

2016 Legislative Session Guide - DRAFT

A publication of the Washington Association of School Administrators

The 2016 Session began on January 11 and is scheduled to end on March 10.

It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste, or sex. (§ 1)

The legislature shall provide for a general and uniform system of public schools. (§ 2)

—Constitution of the State of Washington, Article IX, Education

2016 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Comply with the Paramount Duty

WASA believes the Legislature should continue to be held accountable for complying with its “paramount duty” to provide ample funding for all K–12 children by implementing the new basic education finance system as adopted in both ESHB 2261 (2009) and SHB 2776 (2010). To ensure the new system is completely implemented—with full and equitable funding—by 2018, as consistently ordered by the Supreme Court in *McCleary v. State*, the Legislature must demonstrate steady progress towards compliance with the constitution.

Expand Available State Resources

The current state budget structure cannot accommodate the required—and needed—increases in basic education to comply with the Supreme Court’s *McCleary* decision, nor allow the state to address educator compensation or capital costs in a comprehensive way. WASA supports the enhancement of state revenues to ensure the Legislature is able to fully comply with the constitutional paramount duty with “regular and dependable” sources of funding and also prevent drastic reductions of other necessary government services—which would have significant direct and indirect impacts on K–12 education.

Ensure Competitive Public School Employee Compensation

WASA urges the Legislature to fully fund a competitive compensation system to ensure the state not only meets its responsibility to establish an equitable and ample allocation system, but maintains the present pension offerings and provides competitive benefits. Failure to address the state’s obligation to adequately fund educator salaries will continue to force an unconstitutional overreliance on local levies. The order of implementation is critical; current basic education labor costs must be funded first, before any potential reduction of local levies. Any proposal to fund compensation that simply “swaps” state and local property tax authority without providing new state funding will not work and cannot be supported.

Enhance School Construction Assistance

To fully comply with *McCleary*, a significant enhancement in school construction funding is required to ensure the state is amply funding the actual cost of constructing facilities necessary to reduce class sizes and implement full-day kindergarten. Understanding that a local contribution will likely still be required to access most state construction assistance, WASA also urges the Legislature to advance a constitutional amendment to the people authorizing school district bond issues to be approved with a simple majority vote.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS

In the 2016 Session, K–12 education will again be a battleground. There are multiple priority education issues that need to be addressed by the Legislature, including: action on a Court-required “full and complete plan” to fully fund basic education; implementing and funding an updated educator compensation system; and implementing a funding solution that lessens local school districts’ overreliance on levies. Given these issues—and the approaching 2018 *McCleary* deadline to fully fund the state’s paramount duty—there will be much talk about “next steps.” Unfortunately, “talk” appears to be the only action legislators may be willing to take. Legislative leaders in all four caucuses, along with the governor, have already clearly indicated that complying with the *McCleary* decision is a top priority—to be addressed NEXT year.

Even though this session may be geared to be another “do nothing” session, it remains incumbent upon administrators to remain engaged. Use *TWIO* and other WASA legislative resources, including this Session Guide, to regularly engage with your local representatives. Continue to build relationships with your local legislators so they know that you are the “go to” person when education issues are being discussed in the Legislature. Tell your “story” and remind legislators of your schools’ needs. And remind them that K–12 education is not just another budget expenditure, it is a wise and sound investment in the state’s future. Our efforts may not be successful; however, not participating in the legislative process will ensure our failure.

WA State Senate Directory

All Area Codes (360)

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Democratic Caucus

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Democratic Vice Caucus Chair	Sen. Rosemary McAuliffe	786-7600
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Democratic Assistant Floor Leader	Sen. Marko Lias.....	786-7640
Democratic Whip	Sen. Cyrus Habib	786-7694
Democratic Assistant Whip.....	Sen. Mark Mullet	786-7608
Democratic Minority Leader.....	Sen. Andy Billig	786-7604

Majority Coalition Caucus

Majority Leader	Sen. Mark Schoesler.....	786-7620
Majority Caucus Chair.....	Sen. Linda Evans Parlette	786-7622
Majority Floor Leader.....	Sen. Joe Fain	786-7692
Majority Whip	Sen. Ann Rivers.....	786-7634
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Majority Assistant Floor Leader.....	Sen. Jim Honeyford	786-7684
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Room Key

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JAC	=	Cherberg Building
LEG	=	Legislative Building

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Majority Leader	Rep. Pat Sullivan	786-7858
Majority Caucus Chair	Rep. Eric Pettigrew	786-7838
Majority Whip	Rep. Kevin Van De Wege	786-7916
Majority Floor Leader	Rep. Gael Tarleton	786-7860
Deputy Majority Whip	Rep. Marcus Riccelli	786-7888
Deputy Majority Whip	To be announced	786-xxxx
Deputy Majority Leader	Rep. Larry Springer	786-7822
Deputy Majority Floor Leader	Rep. Steve Bergquist	786-7862
Assistant Majority Whip	Rep. Joan McBride	786-7864

Republican Caucus

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Deputy Minority Leader	Rep. Joel Kretz	786-7988
Minority Caucus Chair	Rep. Shelly Short	786-7908
Minority Whip	Rep. Paul Harris	786-7976
Minority Floor Leader	Rep. J.T. Wilcox	786-7912
Minority Caucus Vice Chair	Rep. Joe Schmick	786-7844
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Assistant Minority Floor Leader	Rep. Matt Manweller	786-7808
Assistant Minority Whip	Rep. Dan Griffey	786-7966
Assistant Minority Whip	Rep. Dave Hayes	786-7914
Assistant Minority Whip	Rep. Lynda Wilson	786-7994

Room Key

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LOCAL 26 E. Main St., Walla Walla, WA 99362
Tel 509-529-9358 | Fax 509-353-2412

6th District Representative Derek Kilmer (D)

1520 Longworth 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

LOCAL 332 E. 5th St., Port Angeles, WA 98632
Tel 360-797-3623

7th District Representative Jim McDermott (D)

1035 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
mcdermott.house.gov | Tel 202-225-3106 | Fax 202-225-6197

LOCAL 1809 7th Ave., Suite 409, Seattle, WA 98101
Tel 206-553-7170 | Fax 206-553-7175

8th District Representative Dave Reichert (R)

1127 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
reichert.house.gov | Tel 202-225-7761 | Fax 202-225-4282

LOCAL 22605 SE 56th St., Suite 130, Issaquah, WA 98029
Tel 425-677-7414 | Fax 425-270-3589

LOCAL Fifth South Wenatchee Ave. Suite 315, Wenatchee, WA 98801
Tel 509-885-6615

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

LOCAL 2209 Pacific Ave., Suite B, Tacoma, WA 98402
Tel 253-593-6600 | Fax 253-593-6776

10th District Representative Denny Heck (D)

425 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
dennyheck.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., Lakewood, WA 98499
Tel 253-208-6173

LOCAL 1423 E. 29th St. Suite 203, Tacoma, WA 98404
Tel 253-722-5860

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.

www.wasa-oly.org/TWIO

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Special Education

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Superintendents

Larry Francois, Northshore

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Lake Chelan

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Stephen Nielsen, Puget Sound
ESD

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Mitch Denning, Ph.D., AEA
Fred Yancey, The Nexus Group
Pensions/Health Benefits
Jim Shoemake, Ed.D., AESD
Marcia Fromhold, AESD

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

- Specific bill title and number
- Bill status
- Committee considering bill
- Name/phone of committee staff

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	www.wasa-oly.org
Washington State School Directors' Association	www.wssda.org
Association of Washington School Principals	www.awsp.org
Washington Education Association.....	www.washingtonea.org
Washington State PTA	www.wastatepta.org
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	www.k12.wa.us
Office of the Governor	www.governor.wa.gov
Washington State Legislature	www.leg.wa.gov

The Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) represents approximately 1,000 active school administrators statewide.

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Assistant Executive Director, Professional Development
Helene Paroff (hparoff@wasa-oly.org)

2016 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 11	First Day of Session
February 5	Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
February 9	Last day to read in committee reports from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees in house of origin.
February 17	Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).
February 26	Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
February 29	Last day to read in opposite house committee reports 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 the 54th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.

2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

(Times are subject to change. Please visit www.leg.wa.gov and select "Agendas, Schedules, and Calendars" for updated schedules.)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8–9:55 a.m.				Senate Early Learning & K–12 SHR1 House Education HHRA	
1:30–3:25 p.m.	Senate Early Learning & K–12 SHR1 House Education HHRA	Senate Early Learning & K–12 SHR1 House Education HHRA			
3:30–5:30 p.m.	Senate Ways & Means SHR4 House Appropriations HHRA	Senate Ways & Means SHR4	Senate Ways & Means SHR4 House Appropriations HHRA	Senate Ways & Means SHR4 House Appropriations HHRA	