



City Of Kenmore, Washington

Dear Members of the Washington State Legislature,

Like many communities across the state, Kenmore is proud of our local school district. Northshore School District is a huge reason many families have moved to Kenmore and the surrounding areas. They are an integral and central pillar of our community, and an invaluable community partner.

As you know, school districts across the state are facing catastrophic budget deficits, and Northshore School District is no different - facing an estimated \$26 million deficit for the 2024/25 school year, after making \$22 million worth of cuts for their 2023/24 school year. As you can imagine, these cuts have the potential to be devastating to the students and families of Kenmore and the other communities throughout the school district.

Like many districts across the state, state funding has not been adequate to meet the needs of the district to educate their students, and the district has been forced to use local levy funds to adequately fund its education programs. This is unsustainable, and not what the Legislature envisioned when it passed the McCleary fix a few years back.

I am writing today on behalf of the City of Kenmore to express our support of Northshore's budget request, both for a short-term infusion of surplus funds to our school districts, along with their request for a task force to work on long-term school funding solutions.

Public education is a foundation on which we build our future. Please do everything you can to ensure that that foundation stays solid for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Nigel Herbig
Mayor
City of Kenmore