

**Woodland Public School District No. 404  
Woodland Washington**

**Resolution No. 2541  
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

**Outlining Critical Priorities Concerning Educational  
Funding and Requesting Consideration by State  
Legislators**

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution states: *It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders, without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste, or sex;* and,

WHEREAS, the State of Washington does not fully fund the cost of education; and,

WHEREAS, the State is experiencing significant anticipated revenue shortfalls; and,

WHEREAS, the Woodland Public School District is well below the mean of districts in the region and state in terms of per pupil property values, which increases the relative burden of paying for M&O levies on the local taxpayer; and,

WHEREAS, reductions to, or elimination of Local Effort Assistance (Levy Equalization) would have a significant disproportionate impact on Woodland and other school districts with per pupil property values below the state mean; and,

WHEREAS, the early years in the education of children provide a foundation for success throughout children's K-20 education, and lower class sizes in the early years enhance learning for students; and,

WHEREAS, the state legislature has eliminated enhanced K-4 funding in the supplemental budget for the 2010-2011 school year; and,

WHEREAS, ESHB 2261 was approved by the 2009 legislature, which will, when enacted, significantly change the funding to schools; increasing it in some areas, decreasing it in others; and,

WHEREAS, one area where funding is expected to significantly decrease for Woodland Public Schools under ESHB 2261, relative to the majority of the State is pupil transportation; and,

WHEREAS, State funding under current models is substantially insufficient to cover basic needs of materials, supplies, and operational costs such as utilities, building

maintenance, insurance, and staffing needed to safely and effectively operate the Woodland Public Schools; and,

WHEREAS, it is demonstrated in research that one of the most significant variables in student achievement is instructional time, yet current efforts in the legislature indicate a willingness to reduce student learning time by reducing the length of the school year; and,

WHEREAS, it is demonstrated in research that teachers who are certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards have a significant and positive impact on improving student learning, yet current efforts in the legislature indicate a willingness to eliminate or suspend the financial incentive for teachers to pursue NBPTS certification; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodland Public School District #404 advocate for and appeal to the Washington State Legislators for the preservation of current, and enhancement of future funding to public schools in order to meet the paramount duty of the State; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, areas of specific concern for restored, continued and improved funding are:

- 1) Local Effort Assistance (Levy Equalization)
- 2) K-4 Class Size Enhancement
- 3) Pupil Transportation Funding
- 4) Funding for Materials, Supplies, and Operational Costs (MSOCs)
- 5) Full funding of the 180 day school year
- 6) NBPTS Certification Stipends

ADOPTED, this 14th day of February, 2011.

ATTEST:

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Secretary to the Board

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President

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Director

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Director

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Director