



TWIO

This Week In Olympia

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March 3, 2023



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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 WAMOA.

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2023 WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference Wrap-up

On Sunday, almost 500 school administrators, school directors, school business officials, and students participated in the annual WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference—our first in-person Legislative Conference since 2020. Sunday's program armed attendees with the information necessary to make a successful march on the Capitol for Monday's annual "Day on the Hill."

If you attended the Conference and have not yet submitted an [evaluation](#), we would encourage you to provide your feedback. The evaluation is brief and your input on what went right and how we can do better is valuable in helping us to craft future Conferences. In fact, we are already putting the pieces in place for the 2024 Conference; be sure to mark your calendar for January 28–29, 2024. But let's not get too far ahead of ourselves and review Sunday's event.

The purpose of the Conference is to provide our collective members with the tools and resources to engage in the legislative process more effectively. The presentations from Superintendent Reykdal, students, our keynote speaker, and legislators formed a consistent message: continue to be active in the process and provide your legislators with your "stories." Several notes hit home the point; just a few examples from our legislators. Senator Lisa Wellman (D-Mercer Island) encouraged everyone to focus their message, perhaps on one bill or issue, and tell your "stories" so your message has an impact. Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos (D-Seattle) reiterated how important it is for legislators to hear directly from educators, to share your experience with them. Simply stated, she reminded everyone to "keep engaged." Representative Skyler Rude (R-Walla Walla) stressed that educators need to know how to connect with legislators, so you can act as a resource to them. The pre-recorded interviews with the four legislative leads on K–12 education are available [HERE](#).

Governor Jay Inslee also provided a short video welcome, expressing his support for educators. He also noted his budgetary support for K–12 and reiterated his \$3.0 billion budget request for 2023–25. (We have discussed this many times, so we will not take the time to recount the frustration about this bit of [misinformation](#) today.) The governor's message is available [HERE](#).

Our State Superintendent, Chris Reykdal, live and in-person, discussed his somewhat unusually bold set of [budget requests for 2023–25](#), noting that in the last few years, legislators have shifted their collective focus on issues other than K–12 education. He talked about the continuing decline of K–12 funding as a

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WASA Legislative Report Podcast



*The Podcast will be available on a regular basis on the [WASA website](#), or **subscribe to the Report** via multiple podcast apps.*

percentage of the overall Operating Budget and expressed concerns of a coming “perfect storm”—especially if the Legislature does not step up and provide necessary support to school districts. Federal ESSER funds that propped up school districts through the pandemic are set to expire at the same time districts continue to address enrollment declines. The falling support for public education amongst the public could negatively impact levy success, as regionalization and experience factors for many districts will be reduced (or eliminated) if this Legislature does nothing to address the issue. And many districts who are dependent on Local Effort Assistance (LEA or “levy equalization”) are losing eligibility as housing values spike. Reykdal’s bottom line was that legislators need to be educated about this coming fiscal cliff, and need to be reminded that K–12 education is the state’s constitutional Paramount Duty. Beyond that, Reykdal expressed his concerns that legislators are focusing on issues like housing and homelessness, along with crime and healthcare issues—all of which are important; however, the best way to accelerate the economy and reduce pressure on social services is to support K–12 education.

Our keynote speaker, Shankar Vedantam, provided a treasure-trove of advice on effective advocacy and connecting with legislators from a unique perspective. Vedantam is the host of NPR’s Hidden Brain podcast and he used his research on the unconscious patterns that drive human behavior to discuss how to be an effective advocate. His ideas were engaging, fascinating, and extremely practical. One piece of advice about connecting with legislators came back to our theme of storytelling. Vedantam’s overarching theme was persuasion and, specifically, he discussed the theory of social proof, conversational receptiveness, and the telescope effect. He provided examples of each theory and connected those ideas with legislative advocacy. If you have not visited Vedantam’s suggested podcasts, we encourage you to take some time to listen in. If you attended the Conference, it will remind you of some his conversation; if you did not attend, these will give you a flavor of what you missed:

- [Persuasion, Part 1](#)
- [Persuasion, Part 2](#)
- [What Makes Relationships Thrive](#)
- [The Power of Tiny Interactions](#)
- [How to Keep Conflicts from Spiraling](#)
- [The Influence You Have](#)
- [The Story of Stories](#)
- [Why Conversations Go Wrong](#)
- [You 2.0: The Empathy Gym](#)
- [You 2.0: The Deep Work](#)

During this year’s Conference there was an increased use of students in the program. As we continue to discuss the conversation of “student belonging,” we incorporated a number of student presentations and made “student voice” a critical part of the program. A large group of students also accompanied their school administrators and school directors to meetings with legislators on Monday.

We closed the Sunday program with a discussion of this year’s Hot Topics, a short-list of shared priorities from our three associations. Those of you who are regular *TWIO* readers will see a consistent focus. Each year we try to hold off on producing Hot Topics as long as we can to ensure the issues are, in fact, “hot.” This year, our two priorities, Special Education Funding and Pupil Transportation funding, were indeed still hot; however, the four bills that made up the Hot Topics had movement after we produced our documents. To keep you up-to-date, yesterday we sent Conference attendees an [UPDATED version of the Hot Topics](#).

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We hope you used the Hot Topics as you engaged with your colleagues and met with legislators on Monday. We encourage you to continue using the Hot Topics throughout the remainder of this session, especially as budget proposals are released and our priorities become a part of budget discussions. As we heard on Sunday, it is important to stay engaged. Legislators are making critical decisions that will have an impact on your students, your schools, your budgets, your job—and they need to hear from you.

If you have not done so already, be sure to drop your legislators a quick note thanking them for their time—and be sure to include any information that you may have promised them. If you were not able to meet with your legislators, use this as an excuse to make contact, reminding them of your priorities. And, again, please remember to complete the short online [evaluation](#). NOTE: Presentations and materials from the conference are posted on the [WASA website](#).

Priority Issues Update

Special Education

Last week, we provided the gory details of the transformation of [HB 1436](#), formerly Superintendent Reykdal’s special education funding bill. As introduced, it would have implemented policy and funding enhancements to fully cover the cost of special education services. It would have increased the special education tiered multipliers, Pre–K through K–12, to move the state closer to a funding model that more closely reflects the actual costs of service delivery; eliminated the enrollment funding cap; and sustained the state-funded professional development and job-embedded coaching provided through the Inclusionary Practices Project.

The [Proposed Substitute](#) that was heard (instead of the original bill) on February 9 in the House Appropriations Committee dramatically changed the underlying bill—and even that Proposed Substitute (striking amendment) was greatly [amended](#) before it was ultimately adopted by the Committee on February 20.

SHB 1436, as adopted by the House Appropriations Committee, included the following provisions:

- The current, arbitrary 13.5 percent special education enrollment funding cap would be eliminated in 2027–28, following phased-in increases. In the 2023–24 school year, the funding cap would increase to 14.0 percent; 14.5 percent in 2024–25; 15.0 percent in 2025–26 and 2026–27; and be completely removed in the 2027–28 school year.
- The underlying striking amendment would phase in, over four years, increases in the K–12 tiered multipliers; however, the multipliers would have been dramatically lowered. As adopted by the Committee, the multipliers continue to be phased-in, with additional adjustments. The adjustments are interesting, to say the least. The amendment to the striking amendment slightly increased the multiplier in the 2023–24, and 2024–25 school years, then slightly lowered the multiplier in 2025–26 compared to the original proposal. The fourth-year, 2026–27, multiplier would be increased to the same level as proposed in the underlying striking amendment. Simply said, the multipliers increase a bit faster, but the final increase remains the same as in the underlying striking amendment. See the comparison of [proposed multipliers](#).
- The amendment to the striking amendment removed the multiplier increases for Pre–K students.
- Both amendments reduced the threshold for high-need individuals to access the special education safety net from 2.3 to 2.2 times the average per pupil expenditure.
- New “accountability” language was added to law which would require OSPI to redirect up to 50 percent of a school district’s special education students’ basic education allocations for special education if special

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education expenditures exceeded revenues in the previous year. The final adopted amendment retained this language; however, an effective date of July 1, 2025 is added.

- The underlying striking amendment removed language which required OSPI to review data for disproportionate identification of students and assist school districts to support inclusionary teaching practices. The final adopted amendment reinserted this language.
- The underlying striking amendment included a required performance audit to be conducted by the Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee (JLARC). As adopted, this new language is retained, but includes a clarification regarding workload issues and requirements between JLARC and the State Auditor.

A second amendment was also adopted by the Committee. The second amendment adds a “null and void” clause onto the bill. This is a mechanism, most often used in the House, which allows more bills to move through the Appropriations Committee, with a protection that if the bill happens to make it all the way through the process, it will be voided if required funding is not provided in the final Operating Budget.

Last night the Appropriations Committee–amended HB 1436 was brought to the House Floor for debate and final passage. Prior to final passage three new amendments (to the underlying striking amendment) were introduced. The [first amendment](#) deletes the section containing the JLARC study and replaces it with adjusted language. The further amended bill (now an “Engrossed” Bill) was adopted with a 94–2 vote.

There were also two other amendments on the table.

The [second amendment](#) would have added language requiring school districts to report how base allocations for special education students are used. The amendment failed (because it conflicted with the previous, adopted amendment).

The [third amendment](#) was a full striking amendment put forward by the Republicans. (A second, similar full [striking amendment](#) was introduced, but ultimately withdrawn in favor of this amendment.) The amendment was essentially a merging of the Senate’s special education bill (SB 5311) and the House bill. If adopted, it would have:

- Increased multipliers, Pre–K and K–12, to match the Senate’s current proposal.
- Increased the current 13.5 percent enrollment cap to 15 percent, as proposed by the Senate.
- Required ESDs to contract for independent special education advocates, subject to appropriations (as recently added to the Senate bill).

There were also four major provisions that are included in the House bill, which would:

- Reduce the threshold for high-need individuals to access the special education safety net from 2.3 to 2.2 times the average per-pupil expenditure.
- Require up to 50 percent of a special education student’s base education allocation to be used for special education if district special education expenditures exceeded revenues in the previous year, beginning July 2025.
- Required OSPI to review disproportionality data and assist schools with inclusionary teaching practices.
- Required JLARC and the State Auditor to conduct a performance audit of the state’s special education system.

This new, GOP-sponsored striking amendment failed—but not before a spirited debate. Republicans made pointed arguments that the bill, as adopted by the Appropriations Committee, did not go far enough, arguing it would continue to

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woefully underfund special education. I lost track of how many times the Paramount Duty was mentioned, with a not-so-subtle poke that the bill on the table does not meet the requirements of the constitution to fully fund basic education. *McCleary* was even brought up a couple of times, with legislators essentially admitting that they blew it by not addressing special education funding as a part of the *McCleary* solution.

Democrats, for their part, struggled to present legitimate arguments that did not sound like they were opposed to fully funding special education. One Democratic member stated he reluctantly was asking for a “no” vote on the striking amendment and said he took “no delight in saying we shouldn’t spend more on special education.” He was asking for a “no” vote for a few reasons. First, “we don’t budget in isolation; we budget for the entire state, for all programs and services.” (Um, never mind that pesky Paramount Duty thing.) He also tried to make the case that the Legislature needs to support these students outside of the classroom as well, implying that if we spend too much on special education, there won’t be enough money to support them at home or in the real world. He also boldly admitted that “the underlying bill, nor the striking amendment will resolve the intent to meet the Paramount Duty—none of them fully fund this need.” (That will be a nice message when he’s being deposed in a special education lawsuit.) Oh, and he added “that’s why we need the performance audit, to determine how well districts are spending their money; when we get that report we will have the justification to move forward to do a better job of funding special education.”

Another Democratic member talked about the increases in special education the Legislature has made in recent years. He claimed the Legislature has tried to meet the need, but the funding gap keeps increasing. He noted the Legislature, in HB 1436, is “really focused on accountability and transparency and we’d like to know how school districts are accounting for the dollars provided for special education.” It actually is surprising it took so long for this argument to be brought out. We assumed the lack of trust in public schools is why there is a required JLARC study in HB 1436; and why there is a requirement to divert up to 50 percent of a district’s basic education payments if special education costs exceed funding. (He also jumped off-subject and insinuated that school districts are misappropriating pupil transportation dollars as well.) Now, these two members straight-up admitted they were not willing to cover the full special education need because they don’t believe school districts are appropriately spending the funds provided. We held onto this bold conspiracy theory—but now we know it’s real.

The debate was fascinating (and frustrating). We have been guessing or assuming intentions. If you want to hear it “straight from the horse’s mouth,” so to speak, you might be interested in the [conversation](#) (debate on HB 1436 starts at 47:45; debate on the defeated striking amendment starts at 53:00).

(On a side note, many question whether or not our advocacy has any impact. During this special education debate, multiple legislators mentioned that just this week educators were in town asking special education to be fully funded, clearly talking about our Day on the Hill.)

On the Senate side, [SB 5311](#) was just moved to the Floor Calendar last night. At the time this was being prepared, however, the bill had not yet been acted upon. Two amendments are currently on the bar, both of which are likely to be adopted.

The [first amendment](#) does a number of things:

- Reduces the safety net threshold from 2.3 percent: to 2.0 percent for districts with less than 1,000 students; and to 2.2 percent for districts with more than 1,000. (This replaces the safety net—regionalization link.)
- Maintains language requiring special education advocates; however, replaces the requirement that ESDs contract with these individuals with a requirement that the Office of the Education Ombuds certify at least one special education ombuds to serve each ESD region (subject to

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appropriations). Additionally, new language is added requiring these new special education ombuds to serve as a resource for students eligible for special education services and their parents. Criteria for the selection of special education ombuds is established.

- Removes the State Auditor from the requirement to develop an allocation and cost accounting methodology.

The [second amendment](#) is a technical amendment that clarifies that current multipliers remain in place until new multipliers take effect in the 2023–24 school year.

We now have cost estimates for these two bills. HB 1436, as introduced, would have “fully funded” special education and cost \$803 million. As amended, ESHB 1436 would cost \$168 million in the 2023–25 biennium. Over the four-year outlook, the total cost would be \$410 million. Unfortunately, this comports with the rumors and speculation that we have heard indicating the House is preparing to appropriate \$400 million on special education—over four years.

SB 5311, as adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee, would have cost \$303 million. As adopted by the Senate Ways & Means Committee, the total cost is \$352 million. Understand that there is an increase due to the accelerated increases in the multipliers—in the first year, 2023–24—while the multipliers remain static over the next three years. Prior to this change, the four-year cost estimate was just over \$1.0 billion. As amended, the four-year cost is \$771 million. For further details, see the [updated fiscal note](#) information.

Pupil Transportation

We are in a holding pattern regarding the two pupil transportation bills. [SB 5174](#) was moved to the Senate Floor Calendar on Wednesday, but has not yet been acted upon. As a reminder, the bill, as adopted by the Senate Ways & Means Committee is much different—and much smaller—than previous versions of the bill.

Currently, the bill does two things:

1. A new special passenger (special education; homeless; and foster students) safety net program is established; and
2. OSPI is required to conduct an analysis on pupil transportation data and provide recommendations regarding a new transportation formula. Because all language regarding formula revisions was removed, this is positive. Unfortunately, the report is not due until June 1, 2026. This means, if the Legislature waits for these recommendations to take action, a new funding model will not be in place until at least the 2028–29 school year.

Two amendments are waiting on the Senate bar:

The [first amendment](#) would clarify that transportation safety net awards may only be provided when a school district’s allowable transportation expenditures exceed student transportation allocations and any excess transportation costs reimbursed by child welfare agencies. Further, it provides that a transportation safety net award may not exceed a school district’s excess expenditures directly attributable to serving special passengers in the pupil transportation program.

The [second amendment](#) would reinsert provisions requiring school districts that contract for pupil transportation services to ensure contracted employees receive health care and pension benefits comparable to school employee benefits. One-time funding would be provided to assist districts that experienced an increase in costs to pupil transportation services contracts due to the new benefit requirements.

[HB 1248](#) is in a similar position. It sits in the House Rules Committee waiting to be advanced. As it passed out of the House Appropriations Committee, the bill is dramatically smaller in scope than the previous bill.

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Currently, the bill does two things:

1. Like the SB 5174, a new special passenger (special education; homeless; and foster students) safety net program is established; and
2. Provisions remain requiring school districts that contract for pupil transportation services to ensure contracted employees receive health care and pension benefits comparable to school employee benefits. One-time funding would be provided to assist districts that experienced an increase in costs to pupil transportation services contracts due to the new benefit requirements.

One [amendment](#) is currently on the bar in the House. It would change multiple provisions and add clarifying language regarding the pupil transportation contract benefits issue.

This Week in Review

As this 2023 Legislature passes its midpoint (today is Day 54), the Legislature is also mid-way through its first set of marathon Floor sessions. With the Legislature's house of origin cutoff arriving next [Wednesday, March 8](#), legislators have spent long hours in their respective Chambers and in closed door Caucus meetings all week, sometimes into the night. For example, the House adjourned last night (or this morning) after 1:00 a.m. Given the number of bills still left in the House or Senate Rules Committees or on their respective Floor Calendars, those long days of caucusing, debating, and voting will continue for the next few days (NOTE: March 8, won't be as long as day because the house of origin cutoff has a hard-stop at 5:00 p.m.).

What about a quick look at the numbers? Legislators have introduced over 1,600 bills this session. Prior to the house of origin policy committee cutoff, just over 1,100 of those bills remained alive. Of the approximately 550 bills with budget impacts, about 370 of those made it through the Legislature's house of origin fiscal committee cutoff. That leaves around 900 bills that continue to have life. Even though both the House and Senate are cranking through bills at a rapid clip, a significant number of those 900 bills will be dead by next Wednesday night. As we have discussed before, as the Legislature moves through these gates and bills die, it allows legislators to more clearly focus on their priorities. Remember, as always, no bill is truly dead until this session ends; however, it is always helpful to clear the decks and eliminate distractions.

With the updated Revenue Forecast set to be released in a few weeks ([March 20](#)), quickly followed by legislative budget proposals, priorities will become just that much clearer. Budget-writers have already begun to craft their 2023–25 Operating Budget proposals. It is absolutely critical that school administrators keep the heat on—especially about special education funding and pupil transportation funding (at a minimum)—and get those messages (and your “stories”) to legislators NOW, before they lock into decisions that may be unfavorable to schools. Remind legislators that you understand that 2023 may not be the year to fully achieve these goals, but let them know that you are expressing to them what you—what school districts—NEED. It is just too easy to ignore you if you do not engage. If you persistently engage, legislators may not give you what you need or want, but they simply cannot honestly say they did not hear from you.

We have provided an update on our two highest priorities; however, with 900 bills still breathing, there are numerous other important (positive or negative) education-related bills moving. We will catch a few here.

Transitional Kindergarten

[HB 1550](#), the bill to eliminate Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and replace it with a new Transition to Kindergarten (TTK) program, continues to move. It continues to transform as it moves through the process, with major amendments being adopted when it was adopted by the House Education Committee (February 14), and

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additional major changes made when the House Appropriations Committee moved the bill (February 24). The full House has not yet acted upon the bill, although it was just moved to the House Floor Calendar yesterday. It is expected to be adopted; however, we do not yet know how it will look. As of today, no new amendments have been offered, but additional revisions are anticipated.

Even though the bill continues to get better, there are still major concerns. And it is becoming even more clear that the underlying intent behind the bill is to cap or limit Transitional Kindergarten. Actually, this bill would eliminate Transitional Kindergarten and turn it into a new program; however, it appears even the new Transition to Kindergarten program is going to be limited. It appears that legislators understand the major backlash that would occur if TK was just eliminated and TTK was thrown into the mix to try and appease school districts that have been implementing TK programs. And the way HB 1550 was written—including the new amendments that have been adopted—there continues to be distrust of the program, a continuing belief that TK is competing with ECEAP and private providers, and a belief that TK programs lack quality.

Legislators claim HB 1550 needs to be adopted to protect students and provide opportunities. It is unfortunate that legislators refuse to admit that TK programs are being used in districts to fill a gap, where kids do not have other options, with programs that are producing positive results. The evidence is clear that students that have gone through Transitional Kindergarten programs are far and away more prepared for school than kids who have participated in other programs. So, it is frustrating, but also disappointing, that legislators give a lot of lip-service about supporting students, when the underlying intent clearly is to poke OSPI for authorizing and school districts for implementing an “extrastatutory” program without specific legislative authorization. Long-time *TWIO* readers have heard the discussion about fights in Olympia. Most “outsiders” who are not a part of the legislative arena believe the disagreements and fights in Olympia are disputes between Democrats and Republicans. Certainly, the two parties often are at odds; however, the bigger fights are between the House and Senate, or between the Legislative Branch and the Executive Branch. HB 1550 is a result of that third type of fight.

We continue to remain concerned about three main issues (among others). Specifically:

- **Teacher certification.** Teachers must still hold an elementary education endorsement and complete additional education related to the state early childhood education core competencies within five years of assignment to the program; however, the previous “30 college credit” requirement is changed to “24 college credits or 60 clock hours.” This change is probably better; however, it will still prove difficult to find these teachers—and costly even if you can find them.
- **Student eligibility.** Age limitations remain; however, one specific eligibility requirement is changed. New language states a child is eligible for TTK if they do not have access to a federal or state program providing high quality early learning services, who does not have access to, or has been referred by, a licensed early learning provider. Language remains that the child must either be on a waitlist for ECEAP or has been determined to have a developmental delay or otherwise needs additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten in the following school year. One of the underlying purposes behind TK is to provide service to students that are not eligible for ECEAP or cannot access a private provider. This is one of those examples that seems to simply limit the program.
- **Funding.** The new bill continues to prohibit the use of basic education funds for TTK. The bill includes a new funding formula which would base per student funding on the amount per child enrolled in a school day class of an Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program, adjusted

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for the school district’s regionalization factor rather than based on the estimated statewide allocation per kindergarten student. There remains a concern about whether a school district can count on ongoing funding. OSPI is required to provide an annual report to the Legislature: providing the number of students that are in TTK programs; and an estimated number of students that will be enrolled in the following year. However, it does not appear there is any guarantee the state funding will be provided for those students. TTK is clearly defined as outside of basic education and it does not appear that TTK is considered an entitlement program. Will necessary funding be provided each year? It is unclear.

We continue to work with OSPI and others in an effort to “perfect” HB 1550 because it seems destined to continue to move. And while we attempt to put obstacles in its way, it continues to gain momentum. Even with major concerns, the bill was adopted by the House Education Committee without any “No” votes (there were two members who voted “without recommendation.” The effective result is a “No” vote, but the action is essentially abstaining from the vote—which is not allowed in Committee). And there were only two “No” votes when the bill was adopted by the House Appropriations Committee (another two members voted “without recommendation”).

With the kind of momentum the bill has, it seems likely it will be overwhelmingly adopted by the full House. And our hope of stalling the bill in the Senate may not be as easy as we anticipated. As HB 1550 continues to advance, many of the Senators who initially expressed grave concerns are starting to soften their opposition. **This is all the more reason you need to continue to engage. Express to legislators your concerns about this bill—and clearly provide the positive impacts of your current TK programs. Here is where your “stories” could have maximum impact.**

Educator Compensation

[HB 1732](#) and [SB 5650](#), legislation to determine the K–12 salary inflationary factor, continue to advance.

As originally introduced, both bills do two specific things:

- For the 2023–24 school year, IPD would be locked in at 3.8 percent; and
- Beginning with the 2024–25 school year, the K–12 inflationary factor is calculated as “IPD for the calendar year prior to the beginning of the school year” (the 2024–25 IPD is expected to be 3.6 percent).

When HB 1732 was adopted by the House Appropriations Committee, it was amended to include a new intent section, which clarifies the reason for the bill. The language states, “The Legislature intends to change the inflation factor to use prior year inflation rather than projected inflation to ***add predictability and certainty*** to school district planning and budgets, and to better reflect changing costs in salary allocations” [emphasis added]. Additionally, the Committee added a “null and void” clause.

HB 1732 was adopted by the full House on Wednesday—with an additional [amendment](#). Prior to final passage the previous “3.8 percent” IPD for 2023–24 was changed to “3.7 percent.”

While the IPD is determined in the Operating Budget, positive movement on this bill (and potentially the Senate bill), which are prime-sponsored by budget-writers, is a pretty solid signal about the Legislature’s intentions. Certainly, this is not guaranteed; however, it appears IPD will be set at 3.7 percent and 3.6 percent, or at least something close.

While providing some clarity and predictability to IPD is very positive, there are some concerns with how this bill is moving. For more details, you are encouraged to read the longer discussion in [TWIO Week 4](#) (pages 9-10).

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Prejudgment Interest

We have talked a lot about prejudgment interest, as proposed in [SB 5059](#). In short, it would require interest on tort claims to begin when the damage occurred, rather than beginning when a verdict is determined as is current practice. This is not a specific K–12 education issue; however, it could have major negative fiscal consequences on school districts. It passed out of the Senate Law & Justice Committee on January 26 and was heard in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on February 7. There it sat for almost two weeks—and we thought we had dodged a bullet. Unfortunately, in the final days before the house of origin fiscal committee cutoff, the Committee moved the bill onto its executive action list. On February 23, SB 5059 was adopted by the Senate Ways & Means Committee...or was it?

When Senate Committees take executive action on bills, they typically use “voice votes,” without a roll call or a show of hands; however, this vote is not “official.” As a matter of practice, the voice vote is usually the same as the final vote, but not always. If you have ever watched a Senate Committee during executive action, the Chair asks, “All those in favor...” and supporters say, “Aye.” The Chair then asks, “All those opposed...” and opponents say, “No.” The Chair then says, “By your action you have adopted [in this case] SB 5059.” But, there is a follow-up, wherein the Chair says, “subject to signatures.” Again, in the Senate, Committees do not typically take a roll call vote, but there does need to be an official record of who supported and who opposed a bill. So, each member must sign “the board” (the document is on a clip board, and cleverly discussed as “signing the board”), noting their position.

Although it appeared in the voice vote there were enough votes to adopt SB 5059, when the “official” votes were counted, via signatures “on the board,” there were twelve members in favor and twelve members opposed. If a bill does not receive a majority of votes (and in a tie vote, there is no majority), the bill dies. So, while our major priorities were being gutted in both houses, we received a pleasant—even if somewhat unexpected—win. Of course, this bill, like all bills, could be revived; however, it is unlikely anyone would make the effort to revive this issue this session. Turns out, we did, in fact, dodge a bullet. Understand, however, this bill and/or issue WILL be back next session.

WAMOA

By Mitch Denning

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Here is the latest update on WAMOA priority bills:

- [SHB 1436](#), **fully funding special education**—passed the House yesterday by a vote of 94–2. The bill would increase the special ed multiplier to a lesser extent than the underlying bill. The enrollment limit for K–21 students would be gradually increased until it is removed in SY 2027–28. OSPI would be required to redirect up to 50 percent of the district’s special ed students’ basic ed allocations for special ed if the special ed expenditures exceed revenues in the previous school year. A null and void clause is added. There is not a fiscal note on the substitute bill, but it’s thought to be about \$168 million.

A floor amendment also passed yesterday. In the section requiring a study of special ed services by the Joint Legislature Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) and the State Auditor’s Office (SAO), now clarifies that the product is a performance audit, rather than a report and performance audit. It would allow both agencies to use a sample of school districts in their audit. It would require any state or local agency to provide records to both agencies upon request and authorize JLARC and SAO as representatives of state education agencies for the purpose of evaluation. It would require agencies to provide notice if record requests don’t comply with federal privacy laws. It would remove state-tribal compact schools from the study.

- [E2SHB 1238](#), **providing free school meals for all students**—passed the House yesterday by a vote of 93–3. The second substitute bill would remove the language that would make it a part of the State’s program of basic education. It would require districts who serve students in grades K–4 and have schools in which 40 percent or more of the students meet federal eligibility for free or reduced-price lunches, in SY 2023–24 to serve all students for free in those qualifying schools. Then in SY 2024–25, a qualifying school would become one in which 30–40 percent of the students meet federal eligibility for free or reduced school lunches.

It also specifies that schools who are participating in the federal Community Eligibility Provision program (CEP) and who have not completed the CEP four year program would not be eligible for universal free meals under this bill. The threshold of 40 percent free and reduced-price lunch eligibility for the mandatory establishment of the school breakfast program would be restored. Beginning in SY 2024–25, requires school districts to implement school breakfast in schools that are required to provide meals to students at no charge. Finally, the bill limits the applicability of LAP and National Board bonus provisions to qualifying schools that are required to provide meals to students at no charge.

Two floor amendments also passed yesterday. One allows schools who are required to provide free meals in qualifying schools, but don’t participate in the federal meal program would be re-imbursed at the whole amount of what USDA reimburses plus the difference between that rate and the free rate. Thus, these schools, since they have to serve all free meals if they are at 30–40 percent F/R, would be able to do so without having to comply with federal meal program requirements. The other amendment encourages public schools providing school meals to students to serve WA produced food whenever practicable and the cost is comparable on non-WA produced food.

- [2SSB 5311](#), **special education funding formula**—moved out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Wednesday, and is now in the Senate Rules Committee. The amended bill now increases the special ed multiplier in SY 2023–24. ESDs are required to contract with individual special ed

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advocates, subject to appropriations. State policy would enable spec ed students to generate full basic ed allocations regardless of educational settings. OSPI and the State Auditor are directed to develop an allocation cost accounting methodology that ensures state apportionment funding is allocated to a student's spec ed program and accounted for as excess costs when these basic ed services are providing in an alternative setting.

- [SSSB 5126](#), **common school trust revenue to small school districts**—passed the Senate on February 28, 43–5, and yesterday moved to House Capital Budget. The small district priority list would be the first priority of the Common School Construction Fund (CSCF) appropriations after payment of principal and interest in skill center bonds. Starting in 2025–27, no less than \$60 million in new appropriations in the capital budget must be used to fund small districts on the prioritized list. This amount would increase to \$70 million in 2027–29, and to \$80 million in 2029–31.
- [SSB 5174](#), **pupil transportation funding**—is in Senate Rules. The bill would direct OSPI to gather additional data to develop a new pupil transportation formula that adequately funds current transportation services. It would provide funding on an excess cost basis to districts who demonstrate a need to serve special passengers. Public charter and tribal compact schools would also be eligible, and such funding is not part of basic education. By July 1, 2026, OSPI would provide the legislature with a cost analysis from SY 2024–25, including mileage, ridership, and costs for each type of special students, and for all other to and from pupil transportation. OSPI would have to also include recommendations on how to incorporate geographic differences faced by rural and high population density urban districts in the transportation funding model.
- [SSB 5057](#), **work group to evaluate the costs of the State Energy Performance Standard for Covered Commercial Buildings**—is in Senate Rules. The substitute bill would delay by one year, instead of two, the Tier 1 covered building energy use intensity target reporting schedule required to comply with the State Energy Performance Standard. It also would create a work group, convened by the Department of Commerce rather than WSU, to report on the financial impacts to all Tier 1 covered buildings required to comply with the Standard, and make specific recommendations to the Legislature regarding energy efficiency in the building sector. Sen. Mullet, the bill's prime sponsor, is sponsoring a WAMOA-originated floor amendment, which would add a WAMOA member to the work group. Our rationale is that a WAMOA member who has direct knowledge of the conditions of school facilities needs to be part of the formal conversation in helping determine the costs of the Standard for K–12 facilities.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey—The Nexus Group

Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

“The aim of an argument or discussion should not be victory, but progress.”
 Joseph Joubert

Both houses were and remain in caucuses or in debate on the floor considering various bills on their respective calendars. Committee work will begin in earnest once the deadline to pass bills from their house of origin. (March 8). House bills that passed will then be heard in Senate committees and vice versa.

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Listed below are bills that have either moved or appear still ‘alive’. Remember that NTIB bills are always in the background and may come forward at any time. And, technically, any bill can be resurrected.

Retirement Related Proposals

As a repeat: previous reports have covered the bills related to addressing the lack of a cost-of-living increase (COLA) for members in TRS/PERS Plans 1. They are [HB 1057/SB 5350](#), [HB 1201/SB 5294](#), and [HB 1459](#).

There are four bills currently moving that deal with pensions: two sets/companions per chamber and all four slightly differing.

[SB 5350](#), would grant a one-time, capped 3 percent COLA for TRS1/PERS1 Plan members. It also directs the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) to recommend a path to regaining a permanent COLA for these retirees.

The Senate passed the bill 48/0 and it has been moved to the House Appropriations Committee.

[ESSB 5294](#) was amended. The principal change was that as originally proposed, it took the \$800 million last session budgeted to lower the unfunded liability in TRS Plan 1. The amended bill leaves \$250 million toward the liability and transfers the rest to the General Fund. In short, it: Removes the underlying provisions of the bill. Sets the existing minimum UAAL rates to end after FY 2023. Sets UAAL rates for FY 2024 through 2027. Establishes a new minimum UAAL rate of 0.5 percent that goes into effect in FY 2028.

The Senate passed the bill 48/0 and it has been moved to the House Appropriations Committee.

[ESHB 1057](#), would grant a one-time, capped 3 percent COLA for TRS1/PERS1 Plan members. It also directed the SCPP to recommend a path to regaining a permanent COLA for these retirees. Unlike its companion, an adopted amendment froze current rates until 2028.

The bill passed the House 96/0 and will be moved to the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

[HB 1201](#), eliminates the minimum contribution rates for amortizing the unfunded liabilities in the Teachers’ Retirement System Plan 1 (TRS 1), beginning August 31, 2024, and for the Public Employees’ Retirement System Plan 1 (PERS 1), beginning June 30, 2025. Fixes the employer contribution rate for the unfunded liabilities in PERS 1 and TRS 1 at zero until 2029, excluding amounts to amortize benefit improvements made after June 30, 2009. Repeals the scheduled payment of \$800 million into the TRS 1 fund scheduled for June 30, 2023.

This bill remains in Rules. *Note* Senate passed its companion.

Regarding costs:

Numerous fiscal notes are attached to each of these bills. The bottom line is that they all address the unfunded liability and the resulting surcharges that employers are currently paying to lower the UAAL.

A simple, generalized summary is that current surcharge rates (paid by employers only) are PERS 3.85 percent / TRS1 6.46 percent. Effective in 2023: Under HB 1201 the rates go to 0 (zero) percent in 2026 for PERS and 0.71 percent for TRS 1 in 2025. Savings to the state’s General Fund will be \$427.7 million in 2023–25. Obviously, savings will also go to employers such as school districts. The other bills also have various projections as to future rates. All lower the current surcharge rates. ESHB 1057 also includes language that any benefit improvements (such as a COLA) will have no effect on rates until July 1, 2027.

[HB 1007](#): **Concerning interruptive military service credit for members of the state retirement systems.**

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Comment: Retirement credit can be awarded if in any armed conflicts, if the participant was awarded the respective campaign or expeditionary badge or medal.... the ‘expeditionary badge qualifier was added.

HB 1007 passed the House 97/0 and has moved to the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

HB 1008: Concerning participating in insurance plans and contracts by separate Plan 2 members of certain retirement systems.

Comment: This bill would simply make retiree insurance provisions uniform and equitable for Plan 2 and 3 members.

HB 1008 passed the House 93/0 and has been moved to the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

HB 1056: Repealing some postretirement employment restrictions.

Comment: Changes the postretirement employment restrictions on benefits eligibility for Public Employees’ Retirement System, Teachers Retirement System, and School Employees Retirement System Plans 2 and 3 members that retired under the 2008 Early Retirement Factors (ERFs). Permits 2008 ERF members to work in retirement system–covered employment for up to 867 hours per year without suspension of retirement benefits. • Adjusts benefits for individuals that chose the 3 percent per year early retirement reduction to the level of reduction in the 2008 ERFs for future benefit payments. Effective 1/1/2024.

SHB 1056 passed the House 93/0 and has moved to the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

SSB 5121: Extending the expiration date of the joint select committee on health care oversight.

Comment: Extends the expiration date of the Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight from December 31, 2022, until December 31, 2026, and renames it the Joint Select Committee on Health Care & Behavioral Health Oversight.

Passed Senate 48/0. Executive Session before the House Health Care & Wellness Committee is scheduled 3/10.

SSB 5490: Concerning health care coverage for retired or disabled employees denied coverage for failure to timely notify the authority of their intent to defer coverage.

Comment: A retired or disabled employee who was eligible to defer coverage when they left employment, but failed to do so and later applied for retiree coverage and was denied solely for failure to notify HCA of their plan to defer coverage, and appealed the denial of benefits by December 31, 2022, may enroll in retiree health care. A retired or disabled employee enrolling in benefits may only enroll in a fully-insured Medicare advantage or Medicare supplement plan. A retiree taking advantage of this provision must apply by the end of the open enrollment period for the plan year beginning January 1, 2024.

This bill passed the Senate 48/0 and sent to the House Health Care Committee.

Other areas of potential fiscal (\$\$) impact and (often, unfunded) to districts

SHB 1068: Concerning injured workers’ rights during compelled medical examinations.

Comment: This allows an injured worker to make an audio and video recording of a compelled medical examination, and to have one person of the worker’s choosing present during the examination.

This bill passed the House 65/33 and will be moved to the Senate Health & Long-term Care Committee.

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SHB 1106: Concerning qualifications for unemployment insurance when an individual voluntarily leaves work.

Comment: Expands access to unemployment insurance benefits by adding circumstances where a person may voluntarily quit for a good cause.

This bill remains on the House floor calendar for possible action.

SHB 1136: Requiring employers to reimburse employees for necessary expenditures and losses.

Comment: Requires employers to reimburse employees for all necessary expenditures and losses incurred in direct consequence of their duties.

This bill is in the House Rules Committee awaiting action.

SHB 1187: Concerning privileged communication between employees and the unions that represent them.

Comment: A testimonial privilege is established for a union representative and an employee the union represents or has represented from being examined or required to disclose any communication between an employee and union representative or between union representatives that is made in the course of union representation. Exceptions to this privilege are established.

This bill is in House Rules waiting movement.

SHB 1200: Requiring public employers to provide employee information to exclusive bargaining representatives.

Comment: Requires certain public employers to provide exclusive bargaining representatives information, such as contact information, date of hire, salary, and jobsite location, of employees in bargaining units if the employer has that information in its records. The employer must provide the information within 21 business days from the date of hire for new employees in an appropriate bargaining unit, and every 120 business days for all employees in an appropriate bargaining unit. In addition, the employer must provide the information in an editable format. Allows an exclusive bargaining representative to bring a court action if a public employer fails to comply with the requirement to provide information.

HB 1200 has been moved to the House Rules Committee.

EHB 1210: Concerning the recording of school board meetings.

Comment: Specifies that a public records request for recordings of school district board of directors' meetings must include the date of the meetings requested, or a range of dates. Provides that searches for public records need not include recordings of school district board meetings unless a date is given. Requires all school district board meetings to be audio recorded, subject to exceptions for executive sessions and emergencies, with recordings kept for at least one year. Encourages school districts to make the content of school board of directors' meetings available in formats accessible to individuals who need communication assistance and in languages other than English.

This bill passed the House 96/1, had a public hearing before the Senate State Government Committee on February 17.

SHB 1248: Concerning pupil transportation.

Comment: Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to provide transportation safety net awards to school districts with excess special passenger costs for special education, homeless, and foster students, as defined in the operating budget. Requires that school district contracts for pupil transportation services must include sufficient funds to provide employees of the contracting employer with health benefits and pension contributions equivalent to those of school district classified employees. Provides one-time supplemental allocations to districts that experience higher costs because of the new contract requirements. (According to

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the fiscal note, these allocations are just partial and paltry reimbursement for added costs for the benefits.)

This bill has been moved to the House Rules Committee for possible action.

ESSHB 1320: Concerning access to personnel records.

Comment: Specifies that an employer must provide the employee's complete, unredacted personnel file within 14 calendar days of the request from the employee, former employee, or their attorney, agent, or fiduciary. Requires an employer to provide to a former employee, upon request, a statement of the employee's discharge date and reasons, if any, for the discharge. Creates a private cause of action to enforce the requirements. Requires the Department of Labor and Industries and the Employment Security Department to provide employers with information regarding the employer's obligations and the employee's rights.

Passed the House 56/40 and will be moved to the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee.

SB 5059: Concerning prejudgment interest.

Comment: This was proposed last session. Briefly stated, judgments founded on the tortious conduct of a "public agency" shall bear interest from the date (of entry) the cause of action accrued. So, if a district is found liable for neglecting to act in a child's best interest, years after the fact, it will pay a penalty and interest from the day the neglect/damage first occurred. And from the date the action is commenced or the date the minor attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is earlier.

This bill has been moved to Rules for possible pull to floor calendar.

SB 5084: Creating a separate fund for the purposes of self-insured pensions and assessments.

Comment: Creates a self-insurance reserve fund for payments from self-insured employers related to workers' compensation pensions and from the overpayment's reimbursement fund.

Is now in the Senate Rules Committee.

ESSB 5123: Concerning the employment of individuals who lawfully consume cannabis.

Comment: Prohibits employers, with some exceptions, from discriminating against a person in hiring if the discrimination is based on the person's use of cannabis outside of work or on certain employer-required drug screening tests.

The bill does not: prohibit an employer from basing initial hiring decisions on scientifically valid drug screening conducted through methods that do not screen for non-psychoactive cannabis metabolites; apply to testing for controlled substances other than pre-employment, such as post-accident testing or testing because of suspicion of impairment or being under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, medications, or other substances; affect the rights or obligation of an employer to maintain a drug and alcohol free workplace, or any other right or obligation of an employer required under federal law or regulation; apply to applicants in the airline or aerospace industries, or applicants applying for a position that requires a federal government background investigation or security clearance; or apply to safety-sensitive positions for which impairment while working presents a substantial risk of death.

Passed the Senate 28/21. Sent to the House Labor committee for scheduling.

SSHB 5174: Providing adequate and predictable student transportation.

Comment: Removes provisions that modify the student transportation funding formula. Removes additional monthly reporting requirements. Removes provision requiring transportation contractors to provide employee health and retirement benefits comparable to those received by school employees. Creates a special passenger safety net program. Updates intent section.

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One proposed amendment of note, sponsored by Sen. Hasegawa, restores the provisions regarding health and retirement benefits. Part of the effect statement reads: Requires OSPI, subject to appropriations, to provide a one-time supplemental transportation allocation to districts that see an increase in costs due to these new requirements, not to exceed \$200 per employee per month. Provides reporting requirements and restrictions on use of funds.

This has been moved to the floor calendar.

SB 5240/HB 1656: Concerning unemployment insurance benefits appeal procedures.

Comment: A dispute of an individual's initial determination, determination of allowance or denial of allowance of benefits, or redetermination of allowance or denial of benefits, all matters covered by such initial determination, determination, redetermination shall be deemed to be in issue subject to appeal.

SB 5240 passed the Senate 47/0 and has been moved to the House Labor Committee. HB 1656 is in House Rules Committee.

SSB 5275: Expanding access to benefits provided by the School Employees' Benefits Board.

Comment: Tribal compact schools, employee organizations representing school employees, and school board directors may enter into a contract with the HCA to provide health care benefits to their employees through SEBB beginning January 1, 2024. Employers opting into coverage under SEBB may determine the terms of employee and dependent eligibility and must pay premiums set by HCA.

Passed Senate and has been moved to House Appropriations.

SSB 5286: Modifying the premium provisions of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program.

Comment: Amends the premium rate calculation in the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program (PFML) to be based on a specified formula rather than the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Account balance ratio on September 30 of the previous year. Sets a maximum rate of 1.2 percent and removes the Employment Security Department's authority to assess a solvency surcharge if the account balance ratio falls below a certain threshold.

Passed the Senate 48/0 and moved to the House 2/3 awaiting a date for public hearing before the House Labor Committee.

SB 5296: Concerning interruptive military service credit for members of the state retirement systems.

Comment: Members of the state's retirement systems who leave employment to enter the armed forces of the United States may be eligible for interruptive military service credit. Interruptive military service credit applies to all Washington state retirement systems. A member can qualify for up to five years of no-cost interruptive military service credit. The employer and state pay their contributions plus interest and the system subsidizes the member contributions and interest.

Passed the House 49/0 and will be sent to the House Appropriations Committee.

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
Virtual

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Tuesdays

8–10 a.m.
House Education
Virtual

1:30–3:30 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Wednesdays

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Virtual

Thursdays

1:30–3:30 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Fridays

8–10 a.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Virtual

10–11 a.m.
House Education
Virtual

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 9, 2023

First Day of Session.

February 17, 2023

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

February 24, 2023

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

March 8, 2023

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

March 29, 2023

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

April 4, 2023

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

April 12, 2023*

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 23, 2023

Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

* After 5:00 p.m. on the 94th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, 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
SHB 1003	Dual credit program access	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1008 (SB 5420)	Plan 2 members/insurance	S Ways & Means	Bronoske
HB 1011	Long-term care/repeal	H HC/Wellness	Abbarno
2SHB 1013	Regional apprenticeship prgs	H Passed 3rd	Maycumber
SHB 1015 (SB 5264)	Paraeducator requirements	S EL/ K–12	Santos
HB 1020	State dinosaur	S State Govt & El	Morgan
SHB 1044	Capital assistance/schools	H 2nd Reading	McEntire
SHB 1048 (SSB 5047)	Voting rights act	H 2nd Reading	Mena
SHB 1056 (SB 5349)	Postretirement employment	S Ways & Means	Stokesbary
ESHB 1057 (SB 5350)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	S Ways & Means	Stokesbary
HB 1064	School safety capital grants	H Cap Budget	Jacobsen
HB 1071	School resource officers	H Education	Walsh
EHB 1086	Community org. contracts	S Loc Gov, Land U	Shavers
HB 1092	State property tax/valuation	H Finance	Walsh
HB 1093	K–12 scholarship program	H Education	Walsh
HB 1096 (SB 5731)	Amateur sports officials	H Community Safe	Low
SHB 1105	Public comment notice	H Rules R	Kloba
SHB 1109	Special education funding	S EL/ K–12	Senn
SHB 1113	Prof. educator reprimands	S EL/ K–12	Harris
SHB 1118	School bus safety	H Appropriations	Mosbrucker
HB 1125 (SB 5162)	Transportation budget	H Transportation	Fey
HB 1126 (SB 5164)	Transportation budget, supp.	H Transportation	Fey
2SHB 1134	988 system	H 2nd Reading	Orwall
HB 1135 (SB 5452)	Impact fee use	H Rules R	Slatter
HB 1140 (SB 5187)	Operating budget	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1141 (SB 5188)	Operating budget, supp.	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1146	Dual credit program notice	S EL/ K–12	Paul
HB 1147 (SB 5200)	Capital budget	H Cap Budget	Tharinger
HB 1148 (SB 5201)	State gen. obligation bonds	H Cap Budget	Tharinger

HB 1156 (SB 5711)	College grant eligibility	H Appropriations	Slatter
SHB 1187 (SB 5706)	Employee-union privilege	H 2nd Reading	Hackney
SHB 1200 (SB 5273)	Employee information/unions	H Passed 3rd	Alvarado
HB 1201 (ESSB 5294)	Retirement system funding	H Rules R	Ormsby
SHB 1207	Harassment/schools	S EL/ K–12	Senn
EHB 1210	School board recordings	S State Govt & El	Rude
HB 1211 (2SSB 5311)	Special education funding	H Appropriations	Bergquist
SHB 1228	Dual & tribal language edu.	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1230	School websites/drug info.	S EL/ K–12	Callan
E2SHB 1238 (SSB 5339)	Free school meals	H Passed 3rd	Riccelli
2SHB 1239	Educator ethics & complaints	H Rules R	Santos
SHB 1241	Harassment	H Rules R	Leavitt
HB 1244 (SB 5692)	Enrichment levy authority	H Rules R	Ramel
HB 1246	Health benefits/SEBB	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
SHB 1248	Pupil transportation	H Rules R	Stonier
2SHB 1272	Voters' pamphlets	H Rules R	Bergquist
SHB 1273 (2SSB 5243)	High school and beyond plans	H Appropriations	Berg
ESHB 1277	Paraeducator course of study	S EL/ K–12	Donaghy
HB 1294	Plan 1 retiree COLAs	H Appropriations	Steele
2SHB 1305	Students with disabilities	H Rules R	Pollet
SHB 1306 (2SSB 5268)	Public works procurement	H 2nd Reading	Tharinger
HB 1308	Graduation pathway options	H Passed 3rd	Stonier
2SHB 1316	Dual credit program access	H 2nd Reading	Paul
E2SHB 1320 (SSB 5061)	Personnel records	S Labor & Comm	Reed
HB 1328	Schools & families/funding	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
2SHB 1332	Tribes/ K–12 instruction	H Rules R	Lekanoff
SHB 1346 (2SSB 5071)	Purple star award	S EL/ K–12	Shavers
HB 1353	School district elections	H Education	Stonier
HB 1354	School volunteers/conviction	H Education	Stonier
SHB 1368 (SB 5431)	Zero emission school buses	H Appropriations	Senn
HB 1373	Illegal encampment removal	H Housing	Stokesbary
HB 1374 (SSB 5305)	Office of career connect WA	H Postsec Ed & Work	Slatter
HB 1376	School practice standards	H Education	Santos

ESHB 1377	Continuing education/ K–12	S EL/ K–12	Santos
SHB 1386	Youth development grants	H Appropriations	Rule
2SHB 1392 (SB 5464)	Electronics repair	H 2nd Reading	Gregerson
SHB 1406	Youth seeking housing assist	H Passed 3rd	Cortes
HB 1411	Cross-sector prof. dev.	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1418 (SB 5442)	Charter schools/enrichment	H Appropriations	Springer
HB 1423 (SSB 5372)	Trust land transfer program	H Cap Budget	Hackney
HB 1429	Educational employee strikes	H Labor & Workplace	Stokesbary
ESHB 1436	Special education funding	H Passed 3rd	Pollet
HB 1444 (SSB 5126)	Common school trust revenue	H Cap Budget	McEntire
HB 1459	PERS & TRS plan 1 adjustment	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1468	Impact fee deferrals	H Rules R	Goehner
HB 1472	Motor vehicle sales tax	H Appropriations	Barkis
EHB 1478	Student rights	H Passed 3rd	Timmons
2SHB 1479 (SB 5559)	Student restraint, isolation	H 2nd Reading	Callan
HB 1483	State school levies	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1489 (SB 5590)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	H 2nd Reading	Orcutt
HB 1496 (SB 5556)	Naselle Youth Camp property	H State Govt & T	Walsh
HB 1497	Vapor and tobacco/minors	H Reg Subst & Gaming	Harris
SHB 1504 (ESSB 5257)	Elementary school recess	S EL/ K–12	Low
HB 1527 (SB 5539)	Tax increment financing	H Rules R	Wylie
HB 1536	H.S. diplomas/withholding	S EL/ K–12	Timmons
2SHB 1541 (SB 5616)	Lived experience	H 2nd Reading	Farivar
HB 1549	AP course options	H Education	Stonier
2SHB 1550	Transition to kindergarten	H 2nd Reading	Santos
HB 1556 (SB 5495)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
HB 1560	Property tax exemptions	H Finance	Shavers
E2SHB 1565	Prof. education workforce	H Passed 3rd	Ortiz-Self
HB 1566	Vacation leave accrual	H Rules R	Bateman
SHB 1590	Oversight board for DCYF	S Human Services	Dent
HB 1605 (SSB 5668)	Small districts/skill center	H Appropriations	Rule
HB 1608	Anaphylaxis meds./schools	H Education	Bronoske
SHB 1609	School library info and tech	H Appropriations	Eslick

HB 1615	Education savings accounts	H Education	Eslick
2SHB 1618	Childhood sexual abuse/SOL	H Passed 3rd	Farivar
SHB 1621	Local government procurement	H 2nd Reading	Ryu
HB 1622	Students/homelessness	H Rules R	Fey
HB 1624	ESD election administration	S EL/ K–12	Ybarra
HB 1649	Prejudgment interest	H Civil R & Judiciary	Hackney
SHB 1658	Work experience/H.S. credit	H Passed 3rd	Shavers
HB 1667 (SB 5563)	Prevailing wage	H Labor & Workplace	Schmidt
HB 1670	Property tax limit factor	H Rules R	Ormsby
HB 1675	School safety dashboard	H Education	McEntire
SHB 1676	Special ed. early support	H Appropriations	Senn
HB 1679 (SB 5719)	Student homelessness group	S Human Services	Rule
SHB 1692	Student advisory groups	H Rules R	Bergquist
SHB 1693 (ESSB 5702)	Student homelessness pilot	H Rules R	Lekanoff
HB 1697	Early achievers, voluntary	H Human Svc, You	Walsh
SHB 1701	Institutional ed. programs	S EL/ K–12	Callan
HB 1703	Local property tax levies	H Local Govt	Orcutt
HB 1704	Sales and use tax rate	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1710 (SSB 5248)	Tutoring & extended learning	H Appropriations	Rude
HB 1714	Financial literacy grants	H Rules R	Stonier
HB 1721	Skill center class size	H Appropriations	Paul
ESHB 1732	K–12 inflation adjustments	S Ways & Means	Bergquist
HB 1741	Prototypical school formulas	H Appropriations	Rule
SHB 1744	Charter school oversight	H Rules R	Rude
2SHB 1746 (SB 5718)	State broadband map	H Rules R	Ryu
HB 1747 (SB 5680)	Seismic safety/schools	H Cap Budget	Chapman
HB 1749	Filipino Americans/schools	H Education	Chandler
HB 1750	Water safety education	H 2nd Reading	Berg
HB 1756	Energy/tax	H Finance	Ramel
HB 1759	Chinese American month	H State Govt & T	Santos
HB 1793	Wireless devices tax	H Finance	Gregerson
HB 1819	K–12 music instruction	H Education	Reed
HB 1825	Teacher comp./state schools	H Appropriations	Harris

HB 1827	Vaccination status	H Civil R & Judiciary	Walsh
HJR 4203	School district bonds	H Education	Stonier
HJR 4205 (SJR 8206)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
SB 5000	Americans of Chinese descent	H State Govt & Tr	Wagoner
SB 5008	K–12 instr. materials/access	S EL/ K–12	McCune
SB 5009	Sex ed./parent approval	S EL/ K–12	McCune
SB 5017	Motor vehicles sales tax use	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5018	Sales tax/transp. projects	S Transportation	Fortunato
SB 5019	School safety staff	H Education	Wellman
SB 5020	Education at 6 years of age	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SB 5024	K–12 education/parent rights	S EL/ K–12	Dozier
SB 5029	School district boards	S EL/ K–12	Short
SB 5031	Special ed safety net awards	H Education	Wellman
SB 5038	K–12 empl. notice deadlines	S EL/ K–12	Mullet
SSB 5047 (SHB 1048)	Voting rights act	S Rules 2	Saldana
2SSB 5048	College in high school fees	S Rules 2	Mullet
SSB 5054	Prof. learning communities	H Education	Wellman
SB 5059	Prejudgment interest	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SSB 5061 (E2SHB 1320)	Personnel records	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5064	Special ed. excess costs	S EL/ K–12	Wellman
SB 5065	Bone marrow donation/schools	H Education	Short
SB 5068	Motor vehicle sales tax	S Ways & Means	MacEwen
2SSB 5071 (SHB 1346)	Purple star designation	S 2nd Reading	Nobles
SSB 5072	Highly capable students	H Education	Nobles
SSB 5085	School principals/employment	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
SSB 5102	School library info and tech	S Rules 2	Wellman
SSB 5126 (HB 1444)	Common school trust revenue	H Cap Budget	Pedersen
SSB 5127	Student information/PRA	H State Govt & Tr	Wilson
SB 5136	Sales and use tax exemptions	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5139	Vaccination refusal	S Health & Long	Fortunato
SSB 5158	State & local taxation	S 2nd Reading	Wilson
SB 5162 (HB 1125)	Transportation budget	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5164 (HB 1126)	Transportation budget, supp.	S Transportation	Liias

2SSB 5174	Student transportation	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
SB 5175	School principal contracts	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
SB 5180	Teacher mobility compact	S 2nd Reading	Hunt
SB 5187 (HB 1140)	Operating budget	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5188 (HB 1141)	Operating budget, supp.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5200 (HB 1147)	Capital budget	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5201 (HB 1148)	State gen. obligation bonds	S Ways & Means	Mullet
2SSB 5225	Working conn. child care	S 2nd Reading	Wilson
SSB 5237	Education law noncompliance	S Ways & Means	Wilson
2SSB 5243 (SHB 1273)	High school and beyond plans	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
SB 5246	Supreme court fiscal notes	S Law & Justice	Holy
SSB 5248 (HB 1710)	Tutoring & extended learning	S Ways & Means	Braun
2SSB 5254	Leasing of state lands	S Rules 2	Van De Wege
2SSB 5268 (SHB 1306)	Public works procurement	S Rules 2	Hasegawa
SB 5273 (SHB 1200)	Employee information/unions	S Labor & Comm	Valdez
SSB 5305 (HB 1374)	Office of career connect WA	S Ways & Means	Wellman
2SSB 5311 (HB 1211)	Special education funding	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
2SSB 5315	Special education/nonpublic	S Rules 2	Wilson
SB 5327	Intern wages	S Labor & Comm	Keiser
SB 5332	Homeless camps/schools, etc.	S Loc Gov, Land	King
SSB 5339 (E2SHB 1238)	Free school meals	S Ways & Means	Nobles
SB 5343	School construction costs	S EL/ K–12	Schoesler
SB 5344	Public school revolving fund	S Rules 2	Schoesler
SB 5345	School buildings/energy	S Environment, E	Schoesler
SB 5346	Student art/school const.	S EL/ K–12	Schoesler
SB 5349 (SHB 1056)	Postretirement employment	S Rules 2	Conway
SB 5350 (ESHB 1057)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	H Appropriations	Conway
ESB 5355	Sex trafficking prev. ed.	H Education	Wilson
SB 5363	Cannabis advertising	S Rules 2	MacEwen
SSB 5365	Vapor and tobacco/minors	S 2nd Reading	Saldana
SSB 5372 (HB 1423)	DNR land	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5403	School depreciation subfunds	S 2nd Reading	Schoesler
SB 5404	Cannabis revenue/local gov.	S Labor & Comm	Wagoner

SB 5408	Ninth grade success grants	S Ways & Means	Liias
SB 5420 (HB 1008)	Plan 2 members/insurance	S Ways & Means	Conway
SB 5431 (SHB 1368)	Zero emission school buses	S EL/ K–12	Shewmake
2SSB 5438	Supportive relationships	S Rules 2	Warnick
SSB 5441	School district curricula	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SB 5442 (HB 1418)	Charter schools/enrichment	S EL/ K–12	Mullet
SB 5444	Firearm sensitive places	S Law & Justice	Valdez
SB 5449	School buses/other use	S Transportation	Warnick
ESB 5462	Inclusive learning standards	H Education	Liias
SB 5464 (2SHB 1392)	Electronics repair	S Environment, E	Stanford
SB 5479	Long-term care/referendum	S Labor & Comm	Schoesler
SB 5485	Public employees/child care	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
SB 5495 (HB 1556)	Property tax rebates	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5505	School year expansion	S EL/ K–12	Hawkins
SB 5511	K–12 education funding	S EL/ K–12	Braun
SB 5514 (HB 1582)	Right turns	S Transportation	Lovick
SB 5527	Graduation pathway options	S Rules 2	Mullet
SB 5554	College grant award amounts	S Ways & Means	Nguyen
SB 5556 (HB 1496)	Naselle Youth Camp property	S State Govt & El	Wilson
SB 5558	Rights of parents	S EL/ K–12	McCune
SB 5559 (2SHB 1479)	Student restraint, isolation	S EL/ K–12	Wilson
SB 5563 (HB 1667)	Prevailing wage	S Labor & Comm	King
SB 5577	Capital broadband program	S Environment, E	Torres
SSB 5586	Paid leave data	H Labor & Workplace	King
SB 5590 (HB 1489)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	S Transportation	Wilson
2SSB 5593	Student data transfer	S 2nd Reading	Liias
SB 5595	State nickname	H State Govt & Tr	Wilson
SB 5616 (2SHB 1541)	Lived experience	S State Govt & E	Valdez
SSB 5617	Career & tech. ed. courses	H Education	Wellman
SB 5618	Local property tax limit	S Loc Gov, Land	Kuderer
SB 5625	Public employee retirees	S Ways & Means	Liias
SB 5626	K–12 media literacy	S 2nd Reading	Liias
SB 5641	African heritage week	S State Govt & E	Fortunato

SB 5647	School safety/temp employees	S Rules 2	Torres
SSB 5648	Board of education waivers	H Education	Wellman
SB 5650	K–12 inflationary increases	S Rules 2	Rolfes
SB 5653	Minors & parents/rights	S EL/ K–12	Fortunato
SSB 5655	WA achievers grant program	S Rules 2	Torres
SB 5656	School security grants	S EL/ K–12	Torres
SB 5661	Skill center class sizes	S EL/ K–12	Boehnke
SSB 5668 (HB 1605)	Small districts/skill center	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
2SSB 5670	Running start/10th grade	S 2nd Reading	Hawkins
SB 5671	K–12 experience factors	S EL/ K–12	MacEwen
SB 5678	Firearms safety/ K–12	S EL/ K–12	Wagoner
SB 5680 (HB 1747)	Seismic safety/schools	S EL/ K–12	Schoesler
SSB 5684	Small works rosters	S Rules 2	Hasegawa
SB 5688	Public lands/carbon seq.	S Ways & Means	Lovelett
SB 5692 (HB 1244)	Enrichment levy authority	S EL/ K–12	Lovelett
SB 5706 (SHB 1187)	Employee-union privilege	S Law & Justice	Frame
SB 5710	Behavioral health/youth	S Ways & Means	Torres
SB 5711 (HB 1156)	College grant eligibility	S Passed 3rd	Nobles
SB 5712	College grant/promise prg.	S Higher Ed & Work	Liias
SB 5713	Certain schools/reg. factors	S EL/ K–12	Wagoner
SB 5718 (2SHB 1746)	State broadband map	S Environment, E	Wellman
SB 5719 (HB 1679)	Student homelessness group	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SSB 5723	Even-numbered year elections	S Rules 2	Valdez
SB 5731 (HB 1096)	Amateur sports officials	S Law & Justice	Lovick
SSB 5743	Transportation resources	H Transportation	Liias
SJM 8007	IDEA funding	S EL/ K–12	Kauffman
SJR 8200	Revenue for highway purposes	S Transportation	Fortunato
SJR 8203	Public school revolving fund	S Rules 2	Schoesler
SJR 8206 (HJR 4205)	Property tax rebates	S Ways & Means	Kuderer