

# 2022 Legislative Session Guide



A publication of the Washington Association of School Administrators

The 2022 Session began on January 10 and is scheduled to end on March 10.

“This Legislative Session may be the most important one yet.” You have heard it before. It seems as though every succeeding year we declare that engaging in the upcoming legislative process is “more important than ever.” Continuing to ring the same bell seems like a bit of hyperbole; however, think about the last two years as the world—and our schools, students, and staff—has been mired in an ongoing pandemic.

The pandemic has had a massive impact on K–12 education. As the 2022 Legislative Session begins, many school districts continue to deal with enrollment declines, growing staffing shortages, and literal exhaustion of staff as they continue to tackle contact tracing, COVID testing, and quarantining, acting as health care specialists rather than keeping their focus on academics. Impacts of the pandemic have hit students the hardest. Months of remote learning has had drastic negative impacts on students’ academic growth and mental health.

Is it more important than ever to engage with our legislators? Given the ongoing challenges, this does not seem to be an exaggeration.

WASA continues to encourage an increased involvement of our members in advocacy—specifically, our non-superintendent members. In the last few years, you’ve stepped up and we have seen increased efforts in engaging with the Legislature. Now is not the time to take your foot off the gas; rather, now is the time to ramp up your efforts.

Legislative advocacy is sometimes compared to a New Year’s resolution. In the beginning, you are engaged and motivated. You are determined to meet with your local legislators, and regularly contact them in writing, by e-mail or by phone; track important legislation; provide public testimony; and otherwise engage in the process. But too often, other pressing issues compete for your attention. Your resolve begins to fade and your determination turns to resignation. Most New Year’s resolutions are abandoned well—before the flowers begin to bloom in the spring.

Before you let your determination wane in regard to legislative advocacy, remember all of the crucial decisions legislators regularly make that impact K–12 education. And remember, most of our 147 lawmakers have no background in education. When we let legislators that do not understand our schools, how they are funded, or how they operate, make decisions in a vacuum, school administrators have to pick up the broken pieces.

Your advocacy can impact legislators’ thinking. YOU are the education experts and you should exert your influence. Contact your legislators now (and often) and continue to build good relationships with them. Establish trust and credibility so they will come to you for information and advice. If legislators make the wrong decision because they do not agree with you, that’s on them. But if legislators make the wrong decision because we sat on our hands, that’s on us. We have to be honest and acknowledge we will not always be successful, but if we don’t engage, we are guaranteed to lose. Hockey legend Wayne Gretzky said it best: “You miss 100 percent of the shots you don’t take.”

We know school administrators are incredibly busy and we know some of you do not feel comfortable being an advocate in Olympia. WASA will make your engagement as simple and non-threatening as we can. We will continue to provide you with resources to support your advocacy efforts, including this Session Guide. This is your go-to Guide to quickly find contact information for your legislators, a copy of WASA’s 2022 Legislative Platform, advocacy “tips and tricks,” and session calendars. WASA will also continue to publish our weekly legislative newsletter, *This Week in Olympia* ([TWIO](#)), and our weekly [legislative podcast](#) to keep you up-to-date on education policy and budget issues being dealt with this session.

Remember, advocacy does not have to be hard, intimidating, or time-consuming. You simply must commit to it, however. The remote nature of the 2022 Session provides even more—and easier—opportunities for engagement. This is especially true for administrators representing school districts which are far from Olympia. Rather than taking a full day for travel (sometimes in bad winter weather) to meet with your legislators or provide testimony on a bill, you can participate from your office desk or kitchen table.

We hope that you will join with WASA—and our education association colleagues—as we raise our collective voices in unison to fight for our public schools. YOU are WASA—and we can’t do it without you.

## 2022 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Approaching the 2021 Legislative Session, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was feared that K–12 budgets would suffer. Fortunately, the economy began to stabilize—along with the provision of significant federal stimulus funds—and catastrophic reductions were set aside. In fact, the Legislature was able to sustain most education funding, along with some additional key investments to get school districts through the pandemic. School administrators recognize and appreciate our legislators' efforts. While K–12 budgets were largely protected, however, most of our school districts' critical needs hit the back burner. During the 2022 Legislative Session, it is urgent that K–12 education's ongoing concerns are addressed. After reviewing our needs and requests from a position of equity, school administrators are committed to pursuing the following priorities:

### Update Staff Allocations

In the 2011 transition to the Prototypical School Funding Model, original staffing allocations were funded at artificially low ratios based on historic staffing levels that had been in place since the late 1980's to ensure the conversion was cost neutral. Since then, the need for student supports in local school districts has grown exponentially, yet the funding ratios for most staff positions have remained the same since the Model was first implemented. WASA urges the Legislature to begin fulfilling its commitment by phasing in updated ratios to achieve more realistic state-funded staffing levels in all schools, beginning first with investments to meet students' needs for: mental health, social health, emotional health, and behavioral health.

### Provide Consistent, Equitable, and Ample Education Resources

Several components of K–12's funding structure are underfunded or have embedded inequities between districts that urgently need to be addressed. WASA urges the Legislature to promptly take action on the following components:

- **Fix Pupil Transportation.** Under the current Pupil Transportation funding model (STARS), many districts experience significant funding gaps; in the last four years many districts received an allocation below their costs. OFM recently found in most situations, the STARS model will not provide adequate resources to school districts and recommends, at the very least, that more funding be provided to the system. It is time to fix this formula.
- **Fully Fund Special Education.** Prior to the 2019 Session, OSPI identified a special education underfunded need of at least \$300 million. In 2019, the excess cost multiplier was increased; in 2020, additional funding was provided for safety net awards; in 2021, funding was provided for additional transition services, for professional development, and for family liaisons. While these incremental steps to reduce the special education funding gap are appreciated, the 2022 Legislature must take more deliberate action to eliminate the current underfunding.
- **Adjust Regionalization/Experience Factors.** Regionalization and Experience Factors are intended to ensure school districts can provide fair and equitable salaries to staff, allowing districts to hire the best teachers available. Regionalization Factors, however, have intensified rather than lessened inequities between districts. Similarly, Experience Factors were intended to lessen inequities; however, as currently implemented, additional funding only assists one-fifth of the state's school districts because the calculation is overly limiting. The calculation and application of both factors need to be evaluated and adjusted.
- **Provide State-of-the-Art Technology and Connectivity.** The COVID-19 outbreak exposed the current technology gap, including availability and affordability of devices and broadband connectivity. The Legislature must ensure there is equitable access to technology resources.

### Advance Equity

Closing opportunity gaps for students is critical. WASA urges the Legislature to provide school districts the resources, tools, and flexibility to: ensure equitable learning opportunities, and fair treatment for each student; and recruit, support, and retain effective classroom, building, and district staff who reflect the diversity of our student populations, including ethnicity, and gender.

### Invest in Learning Recovery

The COVID-19 pandemic, forcing school closures and long-term use of remote learning, was detrimental to many students. The 2021 Legislature recognized this, providing significant investments to support learning recovery and acceleration. Unfortunately, most of those programs are supported with one-time funds. Additional resources are needed to enhance, or at least sustain, learning recovery efforts to assist students academically and with mental health or social-emotional learning needs when the initial funds are exhausted.

### Support Capital Facilities

WASA urges the Legislature to: give Washington's citizens the opportunity to decide whether school district bond issues should be approved with a simple majority vote; and enhance the state's investment in K–12 construction by updating the current, outdated funding formulas for the Construction Cost Allowance and Student Space Allocation to ensure funding more closely reflects actual construction costs and educational space needs.

## ADVOCACY DO'S AND DON'TS

We appreciate your engagement. Remembering a few “rules” of the game will help you maneuver in the legislative arena; following are some of the things you are encouraged to DO—and some things we recommend you DON'T do.

**DO commit to advocacy.** Effective advocacy does not have to be hard, intimidating or time-consuming; however, it does take a commitment.

**DO get to know your legislators.** Take the time to build relationships with your legislators. Meet with them during the interim and maintain contact with them throughout the session. Establish trust and credibility with legislators—so they will go to you for information and advice.

**DO know your legislators' staff.** Legislative assistants are one of the keys to communicating with legislators. Treat these people with respect, as they are the gatekeepers to their bosses. Establishing a good relationship with them may or may not help you gain access, but being rude to them will likely limit your access.

**DO be prepared.** Whether you are meeting with a legislator or providing public testimony it is important you are prepared. Make sure you understand your arguments, you've collected impactful stories, and you know what important points to make.

**DO have a specific “ask.”** One of the cardinal sins of advocacy is taking time and energy to meet with legislators, but never specifically asking for what you want or need. Whether it is support or opposition to a bill or a request for funding or a budget proviso, be sure to ask your legislator to act. And request a response.

**DO give examples.** Compile data, graphs and charts to build your case, but frame your “ask” with a local story. Personalize issues with names of students, teachers, school buildings and tell stories about the real impacts. Stories stick!

**DO say “thank you.”** There is no such thing as being too polite. You may disagree with your legislator, but you can also find a reason to say “thank you”: for their time; for their consideration; for their support; or just for their service. In addition to being polite, after engaging with legislators, a follow-up “thank you” note can be used as an excuse to restate your position (and your “ask”), as well as to provide additional information and to answer any questions that were raised.

**DO stay informed.** Use the WASA website, the Hotline newsletter, and WASA News to stay on top of important education issues. To stay on top of education issues in the Legislature, follow WASA's legislative newsletter, This Week in Olympia (*TWIO*), and WASA's legislative podcast.

**DO advocate as a Team.** While the superintendent should probably take the lead, other administrators should be on the “Advocacy Team.” You should also consider involving principals, teachers, parents—and even students. You are also encouraged to involve your school directors; as elected officials, they have a direct connection to the community and their perspective can be unique and valuable.

**DON'T believe that advocacy is a one-time thing.** Advocacy is a year-round effort. The best time to establish and build relationships is well-before the Legislative Session begins. That said, it is never too late to start.

**DON'T overwhelm legislators with information.** “Information overload” is counterproductive to your messaging. Legislators meet with hundreds of people in a given week, and they receive thousands of letters, phone calls, and e-mails. Clarity and brevity will be more impactful.

**DON'T use jargon or acronyms.** K–12 education is notorious for the huge number of acronyms we use. If you use education jargon or acronyms, many legislators will not understand what you are talking about—and often they won't bother to ask. This just dilutes your message.

**DON'T assume legislators know more than they do.** Legislators have to deal with hundreds of issues—and thousands of bills—during a session. Even the most seasoned legislator will have trouble being on top of every issue.

**DON'T give up.** Some of the most simple, noncontroversial issues take several years to get through the Legislature. Being persistent, with continued engagement is essential for long-term success in the Legislature.

**DON'T exaggerate.** An exaggeration is akin to a lie. Get caught lying to a legislator and you will lose respect, credibility—and probably access.

**DON'T be too informal.** There are certain written and many unwritten protocols in Olympia. One is addressing legislators with their title, “Senator Jones” or “Representative Smith.” Using a legislator's first name is generally considered a breach. Even when given permission to be more casual, you won't go wrong by being more formal.

**DON'T argue.** It is OK to respectfully disagree, but arguing is unproductive and certainly will not get you any points.

**DON'T guess.** Don't answer a question if you don't know the answer. Say “I'll get back to you”—and then follow through.

**DON'T send form letters (or duplicate e-mails).** It is important for the education community to speak with one voice, but that does not mean using form letters. Using common language and similar messaging is fine—and appropriate—but it is lazy (and horribly ineffective) to essentially duplicate one message.

## SENATE LEADERSHIP

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 Vice President Pro Tempore ..... Senator Steve Conway ..... 786-7656

Secretary of the Senate ..... Sarah Bannister ..... 786-7550  
 Deputy Secretary of Senate ..... Colleen Rust ..... 786-7016  
 Sergeant At Arms ..... Jim Ruble ..... 786-7541

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 Majority Deputy Leader ..... Sen. Rebecca Saldaña ..... 786-7688  
 Majority Caucus Chair ..... Sen. Bob Hasegawa ..... 786-7616  
 Majority Caucus Vice Chair ..... Sen. Mona Das ..... 786-7692  
 Majority Floor Leader ..... Sen. Jamie Pedersen ..... 786-7628  
 Majority Asst. Floor Leader ..... Sen. Joe Nguyen ..... 786-7667  
 Majority Whip ..... Sen. Emily Randall ..... 786-7650  
 Majority Assistant Whip ..... Sen. Claire Wilson ..... 786-7658

### Republican Caucus

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 Minority Whip ..... Sen. Keith Wagoner ..... 786-7676  
 Minority Deputy Whip ..... Sen. Perry Dozier ..... 786-7630

**Room Key**  
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 JAC = Cherberg Building  
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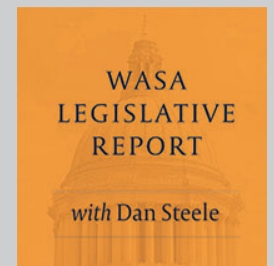
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No general fax: contact individual representative.

## WA State House Directory, continued

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### WASA Legislative Report Podcast



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# Federal Directory

## UNITED STATES SENATE

### Senator Maria Cantwell (D)

511 Hart Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510  
www.cantwell.senate.gov | Tel 202-224-3441 | Fax 202-228-0514

LOCAL 915 Second Ave., Suite 3206, Seattle, WA 98174  
Tel 206-220-6400 | Fax 206-220-6404

### Senator Patty Murray (D)

154 Russell Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510  
www.murray.senate.gov | Tel 202-224-2621 | Fax 202-224-0238

LOCAL 915 2nd Avenue, Seattle, WA 98174  
Tel 206-553-5545 or 866-481-9186 | Fax 206-553-0891

## UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### 1st District ..... Representative Suzan DelBene (D)

2330 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
delbene.house.gov | Tel 202-225-6311 | Fax 202-226-1606

LOCAL 450 Central Way, Suite 3100, Kirkland, WA 98033  
Tel 425-485-0085 | Fax 425-485-0083

LOCAL 204 W. Montgomery St., Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
Tel 360-416-7879 | Fax 425-485-0083

### 2nd District ..... Representative Rick Larsen (D)

2163 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
larsen.house.gov | Tel 202-225-2605 | Fax 202-225-4420

LOCAL Wall Street Bldg, 2930 Wetmore, Suite 9F, Everett, WA 98201  
Tel 425-252-3188 | Fax 425-252-6606

LOCAL 119 N. Commercial St., Suite 75, Bellingham, WA 98225  
Tel 360-733-4500 | Fax 360-733-5144

### 3rd District ..... Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler (R)

2352 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
herrerabeutel.house.gov | Tel 202-225-3536 | Fax 202-225-3478

LOCAL Chehalis City Hall Building  
350 N. Market Blvd., Chehalis, WA 98532

LOCAL 750 Anderson Street, Suite B, Vancouver, WA 98661  
Tel 360-695-6292 | Fax 360-695-6197

### 4th District ..... Representative Dan Newhouse (R)

504 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
newhouse.house.gov | Tel 202-225-5816 | Fax 202-225-3251

LOCAL 402 E. Yakima Ave., Suite 1000, Yakima, WA 98902  
Tel 509-452-3243 | Fax 509-452-3438

LOCAL 3100 George Washington Way #135, Richland, WA 99354  
Tel 509-713-7374 | Fax 509-713-7377

### 5th District ..... Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R)

1035 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
mcmorris.house.gov | Tel 202-225-2006 | Fax 202-225-3392

LOCAL 10 N. Post, Suite 625, Spokane, WA 99201  
Tel 509-353-2374

LOCAL 555 S. Main St., Colville, WA 99114  
Tel 509-684-3481

LOCAL 26 E. Main St. Suite 2, Walla Walla, WA 99362  
Tel 509-529-9358

### 6th District ..... Representative Derek Kilmer (D)

2059 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
kilmer.house.gov | Tel 202-225-5916 | Fax 202-226-1176

LOCAL 950 Pacific Ave., Suite 1230, Tacoma, WA 98402  
Tel 253-272-3515

LOCAL 345 6th St., Suite 500, Bremerton, WA 98337  
Tel 360-373-9725 | Fax None

### 7th District ..... Representative Pramila Jayapal (D)

2346 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
jayapal.house.gov | Tel 202-225-3106 | Fax 202-225-6197

LOCAL 1904 3rd Ave., Suite 510, Seattle, WA 98101  
Tel 206-674-0040

### 8th District ..... Representative Kim Schrier (D)

1123 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
schrier.house.gov | Tel 202-225-7761 | Fax 202-225-4282

LOCAL 1445 NW Mall St., Suite 4, Issaquah, WA 98029  
Tel 425-657-1001

LOCAL 301 Yakima Street, Suite 329, Wenatchee, WA 98801  
Tel 509.850.5340

### 9th District ..... Representative Adam Smith (D)

2264 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
adamsmith.house.gov | Tel 202-225-8901 | Fax 202-225-5893

LOCAL 101 Evergreen Bldg, 15 S. Grady Way, Renton, WA 98057  
Tel 425-793-5180 | Fax 425-793-5181

### 10th District ..... Representative Marilyn Stickland (D)

1004 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
marilynstickland.house.gov | Tel 202-225-9740 | Fax 202-225-0129

LOCAL 420 College St. SE, Lacey, WA 98503  
Tel 360-459-8514

LOCAL 6000 Main St. SW, Suite 3B, Lakewood, WA 98499  
Tel 253-208-6173

## THIS WEEK IN OLYMPIA (TWIO) KEEPS WASA MEMBERS INFORMED

TWIO is published weekly by the Washington Association of School Administrators to keep you informed during the legislative session.

<https://wasa-oly.org/wasa/TWIO>

## LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE (800.562.6000)

8 a.m.–8 p.m., Monday–Friday; 9 a.m.–1 p.m., Saturday

This quick and effective service allows you to communicate your views and to obtain information about bills. You will be asked for your name, address, telephone number, the bill number about which you are calling, your legislative district, and a brief message.

ONLINE BILL INFORMATION ..... [apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo](https://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo)

- Specific bill title and number
- Bill status
- Committee considering bill
- Name/phone of committee staff
- Mailing (upon request)

## 2022 LEGISLATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Region 101

Jim Kowalkowski (Chair),  
Davenport

### Region 105

Kevin McKay, Sunnyside

### Region 108

James Everett, Meridian

### Region 109

Patty Dowd, Mukilteo

### Region 110

Alah Spicciati, Auburn

### Region 111

Tom Seigel, Bethel

### Region 112

Mary Templeton, Washougal

### Region 113

Cal Brodie, ESD 113

### Region 114

Dana Rosenbach, North Mason  
Monica Hunsaker, ESD 114

### Region 123

Traci Pierce, Kennewick

### Region 171

Greg Goodnight, Pateros

### BPAC

Sarah Thomton, Pasco

### ESDs

Michelle Price, NCESD 171

### IPAC

Jennifer Bethman, Bethel

### Principals

Matt Yarkosky, Bethel

### Small Schools

Jake Dingman, Oakesdale

### Special Ed

John Sander, Oakesdale

### Superintendents

Jeff Snell, Vancouver

### Federal Liaison

Kevin McKay, Sunnyside  
Michelle Price, ESD 171  
Nathan McCann, Ridgefield  
Krestin Bahr, Eatonville

### Consultants (non-voting)

Mitch Denning–AEA  
Fred Yancy–The Nexus Group  
Pensions/Health Benefits  
Melissa Gombosky–AESD

## KEY PHONE NUMBERS

ALL AREA CODES (360)

Office of the Governor .....	902-4111
Office of the Lieutenant Governor .....	786-7700
Secretary of State .....	902-4151
Legislative Service Center .....	786-7000
Operator .....	753-5000
Legislative Information Center (Bill Room) .....	786-7573
Tour Information .....	902-8880
Secretary of the Senate .....	786-7550
Chief Clerk's Office (House) .....	786-7750
Senate Committee Services .....	786-7400
House Office of Program Research .....	786-7100

## WEBSITES

Washington Association of School Administrators .....	<a href="http://www.wasa-oly.org">www.wasa-oly.org</a>
Washington State School Directors' Association .....	<a href="http://www.wssda.org">www.wssda.org</a>
Association of Washington School Principals .....	<a href="http://www.awsp.org">www.awsp.org</a>
Washington Education Association .....	<a href="http://www.washingtonea.org">www.washingtonea.org</a>
Washington State PTA .....	<a href="http://www.wastatepta.org">www.wastatepta.org</a>
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction .....	<a href="http://www.k12.wa.us">www.k12.wa.us</a>
Office of the Governor .....	<a href="http://www.governor.wa.gov">www.governor.wa.gov</a>
Washington State Legislature .....	<a href="http://www.leg.wa.gov">www.leg.wa.gov</a>

The Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) represents approximately 1,300 active school administrators statewide.

## WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

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Assistant Executive Director, Administrative Operations  
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Assistant Executive Director, Professional Learning  
Mike Nelson ([mnelson@wasa-oly.org](mailto:mnelson@wasa-oly.org))



## 2022 SESSION CUTOFF CALENDAR

These are the dates in the resolution as introduced; the schedule is not final until it has been adopted by both the House and Senate.

January 10	First Day of Session
February 3	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) in house of origin, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
February 7	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees in house of origin.
February 15	Last day to consider (passed) bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).
February 24	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
February 28	Last day to read in opposite house committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
March 4*	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).
March 10	Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

\* After 5:00 p.m. on the 54th 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.

## Committee Meeting Calendar

(TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. UP-TO-DATE 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES AND AGENDAS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE STATE LEGISLATURE WEBSITE AT [WWW.LEG.WA.GOV/LEGISLATURE/PAGES/CALENDAR.ASPX](http://WWW.LEG.WA.GOV/LEGISLATURE/PAGES/CALENDAR.ASPX).)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8–10 a.m.		House Education Virtual			Senate Early Learning & K–12 Virtual
10–11 a.m.					House Education Virtual
10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.			Senate Early Learning & K–12 Virtual		
1:30–3:30 p.m.	Senate Early Learning & K–12 Virtual	House Appropriations Virtual		House Education Virtual	
3:30–5:15 p.m.	House Appropriations Virtual	House Appropriations Virtual		House Appropriations Virtual	
4–6:00 p.m.	Senate Ways & Means Virtual	Senate Ways & Means Virtual		Senate Ways & Means Virtual	