



TWIO

This Week In Olympia

January 15, 2021

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About TWIO

This Week in Olympia (TWIO) is published by WASA in support of our members and members of our partners in WASBO, WSPA, and AEA.

TWIO is emailed each Friday during the Legislative Session and archived on WASA's website at <https://wasa-oly.org/WASA/TWIO>.



This Week in Review

On Monday, January 11, the 67th Washington State Legislature convened its 2021 Regular Session. This first year of a two-year biennial session is known as the “long” session and is limited to 105 days. As discussed earlier this week in TWIO’s “[Opening Day Special Edition](#)”, the main focus for legislators will be to adopt a 2021–23 Operating Budget, along with a 2021–23 Capital Construction Budget, and a 2021–23 Transportation Budget. Of course, with the currently projected budget shortfall, action on a 2021 Supplemental Operating Budget is anticipated early in the session in order to right the ship as much as possible before the hard work of crafting a new two-year budget begins.

Traditionally, the first week of a new session is full of ceremony and most legislative committees spend their time getting grounded on the issues before them. Work sessions fill most committee agendas and very little “real” action takes place in the early days of session. Well, that was when things were “normal.” Just like everyday life, COVID-19 has drastically altered how legislators prepared for session, how the Legislature began, and how business will be conducted for the remainder of the session.

The first order of business on the opening day of the session (“normally”) is to officially swear-in new members—an enjoyable and gratifying ceremony for new members—who often have families in tow for multiple photo opportunities. This year, prior to session convening, new members were invited to a Zoom swearing-in ceremony—one which accomplished a necessary action, but something that probably was not as memorable as the traditional event. There is no requirement to be sworn-in by Supreme Court Justices who preside over the event (via Zoom or in-person), so a handful of members chose to be sworn-in back home, in-person, by a local judge (often with family members), rather than opt for a stale ceremony over the Internet.

To give you an idea about how different this session will be, during the opening ceremonies, the Pledge of Allegiance and presentation of colors were pre-recorded electronic presentations posted online. It is hard to imagine being any more anti-climactic than that.

Another Opening Day ceremonial event is the official election of officers. Although both Majority parties (House and Senate) usually hold elections for presiding officers in November or December, after the election, those appointments are not official, as the full House or Senate must elect the presiding officers—not including the Lt. Governor, who is the President of the Senate, as this person is a publicly elected official. In recent memory, there has not been a presiding officer-elect who has been defeated during the

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WASA Legislative Report Podcast



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 Legislative Conference,
 February 21. Register now
 at www.wasa-oly.org/Leg21**

official election in either house, so the action is usually strictly ceremonial. The House of Representatives elects its Speaker, Speaker Pro Tempore, Chief Clerk, and Sergeant at Arms. The Senate elects the President Pro Tempore, Vice President Pro Tempore, Secretary of the Senate, and Sergeant at Arms. Following the official election as House Speaker, Representative Laurie Jinkins (D-Tacoma), did provide some short, opening remarks—to a mostly empty House Chamber.

Another required early action is to adopt Rules for the session. Often the only change to the Rules is the dates of the session. Not so this year. Current Rules do not provide for the Legislature to meet remotely, so both the House and Senate adopted new Rules to specifically allow for “virtual” committee hearings, as well as remote Floor sessions, including debates on legislation and voting on motions and legislation. The House adopted temporary Rules for the session ([HR 4600](#)), while the Senate adopted adjusted permanent Rules ([SR 8600](#)), as well as a set of “emergency parliamentary” Rules ([SR 8601](#)). (It should be noted that HR 4600 requires the House to adopt its permanent Rules by January 29.) Following that movement, both houses adopted a set of amended Joint Rules ([HCR 4400](#)). In large part, most of the Rules stayed the same as they have been for many years. The key change was to specifically allow for a remote session.

Because the Rules are changed only in rare circumstances, the votes are usually a perfunctory action. During the pandemic, many legislators have objected to the idea of a “remote” session, arguing that it is feasible and safe to hold an in-person session and moving to a virtual session will limit citizens’ access to the process and impede transparency. Each set of Rules were easily adopted; however, there was extended debate on each Resolution.

A point in support of those legislators that believe a safe, in-person session could be conducted was the process in adopting the Rules. Because the Rules do not provide for a remote session, it was understood that the Rules needed to be amended. In order for that to occur, however, both houses needed to convene with a quorum. So, legislators in both houses met in their respective Chambers on Monday. When debating, members rotated to ensure limited members were on the Floor at the same time. When voting, members lined up—socially distanced—and provided their votes one-by-one as they proceeded through the Chamber.

Following these actions, the two houses adjourned and most legislators returned home to prepare to legislate from their home offices or kitchen tables. According to the [House’s COVID plan](#), only presiding officers, the Minority Leader, and caucus Floor Leaders and limited staff will be allowed in the House Chamber. According to the [Senate’s COVID plan](#), they will operate in a hybrid fashion with a limited number of members being allowed on the Senate Floor and in the wings (expected to be about 15, half Democrats and half Republicans).

On Tuesday, the House and Senate met to canvass votes for statewide elected officials. This is similar to the action federal lawmakers undertook last week to certify the election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris. Usually another perfunctory event, this action was taken quickly without any problems. Not that this action was expected to cause any issues, but convening on Monday with the Capitol campus closed to the public was expected to be eventful. Protesters for weeks have indicated their intention of “occupying” the Legislative Building; however, the leaders of the proposed action cancelled the events following the riots and breaching of the Capitol in Washington, D.C. last week. Nevertheless, those same groups still encouraged protesters to be on hand in a “peaceful and non-destructive” way. Given the chatter, it was feared there would be problems in Olympia. Fencing was erected around the Capitol and Governor Inslee called upon the National Guard to assist the Washington State Patrol in guarding the campus. There were protesters around the Capitol this week, but maybe perhaps hundreds (if that), rather than the previously expected thousands. The FBI recently issued a bulletin to all

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state Capitols warning of threats leading up to next week's Presidential Inauguration; accordingly, Inslee extended the extra security, including the State Patrol and National Guard presence through January 20.

Following the canvassing of statewide official's votes, each statewide elected official was sworn-in on Wednesday, beginning their four-year terms. After being sworn-in for a historic third term, Governor Inslee provided his annual State of the State Address. Originally it was believed he would provide his Address to a mostly empty Joint Session in the House Chambers. Instead, the governor issued a [pre-recorded speech](#) (transcript of the speech [HERE](#).) Coming in at almost twenty minutes, the overwhelming focus of the message—to no one's surprise—was the COVID-19 pandemic. Of course, he did reiterate some of his overarching goals for the session, although even those were largely linked to addressing the pandemic.

While it has become standard operating procedure, it was still disheartening for the governor to mention K–12 education almost as an afterthought. He stated, “We’re going to get students back into the classroom, and make sure it’s in safe and healthy settings. And we’re going to keep at some of the glaring disparities in our education system.” Later, he added, “I also look forward to working with [the Legislature] to remediate the impacts our students have suffered because of this pandemic. This is hard for young people, and no one knows that better than our parents and our educators. No one has a single answer, but we must provide the supports that students need, whether it’s academics, mental health, or nutrition.” Even this minor recognition is appreciated; however, as has become the norm, the state’s constitutional paramount duty was basically a footnote in his address.

Committee Action

Governor Inslee’s proposed solutions surrounding the pandemic comprise the bulk of his budget, which was reviewed extensively in legislative Committees this week. Right out of the gate, on Tuesday afternoon, the Senate Ways & Means Committee held a public hearing on Inslee’s 2021–23 Operating Budget proposal ([SB 5092](#)), 2021 Supplemental Operating Budget proposal ([SB 5091](#)), and 2021–23 Capital Budget proposal ([SB 5083](#)). Prior to taking public testimony, David Schumacher, Director of the Office of Financial Management (OFM, the governor’s budget office), provided an [overview of the proposals](#). (Additional information is available in the [December 18, 2020 issue of TWIO](#) and full details are available on the [OFM website](#).)

Following the budget review, public testimony was heard. As an aside, it hit home at the first major Committee meeting of the session how complicated and cumbersome the remote Committee system will be. It was also a reminder, however, how important it will be for all school administrators to engage in the process this session. With limited 60-90 second shots on a particular bill, it will take more administrators telling their “story” to make an impact. It is additionally a reminder how much more important it is for administrators to continue building relationships with their legislators—and contacting them regularly throughout the session.

Yesterday, the House Appropriations Committee held a public hearing on the Governor’s Operating Budget proposals ([HB 1093](#), 2021 Supplemental Budget; [HB 1094](#), 2021–23 Budget). Schumacher provided similar budget overview as he did in the Senate, followed by several hours of public testimony.

Yesterday morning, the House Capital Budget Committee held a public hearing on the governor’s 2021–23 Capital Budget proposal ([HB 1080](#)), and his Bond proposal to fund the Capital Budget ([HB 1081](#)). Prior to opening the hearing for public comments, Jen Masterson, OFM Capital Budget Assistant, provided a [review of the governor’s proposals](#). The governor proposes a General Obligation Bond authorization of \$4.8 billion, with proposed spending of \$4.7 billion (an increase of \$1.4 billion of the

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current budget). For K–12, Inslee proposes \$1.1 billion of spending—\$812.4 million for the School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP), and another \$258.3 million for other projects. SCAP funding in the 2019–21 budget was \$1.1 million and actually reduced slightly in the 2020 Supplemental Budget. Hopefully, a further reduction in this budget will not negatively impact eligible school district projects that expect state funding.

While some Committees started out slowly, others ramped up immediately. The Senate Early Learning & K–12 Committee immediately jumped into substantive policy. On Wednesday, they heard [SB 5030](#), requiring school districts to implement a written plan for a comprehensive school counseling program, which ensures school counselors spend at least 80 percent of their work time providing direct and indirect services to students. The focus on school counselors and the growing importance of their support of students is positive; however, there is some concern about the cost of drafting and implementing the required plan.

Next on the agenda is a bill that fits squarely under one of the major priorities of this session: racial equity. [SB 5044](#) would add equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism to existing cultural competency training for school board directors, district staff, and school staff. Subject to funding, ESDs and school districts would be required to use training materials from an OSPI-recommended list to provide job-embedded, ongoing training opportunities for classified staff, certificated instructional staff, certificated administrative staff, and the superintendent, beginning in the 2022–23 school year. Additionally, it would require school districts to prioritize one of the three professional learning days to focus first on these topics. This is similar to the one-time directive that was included in the 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget.

This morning, the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee heard a priority issue: [SB 5128](#). The bill would preserve some of the vulnerable pupil transportation funding due to school districts not using buses (or not using them as much as projected) due to students being taught remotely. Districts would be allowed to use student transportation allocations to provide expanded services to students, similar to what was allowed by the governor’s proclamation this past year. The heart of the bill is the provision of an alternative student transportation allocation formula for districts providing remote instruction during the pandemic. The alternative formula would provide school districts 70 percent of the district’s estimated allocation for the school year assuming full in-person instruction, rather than the amount the district would receive under the traditional allocation formula. There is also a mechanism that allows school districts to apply for additional funding if they exceed their allocation amount due to providing expanded services. This is essentially “safety net” funding.

There are some technical concerns with the bill; however, we continue to work with proponents and supporters on adjusted language. The current conversation (and hope) is that this bill will be fast-tracked through the process to ensure districts pupil transportation funds don’t get “clawed back” when OSPI reconciles allocations.

The Week Ahead

Next week, legislative Committees continue to meet with full agendas. A few Committees will be moving bills to executive action, in an effort to quickly get bills moving through the process.

On Monday, the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee will be hearing a bill which would establish a process—and requirements—for school districts to re-open schools for in-person instruction. [SB 5037](#), sponsored by Senator John Braun (R-Centralia), would establish “clear” school opening metrics, based on the COVID positivity standards within counties. The bill provides additional detail, but essentially school districts in counties below a five percent positivity standard for two weeks in a

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row must offer in-person learning to all students. School districts in counties above a five percent positivity standard may choose how to deliver education to their students (in-person, distance, hybrid).

It seems unlikely that this bill will move; however, it will certainly spark a conversation about whether the Legislature should require schools to re-open to in-person instruction—and if so, how. For further information on the thought process behind this bill, see Sen. Braun’s November, 2020 issue of his “[Economic Sense](#).”

On Thursday, the House Education Committee will hear [HB 1113](#), an OSPI-request bill to make the current attendance/truancy process easier for districts to implement. The attempt by OSPI is to focus more on student supports and move away from punitive actions. For further details, see this [Summary](#).

Federal Stimulus Update

After struggling for months to adopt another stimulus bill, Congress finally reached agreement on a \$935 billion package on December 21, with President Trump signing it shortly after, on December 27. The bill provides a total of \$82 billion for Education. \$4.1 billion is provided to governors’ Education Relief Funds. State governors have discretion over how these dollars are spent, for higher education, K–12 education, or early education; however, private school allocations come from these funds, rather than from school district allocations like the first round of ESSER funds.

A total of \$54.3 billion is dedicated to K–12 Education. Washington’s share is \$824,852,000. Ten percent (\$82.485,200 million) is reserved at the state level, with the remaining ninety percent (\$742,366,800) being provided to school districts, through Title I, as the earlier round of ESSER funds were distributed. (NOTE: OSPI has not yet put together a breakdown of ESSER II funds for individual school districts; however, ESSER II funds are about four times what school districts received from the previous stimulus. Using the same Title I methodology, school business managers should be able to calculate an estimate of what your district is expected to receive.)

The use of the ESSER II funds must be related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19 (the same as earlier requirements for the first round of ESSER funds). Use of ESSER II funds may also be used for:

- addressing student learning loss;
- preparing schools for reopening and testing; and
- repairing, and upgrading projects to improve air quality.

The provision of these funds to OSPI and school districts is subject to legislative approval. Early conversations (especially in the House) are to promptly provide these funds to school districts. This is positive; however, the downside is that these funds may be allocated to school districts in lieu of providing additional funds for enrollment stabilization and/or to provide additional state funding to shore up pupil transportation.

The concern is that these funds may not completely fill school district budget holes, if enrollment funds and/or adequate pupil transportation funds are not provided. One example: enrollment drives calculations for Learning Assistance Program funding; local levy caps (if your district uses the per pupil mechanism); Local Effort Assistance funding; and Skills Center funding—among other things. This is another reminder to make sure your legislators understand your funding needs.

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Another problem may be on the horizon (perhaps a positive “problem,” but something we need to keep a close eye on). That is the strong possibility that another stimulus may be coming soon. Yesterday, President-elect Biden announced his [\\$1.9 Trillion Emergency Coronavirus Plan](#). Included in the proposal to set aside \$130 billion to help schools reopen. The funds would be available to: reduce class sizes and modify spaces for social distancing; improve ventilation; provide Personal Protective Equipment; hire more janitors, and implement mitigation measures; ensure every school has access to a nurse; increase transportation capacity to facilitate social distancing on the bus; hire counselors to support students as they transition back to the classroom; close the digital divide that is exacerbating inequities during the pandemic; provide summer school or other support for students that will help make up lost learning time this year; create and expand community schools; and cover other costs needed to support safely reopening and support students.

Additional provisions would have impacts on schools as well. For example, the proposal would provide \$50 billion to expand coronavirus testing, cover the purchase of rapid tests, expand lab capacity and help schools and local governments with testing protocols. The plan would also provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, and territorial governments to keep front line workers paid, distribute vaccines, increase testing, and re-open schools.

Time will tell if this plan has legs; however, it is a priority of President-elect Biden and with his party securing control of the Senate and House, there is a clear path to success. If it were to pass, it is to be determined if funds from ESSER II and this new package would be enough to “fully” fund school district needs (or said another way, if the funds would completely fill budget holes). If so, all is well, but if not, it will be an uphill battle to convince legislators to cough up more state funds.

The best path is to stay the course, continuing to engage with legislators, and fully explain your school district needs and challenges.

AEA

By Mitch Denning

The 67th Legislative session began on Monday in a nearly virtual format due to COVID-19. With remote testifying now more accessible, we anticipate that more WAMOA and WSNA members will be able to provide direct input to legislative committees via Zoom.

This week, AEA testified on Governor Inslee’s Operating and Capital Budgets in both houses. On Tuesday, we supplied written testimony on [SB 5092](#), 2021–23 proposed Operating Budget to Senate Ways & Means members, and then [HB 1094](#) to House Appropriations members on Thursday. Our position on both bills is “Other.”

On Tuesday we gave remote testimony via Zoom on [SB 5083](#), 2021–23 proposed Capital Budget, and yesterday provided written testimony to the House Capital Budget on [HB 1080](#). We strongly support both bills.

Specific Points of Our Testimony

[HB 1094/SB 5092](#), we support the improved access to technology through residential broadband connections for families who cannot afford them (\$79 million in K–12 budget

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and \$45 million in the Department of Commerce Budget). This is one of AEA's short-term priorities for this session.

We favor increased staffing for an additional 0.5 FTE counselor in all K–6 high poverty schools (\$32 million), which is an AEA long-term priority.

We appreciate the full funding of the Special Education Safety Net (\$3.1 million), and funding for an OSPI special education family liaison to support community needs (\$75,000), another AEA long-term priority.

However, we have three concerns with the budget.

1. SB 5092 uses \$1.6 billion of the Budget Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund), nearly depleting it. Due to the uncertainty of the State's economy coming out the Pandemic, we feel the BSA should be used only for extreme emergencies.
2. SB 5092 does not address the loss of K–12 enrollment revenue due to online instruction. This is a key issue for districts and must be addressed during this session.
3. SB 5092 also does not address the loss of pupil transportation funding due to remote instruction. This issue also needs to be addressed in this session, as it's critical to districts.

HB 1080/SB 5083:

1. We support the \$812.4 million which would fund 80 school construction projects through the SCAP program. Such funding greatly enhances the ability of these school districts to complete their primarily bond-funded projects.
2. We favor the \$10.5 million which would fund the Healthy Schools/Healthy Kids grants. WAMOA has participated in this grant's advisory committee along with the Department of Health since the grant's inception in 2015. WSNA supports the kitchen update and equipment, and greenhouse projects of this grant.
3. We were pleased that SB 5772, Small District Modernization Grant, was passed by the 2020 Legislature. Now in statute, the budget would fund \$72 million for the Small District and Tribal Schools Modernization Grant program for K–12 schools less than 1,000 FTE. This funding would greatly enhance these small districts who have significant building deficiencies and limited financial capacity. WAMOA has been a member of OSPI's small district modernization grant advisory committee.
4. We support the \$13 million in school district health and safety grants, which include the School District Emergency Repair grants for unforeseen catastrophic health and safety issues (\$3 million), and the Urgent Repair Grant (URG) to address nonrecurring health and safety facility needs (\$10 million). WAMOA has been a member of OSPI's advisory committee for the URG since the grant's inception in 2005.

Finally, AEA is pleased to support the funding of the School Seismic Safety Retrofit Program (\$50 million). These funds would allow the districts with the greatest seismic needs to retrofit their buildings in the proper manner.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey – The Nexus Group

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Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

As the vaccines continue to make their presence felt to all, we still live in a COVID-19 world. The pandemic may well be on its way out, but until that time, the Washington State Legislature is operating in a “Zoom” world. This not only impacts how WASA operates but also affects employers and present and future school retirees.

Although the main task of the 2021 Session is to create and adopt a new biennial budget for 2021–23, many policy related bills have been introduced. And since money will be on the table, there will be much competition, the Legislature will look elsewhere for funds. No surprise, but many of the proposed bills will fall on employers as unfunded mandates, saving the state dollars.

As mentioned earlier in the *TWIO*, the need for WASA and its members to be involved is even more critical than usual. The previous sessions where in-person and timely contact with legislators was the norm, this year the process has changed. (As an aside, there is concern that many pieces of legislation will be settled in back rooms and little, if any opportunity to modify said legislation will be available.)

Some Focus Areas and Goals:

- **Protect Retiree Healthcare Benefits.**

The Legislature lowered the Medicare Healthcare Benefit from \$183 to \$150 in 2011. In 2018 and 2019 WSSRA successfully lobbied for increases back to \$183 per month. Protecting the Medical Benefit at \$183 per month is critical in helping to keep retiree medical premiums affordable. Legislators may feel the need to reduce and/or eliminate this benefit to help fund other areas in the budget.

- **Make the Actuarially Recommended Pension Payment.**

During many past recessions, the Legislature had reduced their share of the pension payments. That increased the unfunded liability in the pension funds, incurring a 7.5 percent annual interest penalty for the state. This is far more costly in the long run, but skipping or reducing the state’s pension contribution is a means to allow those dollars to be spent elsewhere.

- **Manage COVID-19 Risk in Schools by Reducing Early Retirement Penalties.**

[\(HB 1032\)](#) Reducing early retirement penalties for older school employees will help protect our vulnerable older teachers and classified employees from health risks. As an example, school employees with 30 years and at age 62 can retire with full benefits. WSSRA proposes lowering the age to 60 until such time as the Governor’s proclamation of emergency is repealed. The penalty for early retirement for those with less than 30 years would also be reduced. If passed, this would allow older employees most at risk to the virus an option to retire earlier. If passed, it would also save district dollars by losing the higher paid employees. This bill is currently before the House Appropriations Committee awaiting a hearing.

- **Address the Potential Loss of Years, Service, and Pension Calculation due to the Furloughing of State Employees.** [\(SB 5021\)](#).

This bill attempts to correct the effect of expenditure reduction efforts on retirement benefits for public employees, including those participating in the shared work program. This bill is scheduled for a public hearing on January 18, before the Senate Ways & Means Committee at 4 p.m.

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Other Benefit Issues:

There are also a number of bills proposed to expand or loosen the requirements for unemployment insurance, workman's compensation, labor and industry claims, and paid family and medical leave. There is even a bill (**SB 5169**) that concerns provider reimbursement for personal protective equipment during the state of emergency related to COVID-19. Many of these could have fiscal impacts on districts. WASA and WASBO are tracking these bills. Stay tuned.

Conclusion:

No one association is as effective as a legislator's own constituent who tells his/her own story and the impact of selected legislation on one's life or school. That is why member involvement is so valued and critical to any legislative success WASA may have. Be informed, engaged, and passionate about this process.



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Legislative Resources

Committee Meeting Schedule

Legislative Committees Meetings are scheduled to be held at the following times but are subject to change.

Up-to-date meeting schedules and agendas are available on the [State Legislature website](#).

Mondays

1:30–3:30 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Senate Hearing Room 1

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Tuesdays

8–10 a.m.
House Education
House Hearing Room A

1:30–3:30 p.m.
House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Wednesdays

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Senate Hearing Room 1

Thursdays

1:30–3:30 p.m.
House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Fridays

8–10 a.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Senate Hearing Room 1

10–11 a.m.
House Education
House Hearing Room A

Useful Links

Washington State Government
<http://www.access.wa.gov>

State Legislature
<http://www.leg.wa.gov>

Senate
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate>

House of Representatives
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/House>

Legislative Committees
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/committeelisting.aspx>

Legislative Schedules
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

Office of the Governor
<http://www.governor.wa.gov>

OSPI
<http://www.k12.wa.us>

TVW
<http://www.tvw.org>

Session Cut-off Calendar

January 11, 2021

First Day of Session.

February 15, 2021

Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees.

February 22, 2021

Last day to read in committee reports from House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees in house of origin.

March 9, 2021

Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).

March 26, 2021

Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees.

April 2, 2021

Last day to read in opposite house committee reports from House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees.

April 11, 2021*

Last day to consider opposite house bills (5 p.m.) (except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session).

April 25, 2021

Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

*After the 91st day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.

Bill Watch

TWIO tracks critical education bills each week as they are introduced. Detailed bill information can be accessed by clicking on the bill number. The following is a list of the bills of highest interest to school administrators. A more comprehensive bill watch list is located on the [WASA website](#).

Bill #	Title	Status	Sponsor
HB 1006	Immunization, declining	H HC/Wellness	Klippert
HB 1010	Motor vehicle sales tax	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1016	Juneteenth	H State Govt & Tribal	Morgan
HB 1024	Sunshine committee/juveniles	H State Govt & Tribal	Springer
HB 1028	Residency teacher cert.	H Education	Bergquist
HB 1032	TRS & SERS early retirement	H Appropriations	Harris
HB 1039	Bicycle & pedestrian travel	H Transportation	McCaslin
HB 1040	Retired school employee health	H Appropriations	Dolan
HB 1056	Public meetings/emergencies	H Local Govt	Pollet
HB 1065	Epidemic, pandemic vaccines	H HC/Wellness	Eslick
HB 1066	Ed. service district boards	H Education	Stonier
HB 1067	State dinosaur	H State Govt & Tribal	Morgan
HB 1073	Paid leave coverage	H Labor & Workplace	Berry
HB 1077	Federal Way school district	H Appropriations	Johnson
HB 1079	Charter schools time frame	H Education	Dolan
HB 1080 (SB 5083)	Capital Budget 2021–23	H Cap Budget	Tharinger
HB 1081 (SB 5084)	State gen. obligation bonds	H Cap Budget	Tharinger
HB 1085	Students w/seizure disorders	H Education	Kloba
HB 1087	Family/med leave continuity	H Labor & Workplace	Berry
HB 1093 (SB 5091)	Operating Budget, 2nd supp.	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1094 (SB 5092)	Operating Budget 2021–23	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1113 (SB 5153)	School attendance	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1121	Graduation reqs/emergency	H Education	Santos
HB 1131	Private schools/waiver	H Education	Rude
SB 5017	School district procurement	S EL/K–12	Wellman
SB 5021	Retirement benefits/furlough	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SB 5030	School counseling programs	S EL/K–12	Mullet
SB 5037	School opening metrics	S EL/K–12	Braun
SB 5043	School employee housing	S EL/K–12	Salomon

SB 5044	Schools/equity training	S EL/K-12	Das
SB 5070	Menstrual products/schools	S EL/K-12	Rivers
SB 5080	Youth ed. programming funds	S Ways & Means	Carlyle
SB 5083 (HB 1080)	Capital Budget 2021-23	S Ways & Means	Frocket
SB 5084 (HB 1081)	State gen. obligation bonds	S Ways & Means	Frocket
SB 5091 (HB 1093)	Operating Budget, 2nd supp.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5092 (HB 1094)	Operating Budget 2021-23	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5096	Capital gains tax	S Ways & Means	Robinson
SB 5097	Paid leave coverage	S Labor, Comm & Tribal Aff.	Robinson
SB 5105	Office of equity task force	S State Govt & Elections	Hasegawa
SB 5111	Public employee independence	S State Govt & Elections	Ericksen
SB 5115	Health emergency/labor	S Labor, Comm & Tribal Aff.	Keiser
SB 5128	Student transportation funds	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 5129	Vapor & tobacco/minors	S Human Svcs, Reentry & Rehab	Saldaña
SB 5130	Personnel files & discipline	S Labor, Comm &	Kuderer
SCR 8400	Special legislative session	S Labor, Comm & Tribal Aff	Ericksen