

2014 Legislative Session Wrap-Up



Quarterly Meeting
March 26, 2014

2014 Legislative Priority Areas

1. College and Career Ready Diploma
2. Teacher and Principal Evaluation Program (TPEP)
3. Closing Achievement and Opportunity Gaps
4. Early Learning



College and Career Ready Diploma

Goal: Authorize the State Board of Education's 24-credit "College and Career Ready Graduation Requirements," beginning with the class of 2019. This change would more closely align high school graduation requirements with college admission requirements and employer expectations.

Update: The College and Career Ready Diploma bill (ESSB 6552, cosponsored by Sen. Rolfes and Sen. Dammeier) **passed out of both chambers with overwhelming bipartisan support.**

Washington's Graduation Requirements

Subject	Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2016, 2017 & 2018	College and Career Ready Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2019 & Beyond
English	4	4
Math	3	3
Science	2 (1 is a lab)	3 (2 are labs)
Social Studies	3	3
Career & Technical Ed	1	1
Health & Fitness	2	2
Arts	1	2 (1 can be PPR)
General Electives	4	4
World Language or Personalized Pathway Requirement (PPR)	--	2 (Both can be PPR)
Total Credits	20	24

Teacher and Principal Evaluation Program (TPEP)

Goal: Require all districts in Washington to use state test scores when calculating student growth for use in teacher and principal performance evaluations. This would enable Washington state to meet the U.S. Department of Education's Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver requirements. This change would allow school districts to maintain local control over nearly \$40 million in federal Title I funds.

Update: Unfortunately, our legislature was unable to get any bills through that would have kept our ESEA waiver. Now, nearly \$40 million federal Title I funds are at risk.

Federal Title I Dollars and Programs at Risk

Tacoma is also expected to reduce preschool programs, paraeducators and instructional coaches at high-need schools, professional development for teachers, and tutoring.

Yakima schools will be forced to shut down programs like Read 180, which promotes daily reading.

In total, all but eight of Washington's 295 districts will be impacted by the loss of control of nearly \$40 million.

District	Flexible Title I funds at stake
Seattle	\$2.5 million
Spokane	\$2.3 million
Tacoma	\$2 million
Vancouver	\$1.6 million
Yakima	\$1.5 million
Evergreen	\$1.2 million
Kent	\$1.1 million
Pasco	\$1.05 million
Highline	\$1.03 million
Kennewick	\$1 million
Federal Way	\$992,401
Renton	\$667,242
Auburn	\$528,253
Tukwila	\$322,209

Closing Achievement and Opportunity Gaps

Goals:

- Establish an on-going workgroup, with broad representation of statewide interests, to develop a comprehensive plan for implementing expanded learning opportunities, academic supports and school-community partnerships.
- Develop a state study to analyze the impact of summer learning loss on opportunity and achievement gaps among low-income students and students of color; and identify gap-closing summer learning strategies.
- Request a legislative work study of promising programs that incorporate culturally responsive instruction.

Closing Achievement and Opportunity Gaps

Establish an on-going workgroup, with broad representation of statewide interests, to develop a comprehensive plan for implementing expanded learning opportunities, academic supports and school-community partnerships.

SSB 6163 passed and included:

- ELO Council develops ELOs plan for academic supports, best practices and school-community partnerships. (Funded in supplemental budget)
- SKIP (Summer Knowledge Improvement Program) extending school year by 20 days in 10 schools. (Not funded this budget.)

Closing Achievement and Opportunity Gaps

Develop a state study to analyze the impact of summer learning loss on opportunity and achievement gaps among low-income students and students of color; and identify gap-closing summer learning strategies.

- Summer learning loss has become a new priority for State Board of Education.
- June 21st is National Summer Learning Day. Stay tuned for more information on ways to get involved.
- We expect more conversations and work on this issue going forward.

Closing Achievement and Opportunity Gaps

Request a legislative work study of promising programs that incorporate culturally responsive instruction.

There were more conversations about gap closing (though not enough still) and many bills passed this session with a focus on gap closing, but more work needs to be done.

Bills that did pass:

- The “DREAM Act” extends eligibility for State Need Grant to certain undocumented students who graduate from a Washington high school.
- SB 6074 tries to improve educational outcomes for homeless students through better data collection and the use of best practices when training homeless student liaisons.
- SB 6129 authorizes a work group to design minimum employment standards for paraeducators and design an articulated pathway for paraeducators who want teacher certification, among other things.
- SB 6424 establishes the seal of biliteracy to recognize high school students who have attained a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.

Early Learning

Goal: Create an integrated, high-quality early learning system that serves children from birth through age 5 so that children are set up to achieve positive outcomes.

Update: Though House Bill 2377, the Integrated Early Learning bill, did not pass, it lays the groundwork for taking this bill all the way next year.

HB 2519 did pass and expands the early learning opportunities for children in the child welfare system.

What's Next?

- Preparing for the 2015 Legislative Session
- A+ Washington Update

Thank you!

