

The Edmonds School District and its Board of Directors are dedicated to collaborating with policymakers to enhance public education in Washington state. In the 2024 Legislative Session, aligning with the priorities outlined by the Washington State School Directors' Association, our district is placing special emphasis on the following priorities:

PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR AMPLE, EQUITABLE AND STABLE EDUCATION

School districts are expected to implement all aspects of Washington's program of basic education, including graduation requirements. In order to do so effectively, schools must have more qualified adults in classrooms and buildings. To recruit and retain the best staff, districts must provide compensation increases equitably across all positions.

The legislature does not fully fund the cost of compensation increases. The legislature increases state funding for compensation according to the implicit price deflator (IPD). For every 1% increase in the IPD, the local cost to the district is estimated at \$977,000. The IPD for 2023-24 was 3.7%. The \$3,615,000 to fund this increase came from local dollars.

MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

Our district strives to meet the needs of students equitably by implementing state and federal special education requirements. However, we face a challenge as the state does not provide sufficient resources to support these efforts.

During the 2022-23 school year, \$10.2 million of funding came from our local levy to support special education. For the 2023-24 school year, we anticipate spending \$9.8 million local levy dollars to meet mandated special education obligations. We ask the legislature to fully fund special education to support the needs of all students.

FEED STUDENTS

Thank you to our legislators who advanced expanding access to school meals during the 2023 legislative session. Our district advocates for offering universal free and nutritious school meals for *all students* to eliminate barriers for families and maintain a focus on student learning.

We aim to eliminate the stigma associated with school meals, and when meals are provided free for all students, we observe a rise in students participation at meal time which contributes to academic success.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carin Chase, Legislative Rep.
Hawk Cramer, Director
Dr. Deborah Kilgore, Vice-President

Keith Smith, Director
Dr. Nancy Katims, President

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Rebecca Miner