

Ellen Abellera  
Executive Director



The State of Washington  
**COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

210 11<sup>th</sup> Ave SW • RM 301 • ms 40925 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0925  
PH: 360.725.5667 • FX: 360.586.9501 • EM: capaa@capaa.wa.gov • WS: www.capaa.wa.gov

*Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans*

**Executive Director's Report**  
**Filipino Community Center of Wapato**  
**211- 2<sup>nd</sup> St. West, Wapato, WA 98951**  
**June 14, 2008**

1. CAPAA's **Financial Report** prepared by the Small Agency Client Services (SACS). Please see attached document.
2. CAPAA's **Strategic Plan**- was due at OFM on June 13, 2008. Please see attached document.
3. **Website Enhancement** – the \$52,000 funding from SACS for website enhancement has been approved. Will meet with the Department of Information Service to review services and timelines as approved.
4. **EDUCATION: ETHNIC COMMISSION ACHIEVEMENT GAP STUDY**  
**Legislative Mandate-**
  - \* 2SHB 2722- Center for the Improvement of Student Learning (CISL) in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Commission on African American Affairs (CAA).
  - \* HB 2687
    - Sec. 131: Commission on Hispanic Affairs (CHA)
    - Sec. 119 ( 1&2): Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (CAPAA)
    - Sec. 118 (2): Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA)
    - Sec. 501 (1) (aa): Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
  - Analysis: Similarities
  - \* Recommend a comprehensive plan for closing the achievement gap pursuant to goals Under the federal NO Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.
  - \* Identify performance measures to monitor adequate yearly progress (AYP).
  - \* Conduct and analyze starting with the Call to Action paper by the multi-ethnic think Tanks and as guided by appropriate groups.
  - \* A study update shall be submitted by September 15, 2008.
  - \* A final report shall be submitted by December 30, 2008.

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**Agency Overview**

The CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

- \* Progress on Studies with CAPAA: Research will be conducted by the University of Washington. Researchers will be Dr. Shirley Hune and Dr. David Takeuchi.
- ❖ Interagency Contract Agreement to be prepared by the Office of Financial Management.

Class of 2008 state assessment results: Results were released on June 3, 2008.

New graduation requirements kick in:

The class of 2008 is the first class that must complete four requirements to graduate:

- 1.) Pass state standards-based assessments ( typically the WASL) or legislatively approved alternatives.
- 2.) Complete a High School and Beyond Plan
- 3.) Complete a culminating project
- 4.) Earn sufficient credits (19 are required by the state, but more districts require more).

Met with Senator Rosemarie McAuliffe to give her a progress report on the study of the Achievement Gap. She identifies poverty, language and culture as key accompanying factors in the low academic achievement of Southeast Asian students (Hmongs, Cambodians, and Laotians) and Pacific Islander students and their lack of access to the educational system.

5. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – we should continue to work with OMWBE in Reaching out to our minority business owners to encourage them to apply for Certification with OMWBE. In 2007, we had 3 certification workshops scheduled for our minority businesses.**
6. **HEALTH CARE – The Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities met on May 29, 2008 for the regular board meeting where I sit as a member of the board. The Main focus was to finish conducting environmental scans. The targeted environmental Scans such as smoking, diabetes, heart disease, obesity and HIV/AIDS were discussed. In the February 2008 meeting, health impact reviews were made. These are the processes Made to select the top five priorities of the Council. The next step is the development Of advisory committees for the top five priorities. Many more meetings will follow up to 2009, to compile and organize recommendations from advisory committees, as well as Identifying policy interventions in collaboration with the advisory committees. The state action plan will be submitted to the State Legislature on January 15, 2010.**
7. **Governor’s Liaison to Census 2010 - Governor Gregoire has appointed her two Governor’s Liaison to Census 2010-. They are Theresa Lowe and Irv Lesberg. Irv is attending the Governor’s Liaison kick –off in Washington DC on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Peter Antolin and the Governor’s Liaison will convene a small working group With ethnic commissions sometime soon.**