

# 2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Washington State lawmakers have a critical opportunity and a responsibility to strengthen the systems that support student wellbeing, equitable access to learning, and the essential operations of our schools.

By acting on the priorities outlined below in 2026, the Legislature can help ensure every student in Washington has the resources and support needed to thrive.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

Support the whole child by:

- funding additional mental and behavioral health services
- strengthening the provider pipeline
- realigning staffing allocations so schools have the counselors, psychologists, nurses, family advocates, and other building-level support positions needed to provide comprehensive care for students

## UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Ensure every student has access to the nutrition needed for learning by providing universal free school meals for all students statewide.

## ADEQUATE MSOC FUNDING

Increase Materials, Supplies, and Operating Costs (MSOC) allocations to keep pace with rising insurance, utility, and other operational expenses so districts can sustain safe and functional learning environments.

## SUSTAIN CURRENT INVESTMENT IN SCHOOLS

Keep K-12 education funding at current and inflation-adjusted levels. Re-invest any declining enrollment amounts equitably into the K-12 system.

## NO UNFUNDED MANDATES

Ensure all existing and new public school directives receive the necessary funding for implementation.

### SHORELINE FAST FACTS

16 SCHOOLS

9,250+ wonderfully diverse K-12 students

13% Multilingual Learners  
32% Low Income  
13% Special Education  
10% Section 504

81 LANGUAGES

#### RACE/ETHNICITY

American Indian/Alaskan Native = 0.2%  
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander = 0.5%  
Black/African American = 9.6%  
Asian = 12.4%  
Two or more races = 12.5%  
Hispanic/Latino of any race(s) = 16.6%  
White = 48.2%

