

January 21, 2015 Contact: Mary Beth Lambert 206.335.0191 Marybeth@educationvoters.org

Education training planned for January 24

A free parent and community training, *Access, Equity, & Excellence*, will take place Saturday, January 24, at Highline Community College.

Des Moines -- Access, Equity, & Excellence, a free summit for parents and community members hosted by the League of Education Voters (LEV) Foundation, will take place Saturday, January 24, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m., at Highline Community College. More than 150 parents and community members are expected to attend. Lunch and free childcare will be provided.

Governor Jay Inslee will join attendees from 9–10:30 a.m. to share his personal story of how and why he got involved in local education issues while living in Selah, Washington. Senator Bruce Dammeier (R-25) will join attendees from 10:30–11 a.m. to share his story of local involvement as a former Puyallup school board member. Both leaders will highlight the importance of being an education advocate.

"Last week our state Legislature convened for what many of us hope will be an epic session for public education—from early learning through higher education—in our state," says LEV CEO Chris Korsmo. "There has never been a better time for parents and community members to learn to advocate for their children, families, and schools."

Sili Savusa, Executive Director of the White Center Community Development Association, will talk about the importance of community and parent voice in the legislative process during her keynote. Workshops will be offered on a wide range of topics, including:

- Advocacy 101
- Social-emotional learning
- Early learning
- The new rules around school discipline
- The 2015 legislative session

More information available at http://educationvoters.org/get-involved/parent-and-community-training/

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The League of Education Voters (LEV) is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization made up of parents, students, and leaders who believe in a quality education from cradle to career. LEV is the only Washington-based organization working to improve public education from early learning through higher education. We shape the debate, build powerful coalitions, and grow the grassroots to achieve meaningful reform and ample, equitable, and stable resources for education. <u>educationvoters.org</u>