



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BOARD MEETING – APRIL 20, 2020



LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

January 13, 2020	First day of session
February 19, 2020	Last day to pass bills in house of origin
February 24, 2020	House and Senate release budget proposals
March 6, 2020	Last day to pass opposite house bills (except matters necessary to implement the budget)
March 11, 2020	Final Conference Budget released (SB 6168)
March 12, 2020	Last day for regular session

LAKE WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- ▶ Developed Priorities in Fall 2019
- ▶ Met with local legislators in December and January



LAKE WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Academic Success

☒ Special Education Programs and Services

Well-Being

☐ Social Emotional Learning

Effective Use of Resources

☐ School Construction Funding

☐ Simple Majority for School Bonds

Excellent Staff

☐ School Employee Benefits Board



Lake Washington School District #414
2020 Legislative Platform

Four Learning Communities One District For All Kids

Mission:

Each student will graduate prepared to lead a rewarding and responsible life as a contributing member of our community and greater society.

Vision:

Every Student Future Ready: Prepared for college, Prepared for the global workplace, and Prepared for personal success.

Strategic Plan Connection: Academic Success

Special Education Programs and Services: The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) estimated the cost of fully funding special education to be \$308 million per year or \$616 million per biennium. This would be needed on top of the approximately \$3.3 billion allocated to the special education programs going forward. In the 2019 Session, the Legislature increased special education funding by changing the safety net program and increasing the excess cost multiplier.

While the Legislature has made some progress, more work needs to be done. The special education funding shortfall forces school districts to either spend levy dollars on this essential component of basic education or risk being in violation of federal law.

Strategic Plan Connection: Well-Being

Social Emotional Learning: Students are most successful when their social-emotional, mental, and physical needs are met at school. The Legislature needs to update the prototypical school model and provide more funding for counselors at all grade levels. The Legislature should work with districts on additional pilot programs that could help to promote social-emotional learning which enhances school safety.

Strategic Plan Connection: Effective Use of Resources

School Construction Funding: Rapid enrollment growth in the Puget Sound area and new class size mandates have created significant demand for new school facilities. We also need changes to the school construction funding formula so that the state pays a fair share of the cost of building schools.

Simple Majority for School Bonds: We need a constitutional amendment that authorizes simple majority for school bonds.

Strategic Plan Connection: Excellent Staff

School Employees Benefits Board: In 2017, the Legislature created the School Employees Benefits Board (SEBB). The goal was to bring all school employees in the state into one benefits pool and save money. There are a number of outstanding issues with the new program, including unfunded costs, coverage for substitutes, and ending program participation when premiums are not paid.

Lake Washington Board of Directors:
President: Siri Bliesner, Vice President: Mark Stuart, and Directors: Chris Carlson, Eric Laliberte, and Cassandra Sage.
Lake Washington School District Superintendent:
Dr. Jane Stavem



Special Education Programs and Services

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

We believe that every student can learn and achieve at high levels, and it is our responsibility to help each student learn, grow, and be challenged. Our commitment to success for every student is rooted in the ideals of opportunity, equity, and inclusion.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- ✓ Final Legislative Budget provides a “two-tier” formula with a different rate for students spending 80% or more in a general education classroom vs. those spending less than 80% in a general education classroom

	Multiplier
Tier I (80% or more)	1.0075
Tier II (less than 80%)	.9950

- ✓ Provides approximately \$200,000 in new revenue - will be needed to provide for actual costs that exceed current budget
- Special Education Program remains underfunded by the state

ACADEMIC SUCCESS SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- ▶ Transfers **special education** Birth to 3 funding from school districts to Department of Children, Youth, and Families
 - ▶ \$2.8 million dollars revenue and expenditure reduction
 - ▶ \$140,000 lost overhead



Social Emotional Learning

WELL-BEING

We believe that all students must be safe and feel a sense of belonging if they are to succeed. It is our responsibility to create safe and inclusive learning communities in every school where every student and family is valued and welcomed.



WELL-BEING

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

☐ Update the prototypical model to fund more school counselors

VETOED

- Supplemental budget provides an additional .5 FTE counselor at high-poverty elementary schools (did not benefit LWSD)

☐ Provide pilot programs to promote Social Emotional Learning

☒ Provides 1.5 FTE at each Educational Service District (ESD) for regional Mental Health Coordination (school safety center)



EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES

We believe that using our resources responsibly and strategically will result in success for our students. As a publicly-funded organization, we must be efficient and effective in our use of public resources to ensure and maintain trust.

School Construction
Funding

Simple Majority for School
Bonds

EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES

- ❌ Update the State Formula for School Construction Funding Assistance from Pre-1979 Standards
 - Increase the state funding formulas for school construction
- ❌ Allow for Simple Majority Passage of School Bonds
 - Eliminate the supermajority approval requirement for new construction



EXCELLENT STAFF

We believe that each employee in our district plays a vital role in contributing to the success of our students. We value all the professionals within our organization and are committed to ensuring that we support and develop a high quality and diverse workforce.

School Employees Benefits Board



EXCELLENT STAFF

- ❌ Provide adequate funding for the cost of the School Employee Benefit Board program (SEBB)
- ▶ Paraeducator Training
 - In 2019-20 added 2 days (14 hours) of required training for all current and newly hired employees. Reimbursement for some costs provided in September of following year.
 - 2020-21 increased requirement to 4 days (28 hours) of training
- ▶ Professional Learning Days
 - Provides planned increase from two to three professional learning days for teachers.

VETOED

EXCELLENT STAFF

- ▶ Legislative Compensation Impacts
 - Funded 1.6% inflationary adjustment (IPD)
 - Increase in SEBB premium from \$997 (annual average) to \$1,000 per month
 - Minimal increase in pension rates



BILL SUMMARY





EDUCATION BILLS THAT PASSED

Bill No.	Description
HB 1191	Notifications – modifies notification requirements for students that have committed certain crimes and makes notifications not subject to Public Records Act.
HB 1660	ASB activities - requires districts to have opportunity gap plan and policy for waiving fees for low income students.
SB 5395	Sexual Health Education – requires public schools to provide comprehensive sexual health education which includes healthy relationships, attitudes and affirmative consent. Requires OSPI to develop instructional materials.
SB 6066	Ethnic Study Materials and Professional Development – requires OPSI to recommend materials for K-6, recommends pilot professional development.
SB 6521	Innovative Learning Pilot – Provides funding for students participating in a “Mastery-based Learning Program”.

VETOED