



Below is a collection of sample emails and petitions that can be used as templates for ESN advocacy. These examples came from the League of Education Voters and STAND for Children – Washington.

Sample emails to legislators

Subject: The ball is in your court--fully fund our schools

With today's Supreme Court ruling that the supermajority needed to raise revenues or close tax loopholes is unconstitutional and the McCleary ruling that the state is not fully funding our schools, the door is now open. Washington's students have waited long enough.

Please support a budget that ensures that Washington meets its paramount duty to our kids. All of Washington's students deserve a world class education with ample, equitable, and stable funding.

Sample emails to legislators

Subject: Thank you for supporting Common Sense School Discipline

We're sending HUGE kudos your way. Thank you for your years of work on transforming school discipline and spotlighting the disproportionate impact current policies and practices have on students of color, low-income students, and students with special needs.

Please support HB and vote it out of committee this Friday.

Let's make history this legislative session by transforming school discipline and keeping more students in school.

Thank you again!

Sample Petition

When high schools students look at their class options, too few of them are picking computer science.

The problem is that computer science classes don't count as a math or science credit. When students think about what classes they need to get into college, they see that other math and science classes look better on their college application than a computer science elective.

That's backwards. Fortunately, there's a proposal in the state legislature, HB 1472, that would fix this.

More than 3 in 4 Washington voters agree that computer science should count as a math or science credit rather than an elective course. Let's tell lawmakers to pass HB 1472 and make it happen for students this year.

Right now:

Computer science is the 2nd highest paid college degree and the field is growing.

Washington state ranks 1st in the country in the concentration of STEM jobs but will not have enough graduates to fill many of these positions. "An estimated 30,000 STEM jobs will go unfilled in the next five years due to a lack of qualified candidates," according to Washington STEM.

The 9 states that allow computer science to count towards the math or science graduation requirement have seen a large increase in the number of students taking computer science.

Computer science classes should count as a math or science graduation requirement, with rigorous standards and teacher training to ensure more students learn this career-ready skill.

Washington students should have the skills for Washington jobs.

Sign this petition to make computer science count as a math or science credit toward graduation.

Sample email to other supporters

Subject: Prioritizing school funding

February 25, 2013

Dear [first name],

Last Friday, the Washington legislature passed its first big milestone for the 2013 session – the deadline for policy bills to pass out of committee.

It was a mad dash to the finish line which included bills to transform school discipline, support for all students to have access to rigorous college-ready courses, STEM education, reform of early learning programs, and ensuring all third-graders can read. Our legislature is doing some very good work.

While Olympia was focused on policy, local voters focused on funding schools.

During February's levy elections, voters across the state supported [\\$1.7 billion dollars](#) in funding for schools. Last year, local voters approved \$2.6 billion in local levy funds. As the legislature struggles to come up with \$1.5 billion this biennium, local voters have approved \$4.3 billion in local levy funding during the past two years. The levies were approved with an average 63 percent of the vote in 204 school districts across the majority of legislative districts.

Voters passed these levies because they know the money is going directly to helping kids. Voters stepped up for their local schools.

Excellent Schools Now Sample Emails

It's time we step up for all schools and all students in our state.

Over a year ago, the Washington State Supreme Court ruled in *McCleary v. Washington* that the state was not meeting its constitutional duty to fully fund basic education. The court ordered the legislature to overhaul how education is funded in the state by 2018.

It's time to make a down payment on our students' futures.

There are legislative leaders who are committed to fulfilling the promise of our state's paramount duty and they need our support. Please join me in [thanking our legislative leaders](#) who are working hard on behalf of Washington's kids to ensure ample, equitable, and stable education funding.

Sample email to other supporters

Subject: Action Alert: Breaking Down Stereotypes

[first name]

"We're breaking down stereotypes and breaking down peer pressure from their own peer group," says Joni Hall, one of three Academy Principals at Todd Beamer High in Federal Way. **"We are seeing kids go to college who otherwise wouldn't have."**

Would you take a minute to tell lawmakers to break down stereotypes by supporting Academic Acceleration, HB 1642?

[Ask legislators to support this bill to put more students on the path to college.](#)

Legislators in the House Education Committee are having a **hearing today, Friday Feb 15** on Academic Acceleration, [HB 1642](#).

We'd like legislators to see public support for this bill, and if you take action now, they'll have **your email in their inbox when they consider the bill** this afternoon.

[Go here to send lawmakers an email on HB 1642](#)

Academic Acceleration is **closing the opportunity gap** and **making college real for more students**, especially low-income students and students of color. It works by automatically enrolling every high school student who is qualified into **more rigorous classes**, including college prep classes like Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) that offer college credit.

It's been **working for students in Federal Way Public Schools since 2010**, and now it's time to expand the policy statewide.

[Take action today](#)

Excellent Schools Now Sample Emails

PS - Tell your friends! **Forward this email** to show even more support for Academic Acceleration, [HB 1642](#).