on supporting statewide policy development.

**Goal 2** – Support the development and growth of statewide policies that will secure the resources that are needed to sustain new and existing afterschool programs.

**Goal 3** – Support statewide systems to ensure programs are of high quality.

WAN consists of the following entities: 1) Panel of 50—influence policy-makers; 2) Partnership Group—statewide advisory and work group; 3) Steering Committee—agencies and organizations making a financial commitment; 4) WAN of the Children’s Alliance Action Network—sends e-mail alerts. The WAN Partnership Group is the working advisory group for the Network and meets on the first Friday of each quarter in different locations around the state. More information on the Network is available here: [www.schoolsoutwashington.org](http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org).

As a network state we receive technical assistance from the Afterschool Technical Assistance Collaborative that include the following agencies: the National Governor’s Association, the National League of Cities, the Finance Project, the National Council of State Chief School Officers, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Afterschool Alliance, College of Charleston Foundation, Learning Point Associates and Collaborative Communications Group.

## **Updates and Announcements:**

**Joe Garza, NE Region WRAP Specialist, Spokane Express Public Schools**— In Spokane, they tried to pass children’s fund as an initiative, but it was defeated. The positive is that through the information shared in the community, there is more awareness about what some of the pressing issues are with children in the community.

**Mandy Aaberg, Professional Development Program Manager, Washington State Childcare Resource & Referral Network** —They recently gave out 2 scholarships funded by DEL for BA Scholarships, one on the east side and one on the west. They have also been partnering with the *Seeds to Success Project* and using professional development dollars to support this work in communities.

**Pam O’Brien, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Program Manager, OSPI**—They are waiting for federal budget to be approved, so no new news right now, but should know something early next year. Big news is that Pam is retiring and has just 22 days left in her job.

**Travis Smith, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Program Supervisor, OSPI** —In WA State, they have been looking at STEM and are going to be working with 200 sites to implement STEM and make sure that they are using an inquiry approach. They are also looking at the possibility of using STEAM instead of STEM, which adds the “arts.” This year they are looking at web-based tutorials for Math and examining whether or not it is effective for kids during afterschool, asking the question: Does it get outcomes?

**Norm Luther, Community Volunteers, White Salmon**—White Salmon Elementary School Principal, Vicki Prendergast, received the 2010 Washington Afterschool Hall of Fame Award.

**Randi Solinsky, School-Age Program Specialist, City of Health and Human Services**—The City is undergoing a lot of changes with a new director and with all of the economic struggles. Some projects will go away, but the levy should be successful, but may look different. If you live in Seattle, pay attention to the priorities that will be emerging.

**Kevin Wright, State Program Manager, WSU Extension**—They are working with military kids and planning 2 training events one in SeaTac and one in Spokane. There are lots of resources for working with kids from families in the military which are available on their website, <http://4h.wsu.edu/omk>.

**Julia Garnett, Executive Director, Tacoma 360**—Right now, Tacoma 360 is looking at all of the services that support kids in Tacoma. They have been researching what is out there and are in the process of creating a learning community to share resources and data. They are looking at going in depth around one focus area to work in conjunction with the schools.

**Brian Brandt, 4-H Educator, Pierce County WSU Extension**—They offer a great opportunity to help building capacity for other agencies. In particular, they do a lot of work around creating learning communities. A training they are offering recently is on Chaperoning—often the parents have no background. So, they are piloting a project to train people who don't have a lot of experience. If you have any events involving chaperones, contact Brian, [bbrandt@wsu.edu](mailto:bbrandt@wsu.edu).

**Danielle Baer, Communications and Grant Manager, School's Out Washington**—The Childhood Reauthorization is passing at the Federal Level. They have included access to afterschool supper program. It includes some language to address childhood obesity like what can be included in school lunches and restricting what can be in school vending machines. There is an issue around where the money is coming from, and the President has promised to fix the issue that some of the money was coming from Basic Food. It was in the Seattle Times paper today. Highlights include improved area eligibility requirements and decreasing paperwork.

**DEL update (Janet Frieling in absence of any DEL representatives):**

- The Governor created the Early Learning Plan, addressing children ages 0-8. Last December, WAN members provided recommendations for how to increase the language around school-age. There are 62 places where school-age is mentioned and in the first draft there were few places. This document is supposed to be a living breathing document to be used to inform the work in our state. It is available for download on the [DEL website](http://www.del.wa.gov/default.aspx) (<http://www.del.wa.gov/default.aspx>).
- On Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> the Gov. issued an executive order that no regulation could be changed or worked on for the next year because of cost implications. Janet learned that each state agency was given the authority that they can request a waiver as long as the regulation changes meet defined criteria. A group of individuals from the Obesity Prevention Coalition is putting together a letter to DEL to move forward on the School Age Care Regulations. We are working on a letter right now and will keep you informed as to the progress.
- The [Working Connections child care subsidy program](#) will now go down to 82% of the poverty line for new clients and 175% for existing clients (which was 200% in August).

**National Network Meeting**—Last year, the group that went got really excited about doing a mayoral summit. Mayor Mary Vernon will be submitting a proposal for us to do a session at the Washington State Mayors Conference in Spokane. There is also a Principal's Conference where we might also be involved. We are working with the National League of Cities to support our session.

**STEM Discussion—University of Washington Institute for Science and Math Education**

Andy Shouse, PhD and Leah Bricker, and their team of graduate shared information about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and their research. STEM is: Learning that is driven by problems that cross academic subject matter areas that are meaningful to learners and relevant to contemporary, often local issues. STEM practice “is a social enterprise with specialized goals, tools,

and ways of speaking... (that) should deeply orient to the practice, needs, and interests of youth and communities.” They shared examples of how young people learn in different environments and sometimes how the environment has a lot to do with how engaged the child may become. Early exposure and experiences with STEM are strong predictors of progress along the STEM education pipeline.

**1) State University Campuses with speakers, activities, libraries, and field trips ideas:**

- **UW K-12 Resource Guide** ([www.outreach.washington.edu/k12guide](http://www.outreach.washington.edu/k12guide))
- **WSU Snohomish County Extension Natural Resources**  
(<http://snohomish.wsu.edu/naturalresources>)
- **WOW! Washington on Water**  
([www.wsg.washington.edu/education/resources/index.html](http://www.wsg.washington.edu/education/resources/index.html))

**2) National Resources with ideas for activities and other professional development resources:**

- **Coalition for Science After School**  
([www.afterschoolscience.org](http://www.afterschoolscience.org))
- **The Exploratorium After School Activities**  
([www.exploratorium.edu/afterschool](http://www.exploratorium.edu/afterschool))
- **Science After School Consumers Guide**  
([www.sedl.org/afterschool/guide/science](http://www.sedl.org/afterschool/guide/science))
- **Surrounded by Science: Learning Science in Informal Environments Learning Science in Informal Environments: People, Places and Pursuits** ([www.nap.edu](http://www.nap.edu)) - available for free download or purchase

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They shared two handouts, one, describing the six stands of scientific proficiency, and another list of resources available for afterschool.

Contact [Shannon](#) at SOWA if you would like to receive their PowerPoint Presentation or any copies of the handouts.

## ***LUNCH***

### **Starting Again: Stories of Refugee Youth in WA**

With funding from the Refugee School Impact Grant (RSIG), School’s Out Washington partnered with documentary filmmaker Jill Freidberg of Corrugated Films to produce *Starting Again: Stories of Refugee Youth*, a film chronicling the lives of refugee youth in Washington State. We viewed the film which highlights four youth from Burma, Nepal/Bhutan, Russia, and Somalia. The film is available to view on SOWA’s website:

[http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/1260\\_194/StartingAgainStoriesofRefugeeYouth.htm](http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/1260_194/StartingAgainStoriesofRefugeeYouth.htm)

After seeing the film, we heard from a panel that included different perspectives of people working with refugee youth: Bernard Koontz, Highline Public School, Jeff Sikora, ReWA, and Som Acharaya also from ReWA. They shared best practices for working with refugee populations and advice on how they

can best work together, being from unique positions—a school district, non-profit management, and community representative.

### **Core Competency Roll Out: Jackie Jainga Hyllseth and Emily Emerson, SOWA**

Jackie and Emily presented on the work that has been done to develop a set of core competencies for child and youth development professionals. Following House Bill 1943 that mandates the creation of “a statewide system of preparation and continuing professional development system for early learning and school-age professionals,” they are pleased to announce that the document *Washington State Core Competencies for Child and Youth Professionals* is now available on SOWA’s website. In addition, hard copies are being mailed out to all school-age licensed programs, thanks to DEL for mailing and printing these copies. SOWA will also be mailing out copies of the document to other child and youth development programs in the next month. For now, please visit:

[http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/documents/CoreComptenciesSchool\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/documents/CoreComptenciesSchool_FINAL.pdf) to view the document online. The document is a companion piece to the *Washington State Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals*.

This work was made possible thanks to the hard work of the Statewide Core Competencies Committee, comprised of the following individuals: Debbie Barnes, School’s Out Washington Trainer; Janet Edwards, Washington State University; Krista Galloway, School’s Out Washington; Kathleen Groshong, Seattle Human Services Department; Kendra Han, New Futures, Kyla Lackie, SOAR; Racie McKee, Omak School District; April Miller, School’s Out Washington Trainer; Pam O’Brien, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Sally Telzrow, Seattle Public Schools; Travis Smith, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Jim Westhusing, Washington Recreation Parks Association; Jessica Paul Werner, YMCA of Greater Seattle; Ka’ohe Wong, School’s Out Washington Trainer; Kevin Wright, Washington State University Puyallup.

### **Federal and State Legislature Update: Janet Frieling, Network Director, WAN**

Lately, the newspaper has reported a lot of news on the crisis of our state’s budget. Janet passed out a handout, “State Budget at a Glance,” to summarize some of the key budget facts. They built the budget on the idea of having the additional funding from the soda tax. It was repealed and went into effect Dec. 1.

Today marks the last day for continuing resolution for funding at the federal level. So, they are going to have to decide today whether they have an omnibus bill or continue in resolution.

She handed out state and federal news. The state news includes facts on the election results. The legislature will have the least amount of democrats that have been in the office for 60 years and lots of new republicans and democrats. Advocates are scrambling to do education among the newly elected.

She then handed out WAN’s working agenda for the 2011 legislative agenda, see SOWA’s website for updated legislative agenda, <http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/232/StateAdvocacy.htm>

She shared the Early Learning Action Alliance agenda. WAN will be strongly supporting the subsidy issue. We will also be supporting Excellent Schools Now and the Obesity Coalition.

Washington is one of three states who were selected to receive technical support from the Summer Learning Association to work on policy around supporting summer learning. This will involve work that WAN is already doing. We are doing research on who is providing summer programming. Many school districts have been cutting summer programs and what is out there is very fragmented. At the legislative session, we will be distributing a policy brief on summer learning. We have a summer learning mini-conference in March and will include a session on policy advocacy for summer. June 21, 2011 is National Summer Learning Day. SOWA has never organized a summer learning day, but is hoping to do one next year. Raising awareness around key decision-makers is critical, so we will be working on messaging for them at the next meeting.

### **Agenda setting for March 4 meeting in Olympia—Potential Ideas:**

- Ron Hertel from OSPI who is working on the Social and Emotional work
- Efforts underway with the longitudinal data systems update-OSPI
- Legislative visit
- WAC Rewrite Update
- YPQA
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Funding Update
- Connie Ladenburg, now representative from the Tacoma area, presentation from her perspective on what we can do to push our agenda forward in this time
- Advocacy work from Gates Foundation grant—gather input from WAN
- Planning meals for summer