



EXCELLENT SCHOOLS NOW

2012 POLICY PRIORITIES

Effective Teachers and Leaders

Teacher and principal effectiveness has a greater impact on student learning than any other factor in a school system. To ensure effective educators are in every classroom and every school building, we support the following:

► **Teacher and Principal Evaluation Pilots (TPEP)**

Implement an educator evaluation system that incorporates multiple measures of student growth, and uses this robust evaluation system to determine critical staffing decisions. We will focus on supporting effective implementation through funding for evaluation training and professional development so that educators understand and trust the new evaluation system.

► **Measuring Student Growth to Inform Instruction**

Direct the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a student growth model.

Prioritize High-Impact K-12 Investments

In these challenging economic times, it is more critical than ever that we prioritize our resources to those policies that increase student learning and close the opportunity gap. We recommend prioritizing the following investments:

- Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS)
- Full-Day Kindergarten
- Common Core State Standards & Assessments
- Washington State Graduation Requirements: Career & College Ready
- Mentor Program for Beginning Teachers (BEST)
- Continued phase-in of Basic Education as defined in ESHB 2261 and SHB 2776

Excellent Schools Now Coalition currently includes the following members:

Alliance for Education, ArtsEd Washington, Black Collective, Black Education Strategy Roundtable, Coalition for Equal Education Rights, College & Work Ready Agenda, College Spark, College Success Foundation, Communities in Schools of Seattle, Democrats for Education Reform (Washington Chapter) Executive Council for a Greater Tacoma, Invest in Youth, King County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, League of Education Voters, New Futures, Pacific Science Center, Partnership for Learning, Powerful Schools, Rainier Scholars, Seattle Biomedical Research Institute, Seattle Breakfast Group, Schools Out Washington, Social Venture Partners, Spokane Library Ladies, Stand for Children, Students For Education Reform - Whitworth Chapter, Tabor 100, Teachers United, Technology Access Foundation, Technology Alliance, Washington Alliance of Black School Educators, Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association, Washington Coalition for School Libraries and Information Technology, Washington Global Health Alliance, Washington Roundtable, Washington State PTA and Washington Technology Industry Association.

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