



Legislative Priorities

Tumwater School District

2019 Washington State Legislative Session

EQUITABLE & AMPLE FUNDING

- **Increase Levies:** Restore lost capacity for local communities to approve enrichment levies to support enrichment activities the state is not funding.
- **Revise Regionalization:** Revise regionalization funding to address significant funding inequities among school districts and utilize actual cost of living indicators within each region.
- **Fund Staff Experience:** Fund salaries based upon staff experience. The current use of a statewide average disadvantages districts employing very experienced staff.
- **Fund Health Care:** Delay the implementation of the new SEBB program until the legislature fully funds the cost.
- **Delay K-3 Class Size:** Delay K-3 class size requirements until adequate staff and facility funding is provided by the legislature.
- **Fund Special Education:** Increase the special education multiplier and safety net funding for students needing significant and costly

SAFETY & HEALTH

- **Fund Support Staff:** Increase funding for school nurses, social workers, counselors, mental health professionals and other support staff at nationally recommended staffing ratios.
- **Fund School Security:** Establish ample funding for school security services in the prototypical funding model. Invest in regional safety centers at each educational service district.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

- **Simple Majority - Bonds:** Advance a constitutional amendment allowing voters to approve school bond measures with a simple majority.
- **Fund Actual Costs:** Increase Construction Cost Allowance and Student Space Allocations to align with true construction costs and square-footage needs.
- **Provide Stable Funding:** Increase dedicated funding sources for school construction in addition to the Common School Trust.

"We believe the equitable and ample investment of state resources to support the education and welfare of all students in our state is an investment in the quality of our future. A child's zip code should never determine of the quality of education a school district is able to provide."

Tumwater School Board

Melissa Beard

Kim Reykdal

Rita Luce

Janine Ward

Jay Wood

Tumwater Policy & Funding Impacts

EQUITABLE & AMPLE FUNDING

- **Lost Voter-Approved Levy:** 2019: <\$8,238,642>; 2020: <\$8,586,307>
- **No Regionalization: Example:** North Thurston gets 6% more per state funded teacher in 2018-19; \$3,913 more per teacher than Tumwater. **If Tumwater received the same 6%, this would mean \$1,228,291 more to help us compete locally.**
- **No Staff Experience Funding:** Tumwater's average staff "mix" in 2017-18 was 1.58 compared to the state average of 1.53. Olympia was at 1.59 and will receive 4% more per teacher in state "experience factor" funding starting in 2019-20. **If Tumwater received the same 4% as Olympia, this would mean \$818,852 more to help us compete locally.**
- **New Health Care Costs:** the SEBB program **will require Tumwater to provide benefits to approximately 88 more staff and substitutes who do not currently participate or are not currently eligible for benefits.** It is unclear if the state will fully fund these new costs.
- **Unfunded K-3 Class Size:** Tumwater will need to employ six (6) more full time teachers in 2019-20 to comply with the K-3 class size ratio at a cost to the district of \$83,648 (plus benefits) per teacher **for a total new district cost of \$677,549 with no additional funding from the state.**
- **Fund Special Education:** **Tumwater is currently spending \$495,981** to serve special needs students beyond what the state currently provides.

SAFETY & HEALTH

- **Unfunded Support Staff:** Tumwater currently employs the following support staff needs beyond what the state allocates:
 - Paraeducators 23.5 FTE
 - Office Support 8.3 FTE
 - Custodians 6.1 FTE
 - Safety Personnel 3.4 FTE
 - Librarians 2.1 FTE
 - Counselors 2.7 FTE
 - Social Workers .6 FTE
 - School Nurses 2 FTE

This \$3,794,182 in added staff costs are currently funded by our voter-approved levy, which is being reduced by \$8,238,642 in 2019 and \$8,568,307 in 2020.

- **Unfunded School Security:** In addition to the security personnel listed above, **the district also pays the City of Tumwater \$120,000 using the same declining local levy funds for the School Resource Officer (SRO) program with no assistance from the state.**

