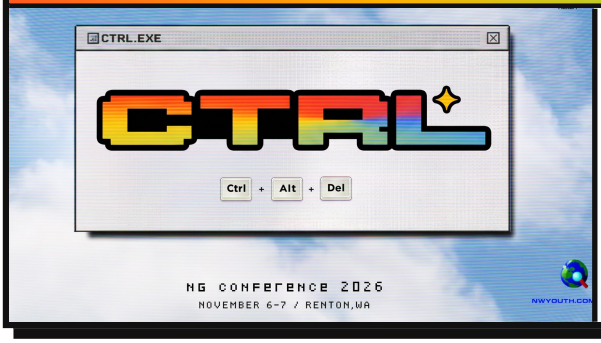
NW Youth Times

What a time to be doing youth ministry!

VOL. 1, NO. 4 — WEEKLY EDITION — WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026 — BY MATT HARDER

NG_CONFERENCE_2026.EXE ×



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1 · CULTURE SCHOOLS & FAMILIES · STATEWIDE

Should parents see the counselor's file? Washington votes Nov. 3.

More school records for parents, faster. Both sides say it's about protecting kids.

BY MATT HARDER



A student listens during a session. NW Youth photo.

Hey friends! On Nov. 3, Washington votes on Initiative 001, the "Parents' Bill of Rights." It asks what every youth pastor faces: when a student shares something hard, who else gets to know?

WHAT IT DOES. A yes vote restores the 2024 parental rights law as first written, undoing 2025 changes. Parents could see school records, counseling records included, in 10 business days instead of 45, and get notice before nonemergency medical services at school.

THE CASE FOR. Supporters say parents belong in the loop on their kids' health and wellbeing, including a new name or pronouns at school. "The parents should never be the last to know," said La Center Superintendent Peter Rosenkranz.

THE CASE AGAINST. Opponents, including the Washington State PTA, fear students facing abuse, depression or gender questions will stop asking for help, and say parents charged with abuse could get records. "Confidentiality is kind of the glue that makes those relationships work," said Gabriel Neuman of GSBA.

FOR OUR YOUTH MINISTRIES. This isn't a voting guide. Read both sides, pray and vote. Whatever passes, students still need trusted adults and parents still need partners. Tell students up front what you keep private and what you never can, like safety. Then walk with them as they take the hard stuff home.

Sources: Axios Seattle (Oct. 26) · The Seattle Times (Oct. 19) · WA House summary of I-001 · Full text (Secretary of State)

USE THIS IN YOUR TEAM TIME

Takes 10 minutes. Print this page or pull it up on the screen.

READ

Malachi 4:5–6 together (see "2 · Bible").

TALK

1. When a student tells us something hard, what do we keep private, and what can we never keep?
2. Do the parents in our ministry trust us? How would we know?
3. How can we help a student bring a hard conversation home instead of hiding it?

DO THIS WEEK

Write one plain sentence on what your team keeps private and what it always shares. Say the same thing to your students and their parents.

2 · BIBLE

He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents.

MALACHI 4:6, NIV

3 · LEADERSHIP

Be the bridge, not the secret.

WEATHER · WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28

Seattle/Renton	**54/39**	Light rain likely
Yakima	**56/29**	Patchy fog
Spokane	**49/37**	Light rain
Coeur d'Alene	**45/35**	Light rain

National Weather Service forecast for Wednesday.

ALSO COMING UP · NW YOUTH

FEB. 25–27, 2027
NW Youth Summit Stone Church, Yakima. Leaders 18+.

APRIL 17, 2027
Create Northwest University. Student fine arts.

nwyouth.com/calendar

Share your Called, Youth Alive or Speed The Light student story here!

nwyouth.com/share-your-story →

Photos and videos welcome.

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NEXT STEPS Call or text Beemo anytime for help or to connect with a team member: **(570) 747-4150**