



Focus Day 2009

Thursday February 26th
Olympia, WA

AGENDA

As of February 14

*Columbia Room in the Legislative Building (Capitol Dome)
South Steps of the Legislative Building*

*Throughout the Day: Appointments with legislators as may be scheduled;
confer with your RLC or check postings at Check-In*

-
- 9:00** Welcome Table opens: Columbia Room in basement of Leg. Bldg.
- 10:30** Orientation to Focus Day Activities, Bill & Committee Status, Issues
*Welcome by President Laura Bay; Chairs Byron Shutz & Shelley Kloba
Paul Cheek, WSPTA Legislative Director & Kim Howard WSPTA A.C.
Top 5 WSPTA Priority Issues – 5 mins. max per issue*
- 11:45** Gather on the north steps of Legislative Building (Capitol Dome)
- 12:00** ***Rally on The Steps*** of the Legislative Building
*Emcees: Byron Shutz & Shelley Kloba, Focus Day Chairs
Speakers: Pres. Laura Bay; Advocacy Executive Directors
Guest Speakers: Governor Christine Gregoire; Senator Rosemary
McAuliffe; Representative Ross Hunter; Representative Skip Priest;
Robert Harkin, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction; Edie
Harding, State Board of Education
Members to tell their stories in support of education finance reform*
- 1:00** *Conclude Public Rally on the Steps – Disassemble*
- 1:30- 2:15** *Brown bag lunch with Rep. Ross Hunter to discuss the status of
Education Finance Reform proposals.*
- 2:15-2:45** *Edie Harding from the State Board of Education to discuss
the role of the State Board and answer your questions.*
- 2:45-4:00** *Networking, appointments, attend hearings, tour the campus.*
- 4:00** Conclude Focus Day Events
End access to the Columbia Room – vacate & take belongings

Always identify yourself as a WSPTA Member



Welcome to the *new* Focus Day Rally, Feb. 26th!

There are big changes this year to WSPTA's annual advocacy event in Olympia. Focus Day is direct civic empowerment, and powerful advocacy – attendance resources are available at www.wastatepta.org/leg/session_09.htm. Along with once-in-a-lifetime, game-changing legislative events, this year's Focus Day with our advocacy friends *could be the deal maker*.

Rally On The Steps -- we'll be out in the open, up front of the Capitol Dome! It is time to be a part of a visible change, and definitely not a time to leave it up to others. This is your time to act with your WSPTA – **advocacy in full view**.

2009 is different due to the day long anticipated since the 2006 Washington Learns study of our education system -- the recent release of the final report by the **Basic Education Finance Joint Task Force**. This is the year we want the media, people of influence and everyone to know where WSPTA stands.

Earlier Focus Days, along with hosting political speakers, we've walked office-to-office around the Capital Campus speaking with our lawmakers one-on-one. You may still do so this year – Focus Day conveys our commitment to build understanding for the legislative perspective and process, to influence legislator's position on issues, and to gain rapport to prompt their taking action with us.

But ultimately, Focus Day is a public event to demonstrate the broad backing and unified coalition supporting legislation that WSPTA champions. The day is shared with many fellow advocates from across the State showing up to collaborate and collectively make a difference, confident in knowing our coming together generates change. From the capitol steps we'll *all* show just how deep and strong our support is for our legislators' commitment to education.

Please accept our thanks for working together to make Focus Day the most visible, influential and precedent-setting advocacy commitment of this year!

WSPTA's Top 5 Legislative Issues determined at Legislative Assembly are the focus of WSPTA's advocacy. *Our showing up* in Olympia for that conversation emphasizes the **pivotal role members contribute to their legislator's focus around the issues**.

Thank you for all you do every day for your children and communities. Please join us, and contact us with any questions or suggestions you have for Focus Day.

Byron Shutz & Shelley Kloba
WSPTA Focus Day Co-Chairs 2008-09
bcshutz@comcast.net shelley@kloba.com
Cells 425-301-6386 425-823-9732