

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS  
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AMPLE SCHOOL FUNDING PROJECT RECEIVES STATEWIDE  
ENDORSEMENT FROM WASHINGTON SUPERINTENDENTS

OLYMPIA, Washington – Over two hundred school superintendents meeting at SeaTac today overwhelmingly endorsed undertaking an “Ample School Funding Project” proposed by the Washington Association of School Administrators.

The two-year project will document the funds needed to bring all students to state standards. “School administrators are becoming increasingly frustrated with a finance system that is not adequate to meet the needs of students or provide schools and districts the resources they need to meet tough new state and federal accountability standards,” said WASA President Rich McCullough, superintendent of Snoqualmie Valley School District. “Our goal is to give every student in our public schools the tools he or she needs to be successful. We know what those tools are – the challenge is to put them in the hands of every child.”

The project will begin immediately with a technical analysis of Washington’s components of basic education as required by court decisions in the late 1970s. It will expand to cover an analysis of the education reform law passed by the legislature in the early 1990s requiring all students to pass a Certificate of Mastery by 2008 as one criterion for graduation from high school.

The project also proposes to build on previous studies in Washington, incorporate findings from other states and interact with current studies proposed by other groups in our state. The ultimate goal is to implement an ample funding system that is distributed in a general and uniform manner as required by the Washington State Constitution.

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“The problem as we see it,” said WASA Executive Director Jill Jacoby, “is that no one has pulled all the pieces together for our state. We intend to initiate that process – and we hope that legislators, business and education communities and everyone else committed to providing ample funding for our students will join us.”

Consultant Bill Freund will begin immediately to coordinate the technical analysis tasks. The project is estimated to cost about \$1.2 million. An overview of the project can be found on the WASA Web site: [www.wasa-oly.org](http://www.wasa-oly.org).

The Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) is a statewide professional association representing 1,100 members including superintendents, central office administrators and building principals. WASA is committed to leadership in providing equity and excellence in student learning, and leadership in developing competent, ethical and visionary leaders.

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