



September 6, 2016

Honorable Co-Chairs and Members of the Educational Funding Task Force,

Thank you for the opportunity to address this task force. For the record, I am Bill Keim, Executive Director of the Washington Association of School Administrators. WASA previously submitted a comprehensive set of recommendations regarding the decisions this task force was created to address. With today's time, I would like to highlight a few issues related to those recommendations.

### 1. Program of Basic Education

In our recommendations on this topic, we urged the Legislature to implement the prototypical school funding model as defined in the QEC 2010 Report. With my written comments, I've included a spreadsheet that provides more information. It provides the QEC recommended values for 2018, along with previous recommendations, the I-1351 values, and current allocations. In the second column, you see the district staffing and costs that are over the funded formula. In the interest of time, I'll just highlight one of those allocation problems:

- Health and Social Services (i.e., nurses)— .068 FTE for a prototypical middle school.

Anyone who's visited a middle school would know how unworkable that staffing level is. At the bottom of the spreadsheet, you can see that the total staffing allocation shortfall funded by districts in 2014–15 was over \$600,000 or \$1.2 billion per biennium.

Also, while transportation is considered fully funded, the 2014–15 allocation didn't meet costs for 148 school districts. In that year, those districts paid over \$35 million or \$70 million a biennium in local funds to meet their transportation costs.

There are similar, serious shortfalls in special education, substitutes, and professional development. Regarding substitutes, it's worth noting that there is no state allocation for classified substitutes. All of these issues must be addressed before full state funding of basic education can be declared.

## 2. Levies and Levy Swap

Local levies provide the resources used by school districts to make insufficient state allocations work. When the state fully funds those basic education costs, it stands to reason that local levy authority could be reduced. There are two significant problems, however, with levy swap proposals:

- A swap by its very nature doesn't increase revenue, and the current levels of combined state and local education funding are not ample. More revenue is needed, and a swap doesn't by itself get us there.
- A swap also tends to be seen as a simultaneous action. Given the complexity of unraveling current local funding of basic education, a simultaneous swap is not feasible. The transportation formula mentioned previously is but one of many examples where district costs aren't met by what's called full state funding. Given that reality, any reduction in levy authority should only occur after new state funding is integrated into the system. To do otherwise, invites chaos that will harm students.

## 3. Local Collective Bargaining

A wise person once said, "When you find yourself in a hole, it's a good idea to quit digging." In regard to local collective bargaining for basic education salaries, it is past time to stop digging. It is imperative that in 2017, the Legislature put a moratorium on any further TRI salary enhancements as defined in RCW 28A.400.200. After basic education salaries are fully funded by the state, local flexibility for time-based, non-basic education salary enhancements may be warranted. Until that happens, the current TRI salary provisions continue to take us farther from the court-mandated full state funding of basic education.

Thank you again for the opportunity to address this task force. Please know that WASA stands ready to assist you; and we look forward to helping find appropriate solutions to these difficult problems.



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**SUMMARY OF KEY WASHINGTON STATE BASIC EDUCATION FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PAST DECADE**  
**Compiled by Washington Association of School Administrators**  
 September 1, 2016

Allocation Categories	2014-15 Actuals and 2015-16 Allocation		2013			2010			2009			2009			2006					
	District Staffing**		Current Formula			I-1351 Voter Approved			Quality Education Council Proposed 2018 Levels			Funding Formula TWG Baseline HB 2261			Joint TF Basic Ed Funding			WA Learns*		
District Level	Amount over Formula																			
Teacher Allocation Average Class Size	FTE	Funding Shortfall																		
Average Class Size			Reg/High Poverty			Reg/High Poverty			Reg/High Poverty			Reg/High Poverty								
K-3			25.3/20.3			17/15			15/15			23.11/23.11			15/15			18.0		
4-6	4,514	(\$164,102,930)	27.0/27.0			25/23 (22 4th Gr)			25/23 (22 4th Gr)			27/27 (23.1 4th Gr)			25/22			25.0		
7-8			28.5/28.5			25/23			25/23			28.53/28.53			25/23			25.0		
9-12			28.7/28.7			25/23			25/23			28.74/28.74			25/22			25.0		
HS Lab Science												28.74			16/16					
Planning Time / Specialists			Added Staffing Factor															Added Staffing Factor		
K-3			15.5%															20.0%		
4-6			15.5%															20.0%		
7-8			20.0%															20.0%		
9-12			20.0%															33.0%		
School Level Staffing			Elem.	MS	HS	Elem.	MS	HS	Elem.	MS	HS	Elem.	MS	HS	Elem.	MS	HS	Elem.	MS	HS
			staff per 400	staff per 432	staff per 600	staff per 400	staff per 432	staff per 600	staff per 400	staff per 432	staff per 600	staff per 400	staff per 432	staff per 600	staff per 400	staff per 432	staff per 600	staff per 432	staff per 450	staff per 600
Librarian	(145)	\$3,819,468	0.663	0.519	0.523	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.663	0.519	0.523	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00
Counselor	78	(\$4,855,017)	0.493	1.216	2.539	0.50	2.00	3.50	0.50	2.00	3.50	0.493	1.116	1.909	0.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	2.80	3.40
Health and Social Services	300	(\$13,121,588)	0.135	0.068	0.118	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.135	0.068	0.118	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.0 FTE for 100 FR Students		
Parent/Family Engagement Coord.	(61)	\$921,806	0.083			1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.75	2.20	2.25	3.00
PD Coaches / Coordinators									0.60	0.70	1.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.50	0.50	0.75	2.20	2.25	3.00
Teaching Assistance	116	(\$4,922,031)	0.936	0.700	0.652	2.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.936	0.700	0.652	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	3.00
Office Support	1,269	(\$78,800,952)	2.012	2.325	3.269	3.00	3.50	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.50	2.012	2.325	3.269	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	3.00
Custodians	924	(\$57,918,632)	1.657	1.942	2.965	1.70	2.00	3.00	1.70	2.00	3.00	1.657	1.942	2.965	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.95	1.84	2.62
Student and Staff Security	329	(\$14,881,206)	0.079	0.092	0.141	0.00	0.70	1.30	0.00	0.70	1.30	0.079	0.092	0.141	1.00	1.00	1.00			
Principal	151	(\$132,707,320)	1.253	1.353	1.880	1.30	1.40	1.90	1.30	1.40	1.90	1.253	1.353	1.880	1.20	1.30	1.80	1.00	1.00	1.00
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL LEVEL</b>	<b>7,476</b>	<b>(\$466,568,402)</b>																		
District Level	Amount over Formula																			
Districtwide Support	FTE	Funding Shortfall	Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students					
Technology	476	(\$32,709,936)	0.628			2.800			2.800			0.628			0.286					
Facilities, Maintenance, Grounds	398	(\$19,124,695)	1.813			4.000			4.000			0.201			2.024					
Warehouse, Laborers, Mechanics	(5)	\$1,755,440	0.332			1.900			1.900			1.944								
			2.773									2.773								
Central Admin			Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students			Staff per 1000 Students					
Certificated Administration	3	(\$20,102,230)	0.875			NA			0.998			0.867			1.714					
Classified	-1195	(\$101,839,580)	2.559			NA			2.081			1.765			2.571					
Supervisors/Finance/Personel/Etc.						NA			0.984			0.773			0.286					
<b>TOTAL</b>			3.434			0			4.063			3.405			0			4.571		
			The formula is 5.3% of other allocated staff, divided 25.5% CAS and 74.5% CLS									5.35% of other allocated staff			6.0% of other allocated staff					
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT LEVEL</b>		<b>(\$139,311,065)</b>																		
<b>SCHOOL &amp; DISTRICT LEVEL</b>		<b>(\$605,879,467)</b>																		

\* Picus and Odden Evidence Based Recommendations

\*\* Calculated from OSPI Staffing and Salary Portal Data