

# Legislative Update

Board Meeting

May 6, 2019

# Legislative Calendar

| January 14, 2019 | First day of session                        |
|------------------|---|
| March 25, 2019   | House release budget proposal (ESHB 1109)   |
| March 29, 2019   | Senate released budget proposal (PSSB 5153) |
| April 27, 2019   | Final Conference Budget released (SB 4569)  |
| April 28, 2019   | Last day for regular session                |

# LWSD Legislative Priorities

- Developed Priorities in Fall 2018
- Met with local legislators in December and January



## Lake Washington School District #414 2019 Legislative Platform Priorities

**Four Learning Communities    One District    For All Kids**

### Mission

Each student will graduate prepared to lead a rewarding responsible life as a contributing member of our community and greater society.

### Vision

Every Student Future Ready. Prepared for college. Prepared for the global workplace. Prepared for personal success.

### Ensure Academic Success for Every Student

**Provide Support for all Students.** We believe the legislature should support every student in receiving a quality public education, regardless of background, race, ability, or status.

We believe the following areas must be prioritized for full funding to provide a comprehensive array of services that are research-based and proven to have long-term impacts on student achievement:

- 1) **Special education programs and services** - reduce reliance on local funding sources and ensure that resources are aligned with actual costs related to appropriate services
- 2) **High-quality early childhood education for all children** - prioritize funding for early childhood programs and facilities
- 3) **Social emotional learning** - allocate adequate funding to support increased training and appropriate staffing at all levels
- 4) **Differentiated supports for all students** - increase funding to program supports for English Language Learners (ELL) and highly capable programs and training opportunities.

### Maintain Flexibility to Meet Local Community Needs and Priorities

**Protect Community Voice in Education.** We believe the legislature should ensure that local school communities maintain maximum flexibility to fund enrichment beyond Basic Education in an equitable, consistent manner. We believe that local schools districts should maintain the authority to collect local dollars to fund local needs and priorities of students, above and beyond what the legislature has deemed Basic Education.

Other local funds, including grants and donations should be exempt from limitations and retain full flexibility for district use.

### Provide Safe and Innovative Learning Environments

**To meet the academic needs of all students and provide safe and secure schools, school districts must have the ability to adequately fund resources, including: learning supports, specialized staffing, facilities, educational programs and services. To ensure resources are available, we believe the following areas must be prioritized:**

**Allow for Simple Majority Passage of all School Finance Issues.** We believe the legislature should propose a constitutional amendment that would provide for the approval of school district finance measures by simple majority and would eliminate the supermajority approval requirements based on voter turnout in the previous elections. School districts must have greater ability to fund new construction solutions that may be necessary to accommodate rapid growth and safety-related facility improvements.

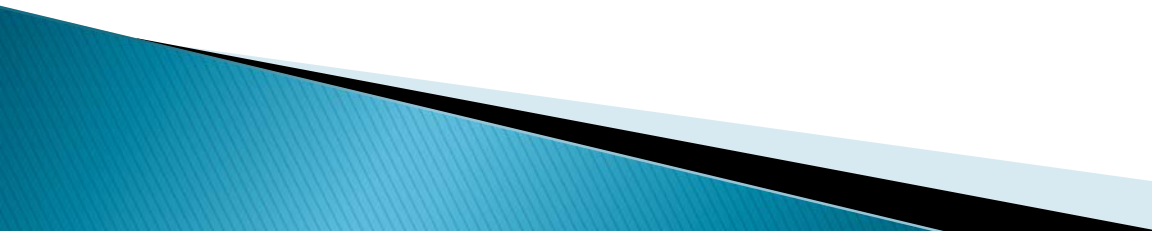
**Update the State Formula for School Construction Funding Assistance from Pre-1979 Standards.** We believe the legislature should increase the state's funding formulas for school construction to ensure funding more closely aligns with actual construction costs and educational needs. In addition, we believe school districts should be exempted from state sales tax on capital construction costs, just as state ferry construction and stadium parking are exempt.

### Recruit, Hire, and Retain Highly Effective Personnel

**Fully Fund the True Costs of Public School Employee Compensation.** We believe the legislature should continue to work toward an adequate compensation model for all public-school employees needed to operate schools and support students. We believe regionalization must be maintained and implemented in an equitable manner that appropriately addresses actual cost of living differences between districts. We believe the legislature should provide adequate funding to school districts for the costs of the State Employees Benefits Board (SEBB) and consider delayed implementation until operational and funding requirement issues have been adequately addressed and resolved.

**Lake Washington Board of Directors:** Siri Bliesner, President; Mark Stuart, Vice President; Chris Carlson, Director; Eric Laliberte, Director; and Cassandra Sage, Director.  
**Superintendent:** Dr. Jane Stavem

# Ensure Academic Success For All Students

- ✓ Special Education programs and services
    - Reduce reliance on local funding sources
  - ✗ High-Quality early childhood education for all children
    - Prioritize funding for early childhood programs
  - ✗ Social emotional learning
    - Allocate adequate funding to support increased training and staffing
  - ✗ Differentiated supports for all students
    - Increase funding to program supports for English Language and Highly Capable
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# Ensure Academic Success For All Students

## Special Education Programs and Services

- ▶ Special Education is one of the programs that remains underfunded by the state.
- ▶ Final proposal increases the funding “multiplier” in order to drive more funds to districts.
  - Year 2 implements a “two-tier” formula with a different rate for students spending 80% or more in a general education classroom vs. those spending less than 80% in a general education classroom
- ▶ Any new revenue will be needed to provide for actual costs that exceed current budget.

|                         | Multiplier |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Current                 | .9609      |
| 2019–20 (Year 1)        | .9950      |
| 2020–21 (Year 2)        |            |
| Tier I (80% or more)    | 1.0075     |
| Tier II (less than 80%) | .9950      |

# Ensure Academic Success For All Students

## Special Education (cont.)

- ▶ The proposal increases funding for special education safety net which allows the threshold to access safety net to be lowered.

# Ensure Academic Success For All Students

## Student Health

- ▶ EHB 1638 – Eliminates personal exemptions from MMR vaccines.
  - Potential impact to enrollment.

# Maintain Flexibility to Meet Local Community Needs and Priorities

## ✓ Protect Community Voice in Education

- Maintain the authority to collect local dollars to fund local needs above and beyond Basic Education.



# Maintain Flexibility to Meet Local Community Needs and Priorities

## Operational Levy Proposal

- Current Law: Levy is the lessor of \$2,500 per pupil or \$1.50/\$1,000 AV

Final Proposal (ESSB 5313)


Levy at \$2,500 per pupil (or \$2.50/\$1,000 AV)

|                            | 2020           | 2022 Est       |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Maximum Lid                | \$77.4M        | \$82.5M        |
| Amount Per pupil           | \$2,500        | \$2,500        |
| LWSD Voter Approved Amount | \$62.2M        | \$67.7M        |
| <b>Amount Per pupil</b>    | <b>\$2,052</b> | <b>\$2,183</b> |

Additional reporting requirements and audit penalties were part of the bill.


In February 2018, LWSD asked voters for less than the state authorized amount due to the additional revenue received from McCleary. LWSD would not benefit from any legislative changes until the Educational Programs and Operations Levy is renewed in February 2022 for collection beginning in 2023.

# Provide Safe and Innovative Learning Environments

- ✗ Allow for Simple Majority Passage of all School Finance Issues
    - Eliminate the supermajority approval requirement for new construction
  - ✗ Update the State Formula for School Construction Funding Assistance from Pre-1979 Standards
    - Increase the state funding formulas for school construction
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# Provide Safe and Innovative Learning Environments

## Regional School Safety Coordinators

- ▶ Provided funding for regional school safety coordinators at all nine educational services districts.
  - ▶ Provides for system of prevention, early identification, and intervention.
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# Recruit, Hire, and Retain Highly Effective Personnel

- x Fully Fund the True Costs of Public School Employee Compensation
  - x Continue to work towards an adequate compensation model for public school employees
  - ✓ Maintain regionalization
  - x Provide adequate funding for the costs of SEBB and consider delayed implementation

# Recruit, Hire, and Retain Highly Effective Personnel

## Employee Compensation – School Employee Benefits Board (SEBB)

- ▶ Funding is provided to implement the SEBB effective January 1, 2020.
- ▶ Moves district staff to statewide program
- ▶ Provides enhanced benefits for part-time employees
- ▶ Proposal has lowered the statewide cost estimates from \$900 million to \$500 million.
  - Lowered costs by using different assumptions regarding use of reserves, inflation, etc.
  - Concern that numbers have been lowered to ensure passage and then costs will significantly increase after first year.
- ▶ Will require significant unfunded local costs from districts as state did not provide full funding for enhanced benefits, nor did it provide funding for transition or training.

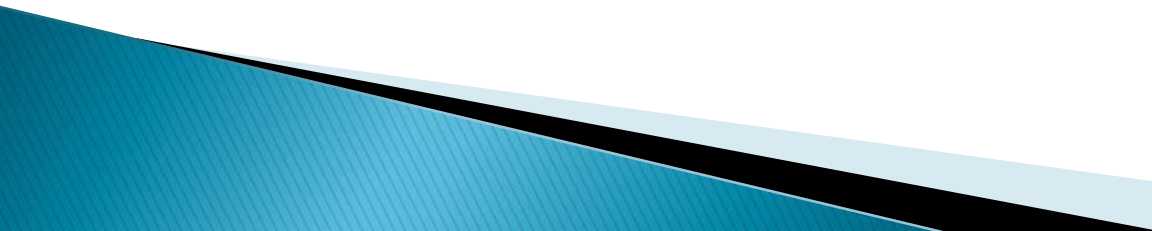
# Recruit, Hire, and Retain Highly Effective Personnel

## Paraeducator Training

- ▶ ESHB 1115 was adopted in July 2017.
  - Required additional training for all paraeducators (instructional assistants and special education paraeducators).
  - Requirements were subject to appropriations.
- ▶ Final proposal requires training beginning in the 2019–20 school year.
  - Will be reimbursed at the end of the year through a grant process.
  - Specific funding model is unknown.

# Recruit, Hire, and Retain Highly Effective Personnel

## Paraeducator Training (cont.)

- ▶ Requires 2 days of training.
  - ▶ Training is required for all current and newly hired employees.
  - ▶ Once initial training is completed, there are additional annual training requirements.
  - ▶ Significant unfunded local costs for this training.
    - Note: legislation provides equal training days to the two days teachers are currently funded for.
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# Recruit, Hire, and Retain Highly Effective Personnel

## Professional Learning Days

- ▶ Proposal includes the planned increase from one to two professional learning days for teachers; the third day will be funded in 2020–21.