



## Family Law and Public Schools

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026

Approved for 3.0 Law & Legal Procedure CLE credits.

\$159 - Standard/Non-Section Members

\$129 - New Member\*

Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600 | Seattle, WA 98101

WEBCAST  
ONLY

### DESCRIPTION

Join us for a fast-paced practical guide of law in our schools from three legal perspectives — parents advocating for their children, with Kathy George, schools educating children with Holly Ferguson, and parenting plan and custodial issues with Christopher Rao.

#### CHAIRS

**Christopher Rao** - Beacon Attorneys PLLC, Seattle

#### FACULTY

**Christopher Rao** - Beacon Attorneys PLLC, Seattle

**Kathy George** - Johnston George LLP, Seattle

**Holly Ferguson** - Highline School District, Burien

### SCHEDULE

**8:10 a.m. > Webcast Log-In Opens**

**8:25 a.m. > Welcome and Introductions**

- **Christopher Rao** - Washington State Bar Association, Seattle

**8:30 a.m. > Helping Parents Advocate for their Children**

*60 minutes, 1.0 credit L&LP*

An Individualized Education Plan (IEP) establishes how a public school will provide a free appropriate education to meet the unique needs of a child with disabilities, a right established by federal laws. During this session, participants will briefly examine how to navigate the IEP process, how to appeal IEP results and how to get necessary information from schools including through public records requests.

- **Kathy George** - Johnston George LLP, Seattle

**9:30 a.m. > Challenges in Educating Children in Public Schools**

*60 minutes, 1.0 credit L&LP*

During this session, participants will review how schools address thorny issues such as working with divorced parents who have a 50/50 split in educational decision making, pick up and drop off issues, mandatory CPS reporting, parents volunteering in schools, and providing school records to parents.

- **Holly Ferguson** - Highline School District, Burien

**10:30 a.m. > BREAK**

**10:45 a.m. > Drafting and Implementing Parenting Plans that Work in Schools**

*60 minutes, 1.0 credit L&LP*

Many parenting plans are hurriedly drafted, creating unnecessary ambiguities that lead to litigation costs. We'll look at how to draft parenting plans with schools in mind, minimizing confusion regarding: scheduling, communication online school accounts, protection/restraining orders, decision-making. We'll also look at the relocation statute, the IEP/504 process during custody litigation, how to effectively use school records in litigation, and using teachers as potential trial witnesses.

- **Christopher Rao** - Beacon Attorneys PLLC, Seattle

**11:45 a.m. > Adjourn • Complete Online Evaluations**

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Wednesday, May 6, 2026 • #26580 WEB

## REGISTRATION

To register online, please go to the [registration page](#). Click to add to cart and complete your purchase. You may pay by credit card, or via ACH. Alternatively, you may print and mail an invoice seven business days prior to the program along with your check payable to WSBA. Credit card payments by mail or fax are no longer accepted. Note, our service provider will charge you a separate, non-refundable transaction fee of 2.5% on all bank card transactions.

Effective Oct. 1, 2025, applicable sales tax will be applied to all live seminar registrations (in-person or virtual). For more information, refer to changes to [Washington sales tax law](#).

If special accommodations are needed, please email [cle@wsba.org](mailto:cle@wsba.org) or call toll-free at 1-800-945-9722.

Please omit my name from the networking list made available to exhibitors and/or attendees.

## PRICING INFORMATION

**#26580 WEB, attend via webcast, 5/6/26**

- \$159 - Standard/Non-Section Members
- \$129 - New Members\*

\*Active members of the Washington State Bar Association will be considered New Members through the calendar end of the tenth year following admittance to practice in the state.

### Seminar Registration Transfers, Refunds and Cancellations

In most circumstances, if you cannot attend the live event, we can transfer your registration to the on-demand product, once available (8-10 weeks from the program delivery date). Generally, for webcast/webinar registrations, tuition fees may be refunded, less \$25 for processing, for written cancellations postmarked, emailed, or faxed up to the start of the event. For in-person registrations, tuition fees may be refunded, less \$25 for processing, for written cancellations postmarked, emailed, or faxed by 5 p.m. up to three business days before the event. No refunds will be provided after the dates specified. You may also send a substitute in lieu of canceling. *When applicable, specific exceptions to these policies will be noted on individual event registration pages.* Please email [cle@wsba.org](mailto:cle@wsba.org) with any requests or questions.

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