



TWIO

This Week In Olympia

Week 4 | February 4, 2011

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Week 4 - January 31 – February 4, 2011

This Week in Review

About TWIO

This Week in Olympia is emailed to active WASA and AEA members each Friday during the Legislative Session and is posted on WASA's website at www.wasa-oly.org/TWIO.



Register now to attend the annual WASA/WSSDA Legislative Conference, February 27–28, 2011, at the Red Lion Hotel and Capitol, Olympia. Register at www.wasa-oly.org/2011LegConference.

Committee Action

Activity in the Legislature ramped up during the fourth week of the 2011 session, as most legislative committees began to shift from instructive work sessions to public hearings and executive action on priority legislation. This is because the Legislature's first self-imposed "cut-off" date is rapidly approaching; all bills must be adopted by their original house policy committees by February 21 in order to remain alive. Quickly following is the fiscal committee cut-off; all bills with fiscal implications must be passed by their original house fiscal committees by February 25 in order to remain alive. Remember, however, budget bills and bills that are considered "necessary to implement the budget" are exempt from most of these early cut-off dates.

On Monday, the House State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee held a public hearing on two important bills regarding changes to the Public Records Act, [HB 1299](#) and [HB 1300](#). HB 1299, the House companion to [SB 5089](#), heard in the Senate last week, provides for a voluntary conference, either in person or by phone, between an agency or local government, and someone requesting public records before a lawsuit is filed. If either party refuses to confer, the court has the discretion to not impose daily penalties.

HB 1300, the House companion to [SB 5088](#), heard in the Senate last week, would allow agencies and local governments to charge the actual personnel costs for any public records request that exceeds five hours of staff time per month. If the requester does not wish to pay the costs, the agency or local government would be required to devote only five hours per month to the request until the request is filled. A requester would have three options if the request is expected to take more than five hours: they can refine their request, they can split it up into different months, or they could pay for the time beyond the five hours to meet their request.

HB 1299/SB 5089 (Meet and Confer) and HB 1300/SB 5088 (Cost Recovery) were requested by a coalition of local government associations that continue to be concerned about the escalating costs to comply with the Public Records Act. Along with WASA, the Coalition includes associations representing school boards, cities, counties, public ports and others. For more details on these and other PRA issues we are working on, please see [TWIO Week 3](#).

Also on Monday, the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee began their meeting with a work session and was briefed by State Board of Education staff on its proposed new graduation requirements.

Following their presentation, Shawn Lewis, OSPI Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the potential cost implications of implementing the new graduation requirements.

They then moved to a public hearing on two bills: [SB 5191](#) (education flexibility) and [SB 5475](#) (education funding). SB 5191, another crack at addressing the perennial issue of unfunded mandates in education, would repeal, suspend or amend a series of laws, rules or requirements that burden school districts—and are either unfunded or underfunded. This bill is the third attempt in as many years by Senator Steve Hobbs (D-Lake Stevens) to assist school districts by providing relief from administrative burdens. On Thursday, the Committee adopted an amended version of the bill. The amendments removed sections regarding: reporting on traffic safety programs; and the suspension of the Financial Education Public-Private Partnership. The substitute bill moved on to the Senate Rules Committee and awaits action by the full Senate.

SB 5475 is a budget-implementing bill requested by Governor Gregoire. HB 2776, adopted last year, enacted in statute the new prototypical school funding model and established a timeline for phasing in funding enhancements to basic education. Although a refined definition of basic education must be fully implemented by 2018, HB 2776 requires enhancements in Full-Day Kindergarten, K–3 Class Size Reduction, Pupil Transportation and Materials, Supplies and Operating Costs (MSOC, formerly known as Non-Employee Related Costs or NERC) to begin in the 2011-13 biennium. SB 5475 declares the Legislature’s intent to fully implement the new basic education definition by 2018, but also expresses its intent to develop a “realistic and practical” implementation schedule for phasing in enhancement. After this bold intent language . . . the bill deletes the 2011–13 start date to begin reduction of K–3 class sizes, to enhance funding for MSOC and to continue the phase in of all-day kindergarten. A start to the enhancement of pupil transportation is included in the governor’s 2011–13 budget request and therefore is not addressed in this bill.

The House Ways & Means Committee held a public hearing on a series of bills on Monday afternoon, including [HB 1354](#) to implement the governor’s requested school district General Apportionment delay from the last business day in June, 2011 to the first business day in July, 2011. Even though this budget sleight of hand is not included in either the House’s or the Senate’s “early action” budget, action on this bill indicates that legislators will continue to hold this card and will likely play it when and if necessary. As it stands now, even if the Senate’s version of the “early action” budget were to be adopted, which includes approximately \$30 million more in savings than the House-adopted budget (more on the budget action later in this *TWIO*), more than \$200 million would still need to be trimmed to balance the current 2009–11 budget. Senator Joe Zarelli (R-Ridgefield) told the press Wednesday afternoon that in order to deal with the remaining short-fall, legislators would be forced to rely on the governor’s “budget gimmick that involves shifting school funding to the next budget period.” It is also important to remember that while Gregoire used this scheme to “save” \$253 million, that number can easily be dialed up or down to match whatever the final short-fall ultimately becomes. In fact, HB 1354, as written would shift (and “save”) almost \$333 million in apportionment payments.

On Tuesday morning, the House Capital Budget Committee resumed its public hearing on [HB 1497](#), the 2011–13 Capital Construction Budget. As noted in last week’s *TWIO*, the governor proposed a total appropriation of \$505 million for K–12 school construction projects, including approximately \$486 million in funding for the School Construction Grant Assistance Program. This is significantly lower than OSPI’s \$660 million request. Because last week’s public hearing ran overtime, WASA, WSSDA and OSPI (among others) were allowed to testify on Tuesday. WASA expressed support for the governor’s attempts to expand debt capacity to allow for a 2011–13 Capital Budget (there is still a real concern the Legislature could adopt a minimal—or perhaps NO—Capital Budget this year), but also raised concerns that the governor’s proposal is far smaller than the request presented by OSPI. There

will be a tremendous amount of competition (even more than usual) for a limited pot of money, so we explained why we felt school construction needed to be prioritized highly. We reminded Committee members that adequate school facilities and the advancement of education reform are integrally linked and questioned how we can expect our students to meet our high standards if they have to learn in inadequate facilities. We reminded legislators that the education community frequently talks about the state’s constitutional “Paramount Duty” to amply fund K–12 education and we expressed our belief that school construction is a part of basic education. We noted that the Supreme Court will soon hear a case regarding education funding (*McCleary v. State of Washington*) and it was our belief that the Court would agree that school facilities need to be amply funded. Finally, we reminded legislators that, unlike other areas of state government, in order for school districts to access state construction assistance, they must first have a voter-approved (by a 60% supermajority) bond issue in place. If voters approve of the bond and state assistance is not forthcoming, this will delay “shovel-ready” projects, increase costs and cause confusion (and probably anger) on the part of the local voters. We closed by thanking the legislature—in particular the House of Representatives and Committee Chair Representative Hans Dunshee (D-Everett)—for the historical support of K–12 construction funding and urged their continued support.

Dr. Ray Tolcacher, Prosser School District Superintendent, and Tom Seigel, Bethel School District Superintendent, also testified on the Capital Budget proposal on Tuesday. Both told their local stories and urged the Legislature to step up and adequately fund school construction. Tolcacher focused on the School Construction Grant Assistance Program and told Committee members that his school district has a bond issue on the ballot on February 8 to rebuild an outdated high school. He noted that if Prosser successfully passed the bond and state assistance is not provided, he will not go out to bid and the project will have to be delayed, presumably increasing costs—and frustrating voters.

Seigel focused on the less-than-adequate funding for Skills Center construction.

Also on Tuesday, the House Education Appropriations & Oversight Committee held a work session to review the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards program. Michaela Miller, OSPI's National Board Certification Coordinator, provided an overview of the history and current status of the NBPTS program, from both a state and national perspective. Following this presentation, Annie Pennucci, with the Washington State Institute for Public Policy, provided a review of the research on National Board certification and the impacts on student outcomes. The research showed, fairly clearly, that National Board-certified teachers are more effective on average than non-NBPTS teachers, as measured by student test scores. Interestingly, the research also showed that the NBPTS certification process does not necessarily improve teachers' effectiveness; however, it helps to identify effective teachers. Additionally, there is evidence that low-income students may benefit more from NBPTS-certified teachers. Pennucci closed by commenting that more research is needed on incentives to improve recruitment and retention of effective teachers. As the 2011–13 budget begins to be written, there will be on-going conversations about state funding for National Board teachers—and whether it is worth the expense.

The House Education Committee used the bulk of its Tuesday committee meeting to hear testimony on several bills to delay or repeal high school assessment graduation requirements: [HB 1412](#) (math end-of-course assessments), [HB 1410](#) (science end-of-course assessments), [HB 1330](#) (math and science assessments) and [HB 1463](#) (eliminating assessment graduation requirements). HB 1412 would require students in the Classes of 2013 and 2014 to meet the standard on one—instead of two—end-of-course high school mathematics assessments. Current law requires students in the Class of 2013 to meet state standards in science in order to obtain a Certificate of Academic Achievement or Certificate of Individual Achievement. HB 1410 would delay the requirement until the Class of 2017. State Superintendent Randy

Dorn, who requested HB 1412 and HB 1410, argued that adjusting the math and science assessment requirements would be fairer to students and have the added benefit of saving the state money. HB 1330 would delay the requirement that students attain a CAA/CIA in order to graduate from the Class of 2013 to the Class of 2016. The bill would also continue, through the Class of 2015, a policy that allows students who do not meet the state standard on the high school math assessment to graduate if they take additional math courses. Finally, HB 1330 would add science to the list of assessments required for students to earn a CAA/CIA beginning with the Class of 2016, rather than the Class of 2013. HB 1330's sponsor, Representative Christine Rolfes (D-Bainbridge Island), made a passionate speech in defense of her bill, arguing that it is simply unjust that the state would continue to slash funding for schools and still expect them to adequately prepare students to meet the state's high standards. The fourth assessment bill on the docket, HB 1463, would still require assessments in reading, writing, math and science; however, all graduation requirements linked to those assessments would be repealed.

On Wednesday, the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee held a public hearing on the long-awaited bill from the governor to consolidate the state's education (early learning to K–12 to higher education) agencies, boards and commissions into a new state Department of Education, which would be headed by a governor-appointed Secretary of Education. The creation of the new department would be intended to provide a seamless, state-level governance system that would focus on students and student learning from birth through career. The 97-page bill, [SB 5639](#), was released the evening before the hearing, so testimony for and against the measure was not exactly detailed or crisp; however, there was much interesting discussion. Signaling the importance of the issue, Governor Gregoire made a rare committee appearance to introduce and testify on behalf of her bill. Gregoire stated her concern that Washington did not have a coherent education “system.” Rather, it was her belief that the state had a series of education “silos” that developed their own individual goals

and plans with little to no communication or coordination with other education entities. The governor firmly stated that the status quo just doesn't work and it is time to take this bold step. Much of Gregoire's arguments in favor of her bill were centered on the belief that the people of Washington hold the governor accountable for education and, therefore, the governor must be given the authority to direct education. WASA waded carefully into the discussion and testified that we fully agree with the governor's belief that the state needs to focus on student achievement and we fully agree with the concern that there needs to be more and better communication between and among the various moving pieces of education in Washington. We stopped short of overtly supporting the new Department of Education, however. We conceded that reforms were necessary, but expressed concerns that a complete overhaul and consolidation of our state's entire education structure might be too drastic. We also expressed concerns that massive consolidation of our education organizations would force the creation of an unwieldy and faceless bureaucracy. Our biggest concern was that the State Superintendent, the elected voice for public education—and also the strongest statewide advocate for public education—would either be muted or be entirely eliminated. We urged caution and urged legislators to go slow.

Since unveiling her Department of Education plan before session, Gregoire has remained silent on the issue of whether the State Superintendent should be a separately elected official or an appointed person. When her bill was released, we received a little clearer picture. SB 5639 includes provisions to absorb the State Superintendent and OSPI into the new agency—essentially the publicly elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction would report to an appointed representative of the governor. The Superintendent would be required to coordinate and collaborate with the Department of Education. Additional provisions are also included, however, that would abolish the position of SPI and the powers, duties, functions and employees of OSPI would be transferred to the new Department if a constitutional amendment abolishing the SPI is ratified at the November 2011

general election. Gregoire did not request a constitutional amendment to abolish the elected SPI, but one has been introduced—and it's clear that the governor supports it. That constitutional amendment, [SJR 8212](#) (and its implementing bill, [SB 5522](#)) was also heard on Wednesday. Superintendent Dorn expressed his strong opposition to this constitutional amendment in testimony—then followed that up with a [strongly worded statement to the public](#). WASA, WSSDA and AWSP each testified against SJR 8212/SB 5522. WASA reiterated our concern about the elimination of the elected voice of public education. We also argued that there are often tensions between the SPI and the governor and other elected officials, including legislators, but that is not necessarily a bad thing. The State Superintendent can forcefully argue for the fully funding of basic education and the state's fulfillment of the paramount duty. A Secretary of Education, however, by virtue of his/her position would support the governor's budget, which is focused on the entirety of state government, rather than on the state's paramount duty alone. Finally, we argued that education is not just a bi-partisan issue, it is a NON-partisan issue. A Secretary of Education appointed by a partisan elected governor, however, would inherently be a partisan, political position.

The Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee also moved to executive session and adopted a few bills. [SB 5093](#) would revise a series of education provisions to implement budget reductions, as requested by the governor. Included in the revisions are assessment provisions. The bill as originally introduced would eliminate the comprehensive statewide math assessment for the Classes of 2013 and 2014. The Class of 2013 would be required to meet the state standard on only one of the math end-of-course assessments to obtain a CAA/CIA. The original bill would also amend current law to allow a reduction in LEA payments to eligible school districts. Prior to adopting SB 5093, the Committee amended the bill to strike both the LEA provisions and the language regarding assessments. [SB 5184](#), allowing second-class school districts to submit condensed compliance reports to OSPI, was also passed

by the Committee, following the adoption of a technical amendment.

The House Education Appropriations & Oversight Committee held a work session on Wednesday evening to be briefed on a series of levy-related issues. Committee staff started the briefing by reviewing the history and current status of levies, levy lids (and levy bases) and Local Effort Assistance (LEA or levy equalization). Shawn Lewis, OSPI CFO, provided an overview of school funding sources in other states and how Washington ranked, both overall and against the Global Challenge States (as selected by Washington Learns). Jim Crawford, Senior K–12 Budget Assistant with the Office of Financial Management, briefed the Committee on local funding of school districts in Washington, differences between districts and the attempts to provide greater equity in the system. Crawford also provided a quick progress report on the work of the Levy and Local Effort Assistance Technical Working Group (WASA is represented by Larry Francois, Superintendent, Northshore School District). Crawford reminded the Committee that the Working Group is not scheduled to complete its work until June 2011 and they urge legislators not to prematurely make changes to levies or LEA before they have a chance to provide a report to the Legislature. Committee staff closed the work session by providing an overview of forest revenues and school districts.

On Thursday morning, the House Education Committee held a hearing on a series of bills, including [HB 1431](#), requiring a process to be developed for the dissolution of financially insolvent school districts. When ESD 113 was called upon to assist with the elimination of Vader School District in 2007, it very quickly became obvious that there was not a process for dissolving a school district for financial reasons. HB 1431 would direct the State Board of Education to analyze options and make recommendations for a clear legal framework and a process for the dissolution of a school district on the basis of financial insolvency by January 5, 2012. Staff from the SBE testified with concerns that they had neither the funding nor the staff to adequately complete the task required by the bill. WASA

and WSSDA both testified in support, stating that a process does need to be established, especially given the ongoing state budget cuts and increasing financial pressures on school districts. We both expressed concerns, however, about the aggressive timeline and questioned whether the State Board was the appropriate body to be charged with this task.

The Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee followed up a public hearing on Governor Gregoire's Department of Education plan, with a public hearing on the governor's other major education initiative on Thursday: Creating the Launch Year Program. [SB 5616](#) would require all public high schools to work toward the goal of offering a sufficient number of high school courses to give students the opportunity to earn the equivalent of a year's worth of postsecondary credit toward a certificate, apprenticeship program, technical degree, or associate or baccalaureate degree. High schools would also be required to inform students and their families about the opportunities to earn postsecondary credit during twelfth grade to get an advanced start on their career and postsecondary education. Institutions of higher education would be required to develop a master list of postsecondary courses that can be fulfilled by achieving an agreed-upon score on a proficiency exam or meeting demonstrated competencies. Each institution would also be required to publish on its website and in its admissions materials its own list of courses that can qualify for postsecondary credit. Each institution would be required to recognize at least one year of course credit that can be earned through proficiency exams or demonstrated competencies, including but not limited to AP and IB exams.

The House Education Committee closed the week out with a public hearing on [HB 1443](#), implementing a number of recommendations from the Quality Education Council. As discussed in [TWIO Week 3](#), HB 1443 would build on previously adopted legislation which laid the foundation for a new education finance system (HB 2261 in 2009) and then began the implementation of the new funding system (HB 2776 in 2010). The bill would:

- Adopt the Common Core Standards to increase opportunities for success among students who move from state to state, improve assessments, and better prepare students for global participation.
 - Deliver technical assistance to districts and schools to help develop strategies to reduce dropout rates.
 - Incorporate the use of kindergarten readiness assessment in challenged elementary schools to effectively prepare young children as they enter the K–12 system.
 - Approve the use of Learning Assistance Programs (LAP) funds to assist students in science.
 - Adopt consistent procedures for school districts to identify, assess, and select highly capable students.
 - Identify methods for recruiting and retaining diverse teachers and teachers within the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math fields.
- The K–4 class size reduction is reduced by 50 percent—rather than eliminated—from September 1, 2010 through January 31, 2011, saving \$25.4 million. The House budget would eliminate funds for K–4 class size reductions for the entire 2010–11 school year, saving \$42.1 million.
 - Program and administrative cuts included in the House budget are proposed at a reduction level of 6.287 percent (to implement the across-the-board cut ordered last fall). The Senate proposes to reduce funding for those programs by 10 percent, increasing the savings.

See our [Special Edition Senate Supplemental Budget Proposal TWIO](#) for details.

On Thursday, the Senate Ways & Means Committee moved the bill to an executive session, adopted a few mostly technical amendments and adopted its version of the budget. Two of the amendments impact the K–12 portion of the budget. The first deletes proviso language that restricts summer vocational programs, so current policy is retained. The deleted language stated that summer school vocational programs are not eligible for funding under the 1.6 FTE enrollment cap in the 2010–11 school year. The second amendment increases the cut to the Special Education Safety Net funding by \$1.244 million (that is, an additional \$1.224 million of costs are deferred to capital FY 2012). The increase is simply a reflection of up-to-date financial data.

Sen. Murray has been discussing this budget as a “bi-partisan effort” and it appears that is true. The budget was adopted by a 17-2 vote. Twelve of the 13 Democratic members of the Committee voted “Yes,” along with five of the eight Republican members. Two Republicans voted “No,” and one Democrat and one Republican refused to vote. The Republican member who failed to vote for or against the budget was Senator Cheryl Pflug (R-Maple Valley). Sen. Pflug was upset that a late-arriving (and incomplete) amendment was not allowed to be acted upon. When the Chair ruled the amendment out of order, she requested an oral amendment to be adopted and again the Chair ruled it out of order. She

was also upset that, even though the budget was touted as a “bi-partisan effort,” she said she was never invited to a budget meeting, despite asking to be included. She stated, “I think that the weight of the issues this year are so significant that it’s inappropriate to have these things discussed by only two in leadership. This is not the year for the budget to be made by only a handful of people.” Sen. Pflug’s amendment apparently would have fully restored the K–4 class size funding and cut a similar amount of funding from all-day kindergarten. The one Democrat who failed to vote for or against the budget was Senator Rodney Tom (D-Bellevue). It is unclear why he refused to sign the Committee report; however, you might remember Sen. Tom—while serving as the Senate Ways & Means Committee Vice Chair—bucked his caucus and voted “No” on the 2010 Supplemental Budget that he helped write. Still interparty tensions?

On Friday morning, the full Senate adopted HB 1086 as amended by the Senate Ways & Means Committee with a vote of 38-9. It is our understanding that budget writers in the House and Senate have already begun negotiating a compromise so it is likely a final “early action” budget will be adopted and sent to the governor soon.

AEA

By Mitch Denning

WSNA still remains opposed to the \$3M reduction in food service in the Senate’s supplemental budget. If the reduction were to go into effect, school districts’ 2010–11 school meal reimbursement would be reduced, retroactively to September 1, 2010. WSNA continued conversations with Senate Ways and Means members and staff, and Senate Democratic Caucus staff urging them to reinstate the \$3M. We testified similarly on Wednesday before the Senate Ways and Means Committee. However, the \$3M was not restored in the final budget that passed out of Ways and Means late Thursday afternoon.

On Tuesday, we testified in House Capital Budget in support of the Small School Repair

Supplemental Budget Action

Last week, the full House adopted an amended version of [HB 1086](#), the “early action” supplemental budget. On Wednesday of this week, Senator Ed Murray (D-Seattle) released the [Senate version](#) of an “early action” budget and the Senate Ways & Means Committee held a public hearing on the bill that afternoon. The Senate proposal would make \$254 million in total budget reductions. The proposal would also make a number of budget transfers, for a total savings of \$394 million. This is approximately \$30 million more than the total savings in the House-adopted package (but still more than \$200 million from completely erasing the 2009–11 budget deficit). K–12 Education would be cut by just over \$57 million in the Senate version of the budget.

There are two major differences between the House-adopted and the Senate proposed education budgets:

program (\$10M) in the 2011–13 capital budget (HB 1497), which is coordinated by OSPI with assistance from WAMOA and WASBO. We also spoke in support of OSPI’s request for \$660M in school construction assistance for the next biennium, notwithstanding the challenge of the state’s limited debt capacity. Finally, we urged the committee to continue making school construction assistance their number one priority in the capital budget.

WASBO executive director Nancy Moffatt testified on Thursday in Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education in opposition to SB 5220, advertising on school buses. She argued: revenue could exceed expenses if enacted; students riding to and from school would not have a choice regarding the viewing of such advertising; current law requires school districts to provide equal opportunity in the dissemination of material to students which has resulted in districts not allowing non-school related material to be sent home with students.

Pensions and Health Benefits

By John Kvamme

Some health benefit bills dealing with issues that were introduced in previous sessions were introduced this past week. These were SB 5612 and SB 5613 that deal with requiring K–12 and ESDs to purchase health benefits through the HCA, and HB 1706 which gives Plan 2 members access to the PEBB upon separation (not retiring) at age 55 with at least 20 years of service.

On Tuesday, the State Auditor’s Office released the results of its performance audit of K–12 health benefits. Performance audit staff gave our association, and others, a briefing on the results. The complete report should be available within a few days on the State Auditor’s web site. School districts did an excellent job responding to the survey sent out by the Hay Group with a very high response rate. Their survey sample represented 68% of all school employees. Their recommendations fell into three groups: streamline the system by simplifying the pooling process; standardize coverage levels for more affordable, quality medical benefits; restructure

the health benefits system. “Hay concludes that restructuring the public school health benefits system by creating a statewide, self-funded program that provides benefits comparable to those employees have now, could improve the efficiency of benefits provision and achieve cost-savings.” The details are in the well done, comprehensive report. On Thursday, the House Education Appropriations Committee was given a briefing on the performance audit by State Auditor staff.

Several additional pension bills were introduced this past week. They included: HB 1704 regarding Plan 3 vesting, HB 1705 rule of 85, and HB 1787 which deals with the ability to use any forgone compensation due to reductions during 2009–11 within the members final pension determining AFC.

On Thursday, we testified in support of SB 5163 which deals with TRS Plan 1 survivor benefit payment options. We also continued meeting with fiscal committee members through appointments.

Next Monday, February 7, a number of pension bills are scheduled for hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee including HB 1083 which eliminates retire/rehire, and HB 1742 which eliminates Plan 2/3 early retirement for new employees (Governor’s bill). On Wednesday, February 9, the Senate Ways and Means Committee will be holding a work session and possibly a hearing on pensions and compensation.

Pension and Health benefits Bill Watch details are available on the [WASA website](#).

Committee Meeting Schedule

Legislative Committees Meetings are scheduled to be held at the following times but are subject to change.

Up-to-date meeting schedules and agendas are available on the [State Legislature website](#).

Materials presented during committee meetings, including work sessions, are accessible via the Legislature’s [Electronic Bill Book](#). Follow the link, choose House or Senate, the year, and committee name from the drop

down lists. When the agendas are loaded, select the date you’d like to view.

Mondays

1:30–3:25 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

3:30–5:30 p.m.
House Ways & Means
House Hearing Room A

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Tuesdays

8–9:55 a.m.
House Education Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

1:30–3:25 p.m.
House Education
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:30 p.m.
House Ways & Means
House Hearing Room A

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Wednesdays

8–9:55 a.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

3:30–5:30 p.m.
House Ways & Means
House Hearing Room A

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

6–8:00 p.m.
House Education Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

Thursdays

8–9:55 a.m.
House Education
House Hearing Room A

1:30–3:25 p.m.
House Education Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

Thursdays, continued

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

3:30–5:30 p.m.
House Ways & Means
House Hearing Room A

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Fridays

1:30–3:25 p.m.
House Education
House Hearing Room A

Useful Links

Washington State Government
<http://www.access.wa.gov>

State Legislature
<http://www.leg.wa.gov>

Senate
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate>

House of Representatives
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/House>

Legislative Committees
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/committeelisting.aspx>

Office of the Governor
<http://www.governor.wa.gov>

OSPI
<http://www.k12.wa.us>

TVW
<http://www.tvw.org>

Bill Watch

TWIO tracks critical education bills each week as they are introduced. Detailed bill information can be accessed by clicking on the bill number. The following is a list of the bills of highest interest to school administrators. A more comprehensive bill watch list is located on the [WASA website](#).

Bill #	Title	Status	Prime
HB 1025	Providing flexibility for school districts.	H Education	Crouse
HB 1064	Changing school truancy provisions.	H Judiciary	Appleton
ESHB 1086	Making 2009–2011 supplemental operating appropriations.	S Ways & Means	Hunter
HB 1087	Making 2011–2013 operating appropriations.	H Ways & Means	Hunter
HB 1131	Regarding student achievement fund allocations.	H Education Apps	Haigh
HB 1132	Regarding reducing compensation for educational and academic employees.	H Education Apps	Haigh
HB 1139	Concerning providing agencies notice of a dispute under the public records act and an opportunity to cure error in the production of public records.	H SGTribalAff	Armstrong
HB 1163	Concerning harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention.	H Education	Liias
HB 1164	Providing leave from employment for participating in a child's educational activities.	H Exec Action	Liias
HB 1168	Concerning career and technical education.	H Education	Liias
HB 1208	Requiring notification of sex offenders attending schools.	H Pub Safety	Pearson
SHB 1251	Revising education provisions to implement budget reductions.	H Rules R	Hunter
HB 1252	Changing the apportionment schedule to educational service districts for the 2010–11 school year.	H Ways & Means	Hunt
HB 1299	Regarding conferences for public records requests disputes.	H SGTribalAff	Takko
HB 1300	Regarding the recovery of the costs of production and copying of public records.	H SGTribalAff	Moeller
HB 1325	Providing for statewide school district reorganization.	H Education	Hunt
HB 1330	Adjusting high school assessments as graduation requirements.	H Education	Rolfes
HB 1331	Allocating federal forest revenue to public schools based on resident students.	H Education	Hunt
HB 1354	Changing the apportionment schedule to educational service districts and school districts for the 2010–11 school year.	H Ways & Means	Hunt
HB 1410	Regarding science end-of-course assessments.	H Education	Santos
HB 1412	Regarding mathematics end-of-course assessments.	H Education	Santos
HB 1414	Authorizing waivers of state requirements for school districts.	H Education	Dahlquist
HB 1415	Prioritizing basic education expenditures within the state appropriations process.	H Ways & Means	Dahlquist
HB 1431	Addressing financial insolvency of school districts.	H Education	Anderson
HB 1443	Continuing education reforms.	H Education	Maxwell
HB 1447	Encouraging innovation in public schools.	H Education	Hunt
HB 1449	Establishing a processing fee for educator certificates.	H Education Apps	Hunter
HB 1451	Eliminating the goal of global challenge state funding levels.	H Hi Ed	Haler
HB 1463	Eliminating the use of statewide assessments as a high school graduation requirement.	H Education	McCoy
HB 1470	Regarding access to K–12 campuses for occupational or educational information.	H Education	Bailey
HB 1497	Adopting a 2011–2013 capital budget.	H Cap Budget	Dunshee

HB 1499	Regarding alternative learning programs.	H Education	Liias
HB 1510	Regarding an assessment of students in state-funded full-day kindergarten classrooms.	H Education	Kagi
HB 1519	Regarding school assessments for students with cognitive disabilities.	H Education	Hope
HB 1521	Recognizing Washington innovation schools.	H Education	Maxwell
HB 1524	Recognizing the international baccalaureate diploma.	H Education	Orwall
HB 1530	Limiting government responsibilities under provisions of the Becca bill.	H Ways & Means	Pedersen
HB 1546	Authorizing creation of innovation schools and innovation zones in school districts.	H Education	Hargrove
HB 1549	Requiring notification to schools regarding the release of certain offenders.	H Erly Lrn/H Svc	Dahlquist
HB 1593	Establishing a residency provisional principal certification.	H Education	Carlyle
HB 1599	Establishing the pay for actual student success dropout prevention program.	H Education	Probst
HB 1600	Concerning elementary math specialists.	H Education	Probst
HB 1607	Providing a limited exemption from school day and hour requirements in order to mitigate state funding reductions.	H Education	Rolfes
HB 1609	Regarding school employee workforce reductions and assignments.	H Education	Pettigrew
HB 1633	Changing the age of compulsory school attendance.	H Education	Kelley
HB 1669	Regarding the educational opportunity gap.	H Education	Santos
HB 1675	Requiring agencies to disclose the estimated costs of compliance with public records requests.	H SGTribalAff	Reykdal
HB 1684	Regarding online financial education in public schools.	H Education	Maxwell
HB 1703	Addressing fiscal notes for legislation that uniquely affects school districts.	H Education Apps	Dammeier
HB 1710	Creating a strategic plan for career and technical education.	H Education	Moscoso
HB 1734	Preventing students from possessing sharp-bladed instruments on school facilities.	H Judiciary	Klippert
HB 1808	Creating the launch year program.	H Hi Ed	Lytton
HB 1814	Preserving the school district levy base.	H Education Apps	Sullivan
HB 1815	Preserving the school district levy base.	H Education Apps	Sullivan
HB 1818	Authorizing the publishing of legal or official notices within an online database.	H Local Govt	Hunter
HJR 4210	Amending the Constitution to prioritize basic education expenditures within the state appropriations process.	H Ways & Means	Dahlquist
SB 5005	Concerning exemption from immunization.	S 2nd Reading	Keiser
SSB 5049	Implementing recommendations of the sunshine committee.	S Rules 2	Kline
SB 5062	Concerning providing agencies notice of a dispute under the public records act and an opportunity to cure error in the production of public records.	S GovtOp & Elect	Pridemore
SB 5088	Regarding the recovery of the costs of production and copying of public records.	S GovtOp & Elect	Haugen
SB 5089	Regarding conferences for public records requests disputes.	S GovtOp & Elect	Hatfield
SSB 5093	Revising education provisions to implement budget reductions.	S Ways & Means	McAuliffe
SB 5094	Making 2011–2013 operating appropriations.	S Ways & Means	Murray
SB 5095	Making 2011 supplemental operating appropriations.	S Ways & Means	Murray
SB 5142	Regarding alternative learning programs.	S EL/K–12	Stevens
SB 5174	Encouraging instruction in the history of civil rights.	S EL/K–12	Chase
SSB 5184	Regarding compliance reports for second-class school districts.	S Rules 2	Schoesler

SB 5189	Regarding access to K-12 campuses for occupational or educational information.	S EL/K-12	Hobbs
SSB 5191	Providing flexibility in the education system.	S Rules 2	Hobbs
SB 5196	Authorizing school districts to charge for extra mileage costs for certain students attending schools outside their attendance areas.	S EL/K-12	Hatfield
SB 5220	Authorizing advertising on school buses.	S EL/K-12	Shin
SB 5226	Regarding science end-of-course assessments.	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5227	Regarding mathematics end-of-course assessments.	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SSB 5239	Requiring a definition of "resident" for purposes of the allocation method used to distribute federal forest revenue to schools.	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5285	Concerning the issuance of liquor licenses for businesses located near schools.	S Lab/Comm/CP	Ranker
SB 5317	Concerning shared parenting and its impact on youth school dropout and crime prevention.	S HumServ/Corr	Kastama
SB 5346	Authorizing education vouchers.	S EL/K-12	Swecker
SB 5392	Including technology as a stated educational core concept and principle.	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5399	Regarding school employee workforce reductions and assignments.	S EL/K-12	Tom
SB 5427	Regarding an assessment of students in state-funded full-day kindergarten classrooms.	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5428	Requiring notification to schools regarding the release of certain offenders.	S HumServ/Corr	McAuliffe
SB 5455	Regarding teacher performance.	S EL/K-12	Zarelli
SB 5467	Adopting a 2011-2013 capital budget.	S Ways & Means	Kilmer
SB 5470	Regarding reducing compensation for educational and academic employees.	S Ways & Means	Murray
SB 5471	Regarding student achievement fund allocations.	S Ways & Means	Murray
SB 5472	Changing the apportionment schedule to educational service districts and school districts for the 2010-11 school year.	S Ways & Means	Murray
SB 5475	Regarding education funding.	S EL/K-12	Murray
SB 5476	Changing school bus depreciation provisions.	S Ways & Means	Murray
SB 5479	Regarding high school mathematics and science assessments.	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5511	Providing a limited exemption from school day and hour requirements in order to mitigate state funding reductions.	S EL/K-12	Rockefeller
SB 5512	Increasing public access to public records.	S GovtOp & Elect	Roach
SB 5522	Creating the office of the superintendent of public instruction as an executive branch agency.	S EL/K-12	Tom
SB 5540	Authorizing the use of automated school bus safety cameras.	S Transportation	Hobbs
SB 5553	Requiring public agencies, special purpose districts, and municipalities to post certain information on their web sites.	S GovtOp & Elect	Roach
SB 5568	Concerning equity in school district salary allocations.	S EL/K-12	Eide
SB 5603	Regarding online education.	S EL/K-12	Tom
SB 5612	Requiring school districts or educational service districts to purchase employee health insurance coverage through the state health care authority.	S EL/K-12	Hobbs