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To Whom It May Concern:

This summer many of our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod teachers, principals, and early childhood directors gathered in Pewaukee, WI for their National School Leadership Conference. This conference takes place every three years and welcomes WELS teachers from all across the country. Attendees come from early childhood centers, elementary schools, and high schools. The conference is an exciting time of networking and professional growth.

As a part of the early childhood strand, we were delighted to welcome Kathy Poelker to the conference. She led a full day pre-conference session as well as two workshops on the first day of the conference. Her presentations focused on music, movement, and the critical role they play in the development of young children. Her presentations included her knowledge of the research on this topic as well as many opportunities to experience firsthand her fun-filled activities. Each activity was supported by her background as to the benefits for the young child and the purpose of each component of the activity. Attendees were engaged and enthusiastic throughout the workshops and expressed an eagerness to take all they had learned back to their classrooms.

One attendee shared the following: *Kathy Poelker was great! Very professional and knowledgeable. Her presentation and materials will help me tremendously for this next school year.* This quote certainly summarized the response from those who attended her workshop.

We would like to thank Kathy for her dedication and enthusiastic heart for the sharing benefits of music and movement for young children. Her ideas were supported by research and her activities could be easily implemented in any early childhood classroom. We would highly recommend her to other conferences and opportunities for professional development.

Sincerely,

Cindi Holman
WELS National Coordinator for Early Childhood Ministries