

SEPTEMBER

ADMIN

MEETING

Date and Time: Wednesday, September 20

12 pm EST / 11 am CST/ 9 am PST

ISLAMIC SCHOOLS LEAGUE OF AMERICA



Connecting Islamic school
professionals to share
knowledge, ideas and
resources for 25 years

300 FT Islamic schools

50,000 Muslim students
(K-12) nationwide

ISLA's email listserv connects
1,000 Education
Professionals

Agenda:

- Meet & Greet
- CAPE/ National Private Education Conference Updates
- Findings from the ISLA Database Project
- Federal Grant Support

“WONDERFUL Wednesday!”

Introductions
Tell us something “wonderful”¹

CAPE/ National Private Education Conference Updates

Federal Grant Support

Federal Funding Updates: EANS I

Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools

[EANS](#) I Update

- Deadline September 30, 2023: Spend all money in your states that has been obligated to your school

Federal Funding Updates: Stronger Connections/ Title IV

Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Stronger Connections Grant Program

- Expands vital mental health services and provides additional support for States and districts to design and enhance initiatives that will promote safer, more inclusive, and positive school environments for all students, educators, and school staff.
- **Includes \$1 billion through Title IV**, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for SEAs to **competitively award subgrants to high-need LEAs** to establish safer and healthier learning environments and to prevent and respond to acts of bullying, violence, and hate that impact our school communities at individual and systemic levels, among other programs and activities.
- An SEA may design its Stronger Connections LEA subgrant competition in a manner that prioritizes a certain scope of LEA activities within the breadth of one or more specific allowable activities
- Access the Federal [Regulatory Guidance](#)
- *Ask your LEAs how to obtain*

Federal Funding Update- CISA

**CYBERSECURITY &
INFRASTRUCTURE
SECURITY AGENCY**



AMERICA'S CYBER DEFENSE AGENCY

<https://www.cisa.gov>

- K-12 education system has extensive amounts of personal and financial data they maintain about our kids, teachers, school staff, and records on the schools themselves
- [TOOLKIT](#) for K-12 Schools
- Work with the state planning committee to leverage the [State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program](#) (SLCGP) (Deadline: Oct 6, 2023)
- [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) + [Fact Sheet](#)

“For K-12 schools, cyber incidents are so prevalent that, on average, there is more than one incident per school day.”

-CISA

Federal Funding Update- Ed. Savings Accounts

Implementing K–12 Education Savings Accounts

- 12 states with Universal School Choice
 - 1990, children could only move to other public schools. After 5 years, religious schools also allowed
- Current Trends:
 - Universal eligibility
 - School choice → Parental choice
- ESAs:
 - More than school vouchers; enable full parental control over your child's education
 - Amount differs state-to-state
 - Problems: some states don't disburse funds fast enough; variable funding from state to state
 - Tuition is always approved; some things are not "always approved"

Things to do:

- Participate in the program
- Educate parents: What is an ESA? How to navigate the ESA application process

ESEA Title VIII Equitable Guidance Update

Final version published on July 17, 2023

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/non-public-education/index.html>

[ESEA 101 - SLIDE DECK LINK](#)

Equitable Services Institute (St Louis MO)

Catapult Learning would be delighted to host you for our annual Equitable Service Institute (ESI) in St. Louis, November 7-9, 2023.

An opportunity for both a refresher and a primer on all federal programs impacting private schools (Title programs I-IV, IDEA, ESSER, EANS, GEER), ESI is also a great networking event where colleagues engaged in similar work can share experiences, advice, success, and challenges.

All materials, meals, hotel, and registration are sponsored by Catapult to advance the mission of our partners nationwide. You simply must get yourself there at your own expense.

For decision-makers and those working directly with LEAs and districts to get services for their schools

When Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 1:00 PM CST to Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 11:00 AM CST

Where **HYATT REGENCY ST LOUIS**
ARCH 315 CHESTNUT STREET
St Louis, MO 63102

[Registration info](#)

Other Private School News

Other News: Private Schools - Valid Diplomas

- **USDOE Valid High School Diploma (for Pell Grant purposes)**
- DOE has set forth a specific regime for how higher ed institutions are looking at diplomas (requires state law and regulations)
- This impacts mostly private schools because public schools will not have an issue being validated. The private schools would need to be checked against state laws and regulations to see if the degree will be valid/not valid

Hopes and Fears: Today's Independent School Parents - ONPE

Dr. Michael Thompson

- Problem: Overpromising “the partnership”
 - Need to define the partnership - a One Pager
 - Five Things Parents can Expect from Teachers
 - Five Things Teachers can Expect from Parents
 - Include in this that public discussions on social media about this is often destructive for schools and that you may ask a parent in if you get wind of it
 - Teachers shouldn't provide their cell phone #
- Lack of training in working with adults and endemic conflict avoidance
 - Often results in backbiting/indirect conflict avoidance (staff room talk)
 - Rocked when parents are very direct

More Tips: Parent & School Relationship

- Schools need to establish its minimum non-negotiables (“how we do school”)
- Educator is the senior partner and can apply to parents the same skills that work with students
 - Remind yourself/the teacher- *you (the educator)* are the expert in this ‘schooling’ business
 - “That’s normal sixth grade behavior”
 - “This is how our school proceeds with ...”
 - Use “therapeutic” voice

Parent/School Relationship: Tips for Teachers

Skill #1: Active Listening- Listen 60% of the time

- If 10 min meeting, you speak no more than 4 minutes

Skill #2: Ask questions, especially about parental hopes and fears

- What are you hoping for? What are you afraid of?

Skill #3: Claiming the child

- My job as her teacher is to ... “....”

Skill #4: Straight talking.

- Topic sentence and the rule of three

Condition of Today's Private Schools - ONPE

- Open teaching positions (up)
- Principal Attrition (no change)
- Absenteeism (no change)

Staffing:

- 10% increase in private schools reporting hiring at least one open teaching position schoolwide (68% vs 58%)
- Job openings / hiring:
 - No measurable differences in subject-matter
 - Difficulty in hiring open position:
 - Special education (15 vs 44%)
 - STEM (16% vs 33%)

Principals

- 11.2% of public and 9.7% of private school principals left the profession
- Leaving the field not significantly different between 2011 and 2021

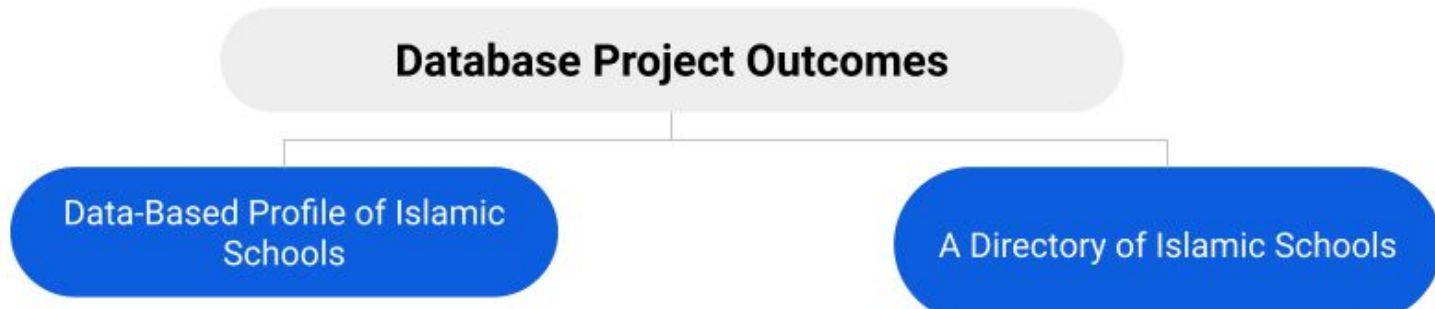
ISLA Database Project

Dr. Samar Al-Majaideh

Research Rationale

The database project will fill the knowledge gaps concerning full-time U.S. Islamic schools in two key areas:

1. Establish accurate and updated directory of Islamic schools
2. A data-based profile of Islamic schools



Interactive Directory

- Soft Launch
- Your Input?

Upcoming Events

ISLA Leadership Retreat 2023



Breaking the Silence:
Addressing the Realities of
Health & Sex Education in
Islamic Schools

MEMBER SCHOOLS

Early Bird :
\$475 / person

\$575 / person

NON-MEMBER SCHOOLS

Early Bird :
\$550 / person

\$650 / person

RETREAT OFFERINGS

- ✓ Interactive Workshops
- ✓ Wellness-Focused Activities
- ✓ Professional Networking
- ✓ Halal Meals
- ✓ Friday & Saturday Night Accommodations

Diyanet Center of America

9610 Good Luck Road
Lanham, MD 20706

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS SEPT 30, 2023!

December 1-3, 2023

Begins 1 pm EST on Friday
Ends Sunday at 12 pm EST

Upcoming Event:



EFFECTIVE EMAIL COMMUNICATION 101:

Tips for Teachers
ISLA-Archangel quarterly webinar!

WEDNESDAY
September 27, 2023

TIME & DURATION

8 pm EST | 60-75 minutes

WORKSHOP SPECIFICS

Organizing your
Inbox

Writing emails that
people will actually read

Specifics on How to Write to:

- Administrators
- Colleagues
- Parents
- Students

PD CERTIFICATE & CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS
TO BE PROVIDED

<https://tinyurl.com/ISLAXArchangel-webinar-1>

ISLA October Admin Meeting

Date and Time: Wednesday, October 18 |

12 pm EST / 11 am CST/ 9 am PST



<https://tinyurl.com/admin-oct23>

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS DEMYSTIFIED:

Insights for Islamic School Parents, Students and Counselors



ISLA
Islamic Schools League of America
Supporting Islamic Schools Since 1989 | www.theisla.org

COLLEGE APPLICATION

1 PERSONAL INFORMATION

Surname

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Postal address

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This was AMAZING - will send recording- Highly recommend it!!!

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YESTERDAY

Organized in collaboration with:

**Five
Before
College**