



## Stay in Touch

Keep up-to-date with Lutheran Schools news by subscribing to the weekly CLS e-News at [wels.net/subscribe](http://wels.net/subscribe).

Submit your news stories to [lutheranschools@wels.net](mailto:lutheranschools@wels.net) to be featured in the CLS e-News.

Principals and directors will receive a monthly Lutheran Schools Leader electronic newsletter.

Administrators are encouraged to join our Google group "adminmail" for principals and directors to ask questions and share information. E-mail [lutheranschools@wels.net](mailto:lutheranschools@wels.net) to request an invitation.

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## Save the Date!

Your ministry is unique. In many ways, your role, setting, and audience is unlike any other within our school system. Yet, you remain united in Christ (Philippians 2:1-2) with every called brother and sister serving our Lord. Different, but the same. This theme holds true for our conference in 2022.

You may be serving in a large school, small school, rural setting, suburban setting, or urban setting. Your students may be early childhood, elementary, middle school, or high school. They may be exceptionally gifted or have special needs. No matter your setting, we pray that this conference may better equip you to serve His lambs in your important calling.

Featuring two and a half days of keynotes, sectionals, worship, and fellowship opportunities; the WELS National Education Conference will gather **June 20-22, 2022** at the Ingleside Hotel in Pewaukee, Wis., under the theme United in Christ, Diverse in Service. Sign up to receive conference announcements by visiting [welsedconference.com](http://welsedconference.com).



WELS Education Conference  
JUNE 20-22, 2022 · INGLESIDE HOTEL - PEWAUKEE, WI

## Telling the Next Generation Workshops

This year many of our schools and early childhood ministries are finding a number of opportunities to serve new families. What an opportunity to share the gospel! Telling the Next Generation workshops provide the tools to develop a written plan, a harvest strategy, to intentionalize efforts to connect those families with the gospel. To schedule a workshop or for more information contact [lutheranschools@wels.net](mailto:lutheranschools@wels.net).



## MY WELS CLOUD

### VERIFY YOUR USER NAME

To verify your user name visit [yearbook.wels.net](http://yearbook.wels.net), search for yourself, open your information card, and click on your name in the gray header at the top. A box will show your username.

### RESET YOUR PASSWORD

To reset your password go to [account.wels.net](http://account.wels.net) and select the reset password button. You will need to provide your username (see above). A one-time password will be sent to the e-mail address we have on file for your account. Enter the provided password into the password field on the log-in screen.

### NEED ASSISTANCE?

For assistance accessing My WELS Cloud forms, contact the WELS Help Desk Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Central Time at 414-259-4357 or [support@wels.net](mailto:support@wels.net). For other questions, e-mail [lutheranschools@wels.net](mailto:lutheranschools@wels.net) or call 414-259-4354.

## School Openings

- King's Kids Learning Center (ECM)  
*Corona, CA*

## School Closings

- Little Lambs Christian Preschool (ECM) *West Fargo, ND*
- St. James Preschool (ECM) *Milwaukee, WI*
- Precious Lambs Preschool (ECM) *Jacksonville, FL*

## WELS Profile & Self-Assessments

Called workers can update personal information any time via their WELS Cloud Account. Visit [cloud.wels.net/me](http://cloud.wels.net/me).

### Profile Section

Review each form link and complete as applicable. You may indicate your ability to consider calls outside of your home area, distance you are willing to commute, and any additional information on relocation limitations in the **Teacher/ Staff Minister Information** form.

### Teacher Self-Assessments

*Duties, Subjects, and Grades* tabs in the **Teacher Self-Assessment** should be completed as applicable. The "Top 5 Strengths" section on the Strengths tab are for use with an online **CliftonStrengths Assessment**. to complete this section, visit [store.gallup.com](http://store.gallup.com) to purchase and then enter your top 5 strengths in your Self-Assessment form. If you have not taken the **CliftonStrengths Assessment**, please leave this section blank.

We ask all Called workers to indicate their ministry goals and interests in the "Strengths" comments box on the *Strengths* tab.

## Active Teacher Calling Window

Please be reminded, the window for calling active teachers from the field who would begin serving in a new location for the 2022-23 school year begins on **October 10, 2021**, and runs through April 14, 2022. The volume of teacher calls remains high and congregations are encouraged to plan ahead, keeping the following in mind:

- Teacher call list requests are submitted electronically at [wels.net/callrequest](http://wels.net/callrequest)
- Request forms must be complete and submitted at least 14 days prior to the requested call meeting. Calling bodies should use the two weeks to prepare all items for the call packet electronically, so that the call and accompanying documents may be emailed to the candidate called within 12 hours of the call meeting.
- Remember to include compensation information using the compensation calculator: [cwcompcalc.wels.net](http://cwcompcalc.wels.net).

## Training Future School Leaders

The Principal Credential Cohort program invites individuals who have demonstrated three or more years of successful teaching experience, recognized leadership gifts and characteristics, and are not currently serving in a principal role to participate. The cohort provides support from mentors and fellow participants, three leadership training events and a 50% scholarship for graduate coursework through MLC.

The Emerging Leader Cohort for early childhood directors provides opportunities for those either not currently serving as an early childhood director or new to the director role with professional development and training.

For more information or to nominate a teacher for either Principal Credential Cohort or Emerging Leader Cohort programs visit [cls.welsrc.net](http://cls.welsrc.net) or contact our office.



Looking for a way to improve your school? Consider WELSSA! Accreditation gives your school a structure for improvement over time. It is like a personal trainer or a diet program. While some can improve their health on their own, many need the accountability of a partner. Accreditation is your partner for school improvement. It combines identifying areas for improvement with accountability for addressing your plan to tackle those challenges. It frees you from the burden of having all the answers but can move your school forward with the assurance that you are working on the things that will improve your school to God's glory.

Gaining WELSSA accreditation also earns you accreditation recognition with the National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA).

As a synod, 51% of Lutheran elementary schools and 100% of Lutheran high schools are accredited with WELSSA or another accrediting body. There are currently 149 WELSSA accredited schools (132 LES, 16 LHS, 1 standalone ECM) in 14 states serving over 20,000 students. There are 13 schools holding candidacy status that will be hosting a first-time site visit within the next two years. There are 40 regular site visits and three early childhood addendum visits scheduled for 2021-22. More than 175 experienced educators from schools around the country will volunteer to serve WELSSA as a consultant, site team captain, or team member this school year. WELSSA is thankful for their service. May God continue to bless WELSSA!

### Congratulations to our 2020-21 first-time accredited schools:

- St. Paul's Lutheran School – Cudahy, WI
- Our Savior Lutheran School – Grafton, WI
- St. Peter's Lutheran School – Helenville, WI
- St. John's Lutheran School – Jefferson, WI
- First German Lutheran School – Manitowoc, WI
- Trinity Lutheran School – Marinette, WI
- Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran School – Menasha, WI

This summer WELSSA hosted a captain's retreat. The visitation team captains reacted to some proposed changes to our standards and gave feedback on future improvements. This fall the Commission on Lutheran

Schools approved some minor adjustments to our current standards and a rewrite of the Early Childhood Addendum to the Lutheran Elementary School Standards. The Addendum allows a school that is currently accredited for grades kindergarten through eighth grade to add the preschool grades to their accreditation without going through the entire Early Childhood Ministry standards. It is also used for schools seeking 3K through eighth grade accreditation.

Another important change the Commission approved in September is the removal of Exemplary Status. The following rationale was considered:

- None of our NCPSA partners awards this status.
- Over 60% of WELSSA schools have achieved this status. This statistical anomaly infers that our measurement of exemplary is flawed.
- Multiple exemplary status schools have reported that achieving the status has been a factor in not seeking continued improvement.
- Our visitation captains have reported that they have seen an inflation in WELSSA scores due to real or perceived pressure to mark all asterisked standards met, which is a prerequisite for exemplary status.

Our next steps are to continue revisions to our standards and related materials, to study the use of consultants, and to evaluate the number of starred standards currently required in our handbooks.

If you are interested in serving on a site visit team, learning more about accreditation for your school, joining the WELSSA email group, receiving a WELSSA handbook, or using the WELSSA logo for your website, email our office at [welssa@wels.net](mailto:welssa@wels.net).

## MSOE Business Certificate for School Leaders

This summer the Commission on Lutheran Schools Received a grant to support program participants in the new MSOE Business Certificate for School Leaders. The first cohort began their coursework in July. We will be seeking applications for the next cohort in the in early 2022. Please contact the Lutheran Schools office for more information if you are seeking to improve your understanding of school finance, project management, change facilitation, or stakeholder engagement.







## WELS Devotions

WELS publishes daily devotions and Bible readings, teen devotions, and early childhood educator devotions. WELS Family Devotions are published three times a week, and the devotions coincide with the previous Sunday's Bible readings. Each devotion is complete with a set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Sign-up at [wels.net/subscribe](http://wels.net/subscribe).

Early Childhood Ministry Educator Devotions are written for anyone who serves young children. On-line devotions are shared once a week. Visit [wels.net/serving-you/devotions](http://wels.net/serving-you/devotions) to view and subscribe.

### Contact us

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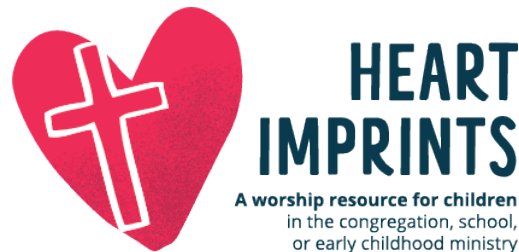
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**New!** Whether you are giving a children's sermon, or planning chapel for your early childhood ministry or Lutheran elementary school, this resource provides ideas for your message that will coordinate with the worship being planned on Sunday.

- Selected Bible readings will follow current schedule of Year B and will follow Year C beginning with Advent.
- Messages will be posted on a monthly or seasonal basis.
- Pre-K and K-8 levels are included.
- Visit [cls.welsrc.net/heartimprints](http://cls.welsrc.net/heartimprints) to download.
- Subscribe to be notified when new devotions are available.

Consisting of a Bible reading, an object lesson, an outline that articulates the law and gospel, and a suggested order of service, Heart Imprints is the new generation of the NPH resource entitled *Chapel Talks for Christian Children*, which was last produced in the 2010-2011 school year. While *Chapel Talks* was produced based on a school year calendar, Heart Imprints will be connected to the church year and available throughout the year.

## School Consulting

Commission on Lutheran Schools welcomed recently retired WELS principal James Sievert to lead our consulting efforts as a part-time school consultant for Lutheran schools. Jim joins a number of trained consultants available to assist congregations seeking to strengthen a struggling ministry or start a new Lutheran elementary school or early childhood ministry. E-mail [james.sievert@wels.net](mailto:james.sievert@wels.net) for more information.

## 2021-22 Substitute Reimbursement Rate

The daily substitute reimbursement rate for teachers approved by the WELS Synodical Council is \$107.