



Washington State
School Directors' Association

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Dr. Jonelle Adams

PHONE 360.493.9231

TOLL FREE 800.562.8927

FAX 360.493.9247

April 5, 2011

TO: All Legislative Representatives and School Superintendents
FROM: Rick Jansons, WSSDA Legislative Committee Chair and
Marie Sullivan, Governmental Relations Director
RE: Request for Proposals for 2012 Legislative Session

Although the 2011 legislative session has not yet adjourned, we must begin to plan for next year's legislative agenda. Enclosed is the Legislative Proposal form for your use. This form is to be used to submit proposals for the 2012 legislative session. This proposal process is the first step in WSSDA's Legislative advocacy process.

WSSDA's advocacy efforts at the state level are a year-round, grass-roots process. Each year during the spring, WSSDA's elected Legislative Committee solicits "legislative proposals" or ideas as to how to improve educational laws and funding, from every school board. The Committee analyzes those proposals, adds some of its own, and then makes recommendations for the annual Legislative Assembly, held in September. This year the Legislative Assembly will be held in Pasco, September 23-24.

At each September Assembly, Legislative Representatives meet to debate and vote on the many proposals submitted by school directors. Also at the Assembly, Legislative Representatives recommend the top 10 legislative priorities for each year. Those priorities are formed into a "short list" of 3-4 top priorities by the Legislative Committee. The top priorities are then ratified by WSSDA's elected Board of Directors.

WSSDA staff is directed to prioritize its time on those issues determined by the Board to be of greatest importance, but staff will also assist on any bill or budget proposal that has been approved by the delegates to the annual Legislative Assembly.

We request Legislative Representatives ensure there is time scheduled on your district's board agenda for discussing legislative proposals for 2012. We want to be sure that concerns and views of all districts are considered. If your legislative representative is new to this process or would like more information before proceeding, please contact Marie at 360.252.3010.

(Over, please)

221 College Street NE
Olympia, Washington 98516
wssda.org

Prior to completing the proposal form, please review the WSSDA Positions book, to see if your issue or proposal is already covered. If the issue you are concerned about is already a Standing Legislative Position (SLP), **there is no need to submit a similar proposal** (there will be an opportunity to prioritize current Standing Legislative Positions at the Legislative Assembly). If your issue or proposal is not an SLP but is a 2011 legislative position, your district may want to submit it for consideration in 2012.

WSSDA 2011 Legislative Positions can be found at wssda.org. Look for the cream-colored navigation site on the left-hand side of the wssda.org home page. Click on "Advocacy & Legislation." If you have trouble with the link, please contact Sheila Chard for assistance at 800.562.8927 or 360.252.3011.

If you do not have Internet access, please contact us toll-free at 800.562.8927 for a copy of the 2011 positions book. **The deadline for proposals is Friday, May 27, 2011. Facsimile copies are acceptable, and may be faxed to 360.493.9247 or mailed to WSSDA at 221 College Street NE, Olympia, WA, 98516.**

Thank you for helping us develop our 2012 Legislative Program. Advocacy is a major activity for your state association. If we can be of assistance or if you have questions, feel free to contact the Legislative & Governmental Relations staff at 800.562.8927 or 360.252.3011.

Enclosure: Proposal form

Proposal Form for 2012 Legislative Session Positions



Washington State
School Directors' Association

**Deadline for Submission
Friday, May 27, 2011**

**Washington State School Directors'
Association
221 College Street NE
Olympia, WA 98516-5313
360.252.3011
FAX: 360.493.9247
*wssda.org***

(Instructions on back)

Instructions for completion of Legislative Proposal Form

Each year, WSSDA's Legislative Committee requests legislative proposals from school boards in order to develop our annual legislative package. These proposals, together with our ongoing permanent positions, are annually prioritized so that legislators and our own WSSDA staff understand what we believe to be the most important legislative issues. Your participation in this process strengthens our Association, and therefore, our influence with legislators.

Each proposal submitted by a school board is reviewed by the Legislative Committee and given a **DO PASS** or **DO NOT PASS** recommendation. Each of these proposals (unless later withdrawn) is presented to the membership at the September Legislative Assembly for debate, passage and prioritization. Proposals submitted by individuals or other organizations will be presented to the membership only if given a DO PASS recommendation by the Legislative Committee.

A summary of the 2011 Legislative Session will be available when session concludes. In order to facilitate a smooth process, we ask that you take the following recommendations into consideration:

1. Please check WSSDA's Standing Legislative Positions (SLPs) to see if the subject of your issue or proposal is already covered. If so, there is no need to submit a similar proposal.
2. Forms must be **legible. Typewritten, computer-generated, or printed forms are preferred.** Hand-written forms are acceptable if legible. A copy of the form is available for download/printing at wssda.org. Make as many copies of the form as needed. Unreadable proposals can cause delay and may not be considered.
3. Please observe deadlines and plan accordingly. Proposals must be **received** by WSSDA no later than **Friday, May 27, 2011.**
4. It is helpful to provide as much supporting information as possible so that the proposal can receive full consideration.
5. You are encouraged to offer specific wording for your proposal, or you may request assistance from the WSSDA Legislative Committee or WSSDA staff. Please check the appropriate box on the form. If you need assistance, please submit your form as early as possible.
6. In the event that several districts share a common concern, we may contact those districts to request combining those proposals with agreed-upon wording.

2012 Legislative Session Proposal Form

Proposal submitted by (school district): _____

- Please check WSSDA's Positions Book at wssda.org to see if the subject of your issue or proposal is already covered by a standing (permanent) legislative position.
- Please provide a typewritten, computer-generated or hand-written legible form.
- The deadline for submission to the WSSDA office is **Friday, May 27, 2011**.
- Facsimile proposals are acceptable. Fax completed proposal forms to 360.493.9247.
- Forms can be mailed to: WSSDA, 221 College Street NE, Olympia, WA 98516

1. Issue/Concern for the Legislative Committee:

The following is an issue of great concern to our school district:

2. Please check one of the following statements:

- Please have a member of the WSSDA Legislative Committee or WSSDA staff contact our board Legislative Representative to develop a specific proposal.
(NOTE: If this option is desired, please do not wait until the deadline to contact us.) -OR-
- The following specific proposal could address or resolve our issue/concern:

The WSSDA shall initiate and/or support ...

3. We believe the issue should be addressed by (please check appropriate boxes):

- State Legislature
- State Board of Education
- Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
- U.S. Congress
- Please address this issue to the appropriate body

(Over, please)

4. Statements of Support/Explanation:

- a) Please explain why this issue has statewide implications and should be a top priority of WSSDA.

- b) Please explain the consequences to your district if this issue is not resolved.

- c) What are the potential consequences to other districts?

- d) How does this issue/proposal affect students and improve student learning?

- e) What are the costs of implementing your proposed solution, if one is proposed?

- f) How would the proposal increase public confidence in public education?

5. Please indicate which of the following apply to your district:

- This proposal is being submitted by the _____ School District.
 - This proposal has received approval by the school board.
 - This proposal has not received approval by the school board.
 - Approval is pending by the school board.

- This proposal is being submitted by an individual or group, other than a school board.
 - Name of group or individual: _____

Your name and position: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email address: _____

Proposal submitted by: _____

Deadline – May 27, 2011