



WSSDA 2015 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Amplify fund K-12 education

The constitution is clear; the state's top priority is the provision of basic education to every student in Washington. Enhanced revenue and sustainable funding are necessary to comply with the paramount duty, without harming programs students need to be successful in school and in life.

Facilitate facilities

Full-day kindergarten, smaller class sizes and new graduation requirements can only be implemented with additional classroom space in most districts, and new schools in some. State support for the actual costs of construction, bond approval with a simple majority, and changes to the Growth Management Act are required to make these reforms possible for all students.

Enable great teaching and learning

What goes on in the classroom matters most for student success. Eighty hours per year for teacher professional development, and support for the Teacher and Principal Evaluation Project (TPEP), means more interesting lessons and more engaged students. Funding the actual costs of materials, supplies and operations (MSOC) will enhance the learning environment and classroom experience for every student in Washington.

Fully fund programs and services that are required by law

Schools are often obliged to comply with specific legislative requirements, without adequate funding. For example, Special Education law is unambiguous; schools must provide all services specified in students' Individual Education Plans (IEPs). However, costs vary according to the needs of each student in the program and the state does not provide enough funding to offer all required services.

No new mandates

Reforms take time. We must stay the course with current reforms, determine what's working, and make corrections along the way.



WSSDA GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Support success for every student
- Accountability through local governance

