

THIS WEEK IN OLYMPIA

Washington Association of School Administrators



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January 25, 2008

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THIS WEEK IN OLYMPIA

Education committees heard a myriad of bills this week proposing projects, grants and supplemental funding for kindergarten readiness assessment, students in foster care, career and technical education, school library programs, environmental culminating projects, lowering class size, a healthy student program and others. The proposals are all well-intended but have one daunting challenge: they are all competing with each other for limited (if any) additional funding in the supplemental budget.

The House Education Committee concentrated a lot of its work this week on ELL students, programs and the impact of the 2008 graduation requirements for these students. A group of superintendents from the Yakima Valley led by Ben Soria, Superintendent, Yakima School District, reviewed their white paper http://www.wasa-oly.org/white_papers/ell_nov06.pdf and responded to bills that have been introduced which would delay the Reading & Writing WASL requirements for ELL students until 2013 (HB 2634) and increase LAP funding for districts with high concentrations of ELL students.

On Thursday, both committees heard from SBE, OSPI and educators on Math Standards, Math Curriculum, Third Year Math and Math Graduation Requirements. The draft of the proposed standards (and an opportunity to respond) can be found at <http://www.utdanacenter.org/wamathrevision/standards.php>. Larry Nyland, Superintendent, Marysville SD, who spearheaded the Snohomish County math white paper (available on Wasa's web site) as well as WASA's WASL & Beyond Survey

www.wasa-oly.org/survey_wasl_and_beyond.htm provided his comments on the New Math standards.

http://www.wasa-oly.org/Nyland_Testimony.pdf

The 2007 Legislature authorized a review of the student transportation funding system. The first report was provided this week in two of the budget committees.

Also on Thursday, the Ways and Means Committee spent an hour and a half on the K-12 Supplemental Budget. Senate staff, the Basic Education Funding Task Force Chair and staff, and OSPI gave presentations. WASA was invited along with the WEA and the PTA to share fifteen minutes to prioritize where we would spend the first and second dollar - if we got more funding in the Supplemental Budget. WASA said Basic Education and Basic Education. (The last half hour was a presentation by the Paul Allen Brain Institute in Seattle.) The House budget will be out next week. Since the date is rapidly approaching for policy bills to be "exec'd" (Feb. 8), some committees have doubled their hearing schedules next week. Senate Education, for example, added two additional evening hearings. So far, about 123 education-related bills are eligible for executive action before cut-off! (See Bills on the Move.)

SPECIAL ELECTION DATES IN THE SPRING

The county auditors have asked the Legislature to hear SB 5271 next week. The bill would reduce the number of special election dates in the spring to two. (Special elections can also still be held on the primary and general election dates.) If this bill were to pass—school districts would have to hold their spring elections on the first Tuesday in February and/or the third Tuesday in April.

The background for this proposal is important. The county auditors have advocated for this change for a number of years. The move to all mail-in ballots has made it increasingly difficult to certify elections within the short time frame available with four special election dates in the spring. They have approached local governments, school superintendents and boards, WASA and WSSDA for support. Our response prior to this year has been that we would not support it unless

the simple majority made it out of the Legislature AND was passed by the people. They honored this position—most importantly last year—by not introducing the legislation until now. The auditors have worked with the state associations, many of you at the local level and the associations representing local government (cities, counties, ports, fire districts, etc.). WASA's Legislation and Finance Committee initially discussed the issue this week and will revisit the issue on our Monday conference calls. While the proposal would reduce the number of special election dates for all local government entities(including schools), it is an opportunity to work positively with both the auditors and other local government associations, all of whom are also committed to working together to address the problems associated with the presidential primary's negative impact on our special elections. Please forward any comments you may have to Jim Busey, Chair of WASA's Legislation & Finance Committee (buseyj@chelanschools.org) and/or to Barbara (bmertens@wasa-oly.org).

RETIREMENT/HEALTH BENEFITS

All eleven of the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) bills now have bill numbers and sponsors. A number of these bills are scheduled for hearings next week in both the House Appropriations and Senate Ways and Means Committees. SB 6656, Out-of-State Credit, and SB 6651, Plan 3 Vesting, are scheduled together with nine other retirement bills.

HB 1199, "Rule of 85" has been reintroduced from 2007 into the 2008 session. The bill now rests in the House Appropriations Committee. I don't anticipate the bill receiving any executive action this session since there are lawsuits pending regarding gain-sharing trade-off, EHB 2391.

On Wednesday, January 23, 2008, HB 2651 was given a hearing in the House Appropriations Committee. This bill modifies requirements in the Health Care Authority's (HCA) Public Employee Benefit Board (PEBB) health plan offerings for K-12 and ESDs. The bill is a request bill from the HCA that is designed to attract more K-12 bargaining units into the PEBB health plans. The bill now awaits action in that committee.

Additional information in the form of a retirement/health benefit bill watch is updated each week and can be found on our association's website www.wasa-oly.org.

HEARING SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF JAN 28-FEB 1

HOUSE EDUCATION (O'BRIEN RM. B)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 1:30 p.m.

Public Hearing:

1. HB 2831 – Creating a study regarding teacher preparation in Washington State.
2. HB 2813 – Requiring an assessment of the need for teacher preparation programs for teachers of visually impaired and blind public school students.
3. HB 2870 – Providing opportunities for professional development for instructional assistants.
4. HB 2804 – Establishing an endowment for the promotion of geography education.
5. HB 2781 – Enhancing Washington state history and government course requirements for high school graduation.
6. HB 2598 – Directing the office of the superintendent of public instruction to issue a request for proposals for development of an online mathematics curriculum.
7. HB 2599 – Recognizing disability history in the public education system.
8. HB 2976 – Approving the segmented mathematics assessment as an alternative assessment.

Thursday, 1/31/08 8:00 a.m.

Public Hearing:

1. HB 2458 – Regarding the basic education funding allocation for certificated instructional staff.
2. HB 2773 – Regarding instructional support services in schools.
3. HB 2886 – Increasing the number of school nurses.
4. HB 2869 – Extending the national board for professional teaching standards bonus to certificated principals.
5. HB 2775 – Regarding bonuses for instructional staff certified by the national board for professional teaching standards.
6. HB 3097 – Specifying authority of the executive director of the state board of education.
7. HB 2954 – Authorizing certain school districts and educational service districts to designate a district treasurer.

Friday, 2/1/08 1:30 p.m.

Work Session: Report on Statewide End-of-Course Assessments, Education First Consulting.

Public Hearing:

1. HB 3103 – Expanding the list of crimes that require dismissal or certificate revocation for school employees.
2. HB 2772 – Regarding school employees' dismissal or certificate revocation.
3. HB 2461 – Expanding the list of crimes requiring school employees' dismissal or certification revocation.
4. HB 2722 – Creating an advisory committee to address the achievement gap for African-American students.
5. HB 2832 – Recodifying the basic education act.
6. HB 2709 – Authorizing school districts to establish a price preference to purchase locally grown food.
7. HB 2988 – Changing requirements for student learning plans.
8. HB 3129 – Regarding online learning programs for high school students to earn college credit.

SENATE EARLY LEARNING & K-12 EDUCATION
(CHERBERG RM. 1)

Monday, 1/28/08 1:30 p.m.

Public Hearing:

1. SB 6313 – Recognizing disability history in the public education system.
2. SB 6388 – Creating pilot programs for learning disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder.
3. SB 6742 – Requiring development of programs and guidelines for students with autism.
4. SB 6743 – Regarding training and guidelines for teachers of students with autism.
5. SB 6535 – Requiring an assessment of the need for teacher preparation programs for teachers of visually impaired and blind public school students.
6. SB 6135 – Eliminating requirements for scoliosis screening in schools.

Executive Session:

1. SB 6042 – Requiring a recess period for elementary school students.
2. SB 6314 – Providing for arts education funding.

3. SB 6538 – Creating programs to improve reading instruction.
4. SB 6503 – Approving the segmented mathematics assessment as an alternative assessment.
5. SB 6673 – Creating extended learning opportunities.
6. SB 6454 – Creating programs to improve educational outcomes for students in foster care.
7. SB 6453 – Clarifying the timeline for release of education records to the department of social and health services.
8. SB 6377 – Regarding secondary career and technical education.
9. SB 6380 – Enhancing school library programs.
10. SB 6549 – Creating the sustainable environment culminating project grant program.
11. SB 6376 – Regarding the basic education funding allocation for certificated instructional staff.
12. SB 6534 – Regarding the revision of mathematics standards.

Monday, 1/28/08 5:30 p.m.

Executive session: Continuance of the Executive Session from the earlier 1:30 p.m. meeting.

Wednesday, 1/30/08 8:00 a.m.

Public Hearing:

1. SB 6183 – Providing a process for the dissolution of first-class school directors' districts.
2. SB 6286 – Requiring school district accountability for students missing school.
3. SB 6536 – Establishing best practices for students at risk.
4. SB 6443 – Regarding disciplinary actions for education employees committing sexual offenses.
5. SB 6720 – Creating the school safety advisory committee.
6. SB 6418 – Requiring policies on and limiting the use of mechanical, chemical, and physical restraint of students.
7. SB 6640 – Providing opportunities for professional development for instructional assistants.

Thursday, 1/31/08 10:00 a.m.

Work Session:

1. Current Focused Assistance/School Improvement program by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.
2. State Board of Education efforts to develop a statewide accountability system.
3. Invited stakeholder panels.

Public Hearing:

1. SB 6715 – Specifying authority of the executive director of the state board of education.
2. SB 6537 – Imposing an admissions surcharge to fund extracurricular activities for middle and high schools.
3. SB 6740 – Regarding the provision of teacher certification services.

Thursday, 1/31/08 5:30 p.m.

Work Session: State Board of Education presentation on “A Meaningful Diploma.”

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS (O'BRIEN RM. A)

Monday, 1/28/08 3:30 p.m.

Public Hearing:

1. HB 3005 – Transferring public employees' retirement system plan 2 members to the school employees' retirement system plan 2.
2. HB 3006 – Extending the survivor annuity option for preretirement death in plan 1 of the public employees' retirement system to members who die after leaving active service.
3. HB 3024 – Purchasing service credit in plan 2 and plan 3 of the teachers' retirement system for public education experience performed as a teacher in a public school in another state or with the federal government.

Wednesday, 1/30/08 3:30 p.m.

Public Hearing:

1. HB 3019 – Addressing service credit for members working a partial year in plans 2 and 3 of the teachers' retirement system and the school employees' retirement system.

Thursday, 1/31/08 3:30 p.m.

Work Session: Early Learning – Child Brain Development.

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
(O'BRIEN RM. A)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 8:00 a.m.

Public Hearing: Proposed budget recommendations for education agencies.

Wednesday, 1/30/08 6:00 p.m.

Work Session: Member discussion and action on the proposed budget recommendations for education agencies.

Thursday, 1/31/08 1:30 p.m.

Work Session: Education proposals.

Public Hearing: 3SHB 1806 – Limiting the use of high hazard pesticides on school facilities (if referred to committee).

SENATE WAYS & MEANS (CHERBERG RM. 4)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 3:30 p.m.

Public Hearing: SB 6641 – Providing that voter-approved increases in property tax levy limitations for a multiyear period of up to six years do not permanently increase a taxing district's levy base, unless otherwise provided in the ballot proposition.

Thursday, 1/31/08

1:30 p.m.

Public Hearing:

1. SB 6651 – Providing for vesting after five years of service in the defined benefit portion of the public employees' retirement system, the school employees' retirement system, and the teachers' retirement system plan 3.
2. SB 6652 – Extending the survivor annuity option for pre-retirement death in plan 1 of the public employees' retirement system to members who die after leaving active service.
3. SB 6655 – Transferring public employees' retirement system plan 2 members to the school employees' retirement system plan 2.
4. SB 6656 – Purchasing service credit in plan 2 and plan 3 of the teachers' retirement system for public education experience performed as a teacher in a public school in another state or with the federal government.
5. SB 6657 – Including salary bonuses for individuals certified by the national board for professional teaching standards as earnable compensation.

6. SB 6664 – Indexing the one hundred fifty thousand dollar death benefit for public employees.

HOUSE CAPITAL BUDGET (O'BRIEN RM. A)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 1:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: HB 2765 – Making 2008 supplemental capital appropriations.

Thursday, 1/31/08 8:00 a.m.
Public Hearing: Panel presentation and Public Hearing on proposed rule changes regarding environmental health and safety for K-12 facilities.

HOUSE COMMERCE & LABOR (O'BRIEN RM. C)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 6:00 p.m.
Possible Executive Session: HB 2665 – Implementing the recommendations of the joint legislative task force on family leave insurance.

Friday, 2/1/08 1:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: HB 2142 – Providing legal redress for targets of workplace bullying, abuse, and harassment.

HOUSE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEV. & TRADE (O'BRIEN RM. C)

Monday, 1/28/08 1:30 p.m.
Work Session: Economic Forecast

Wednesday, 1/30/08 8:00 a.m.
Work Session: State of the State Economy.

EARLY LEARNING & CHILDREN'S SERVICES (O'BRIEN RM. D)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 1:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: HB 3168 – Regarding the creation of the Washington head start program.

SENATE GOVT. OPERATIONS & ELECTIONS (CHERBERG RM. 2)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 1:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: SB 5271 – Modifying when a special election may be held.

SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION (CHERBERG RM. 3)

Monday, 1/28/08 1:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: SB 6394 – Exempting certain first and second-year students from tuition and fees at institutions of higher education.

SENATE LABOR, COMMERCE, R & D (CHERBERG RM. 4)

Tuesday, 1/29/08 1:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: SB 6459 – Directing the state lottery commission to implement a raffle that awards scholarships as prizes.

BILLS ON THE MOVE

Each week in TWIO we will track bills that are heard in committees. A bill's "status" changes as it moves from committees to the floor of the House or Senate, crosses over to the other side and goes through the same process. Bills, including sponsors, amendments, actions and history can be found at <http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature>. The bills listed below are "on the move." February 8 is the last day to hear bills in the house of origin policy committees.

HOUSE	TITLE	STATUS	SPONSOR
SHB 1067	TRS to PERS Plan 1	Rules 3 rd R	Haigh
HB 1199	Rule of 85	H Approp	Conway
EHB 1283	High school diplomas	S EL/K-12E	Roach
HB 1601	Crea child env hlth cncl	H Approp	Rolfes
SHB 1622	Boundary rev boards	H Loc Gov	Moeller
HB 1806	Pesticides in schools	H Approp	Pedersen
HB 2026	Recruiter access student	H Rules	Santos
HB 2142	Redress wrkplc bullying	H C&L	Linville
EHB 2273	School bus driver safety	H Rules	Linville
SHB 2332	Sch dist levies	H Rules	Hunter
HB 2458	Basic ed funding cert staff	H Education	Sullivan
HB 2461	Exp list crimes re disp	H Education	McDonald
HB 2492	Sch dist boundaries	H Local Gov	Takko
HB 2500	Prov arts educ funding	H Education	Kenney
HB 2520	Dom viol pilot prog	H EL & CS	Schual-Berke
HB 2523	Crea wrld lang supv OSPI	H Education	Hudgins
HB 2567	Penalty open pub mtgs	HSGTTribAff	Haler
HB 2598	Re: online math curric	H Education	Sullivan
HB 2599	Recogn disabil histry p sch	H Education	Sullivan
HB 2607	PSEB work group	H Education	Santos
HB 2613	Reduc env impact	H Rules	Simpson
HB 2629	Ed svc childr deaf	H EL&CS	Kagi
HB 2630	Def open public mtgs	HSGTTribAff	Liias
HB 2634	Grad reqs for ELL	H Education	Quall
HB 2635	Sch dist boundaries	H Education	Quall
HB 2651	Pub emps benft progs	H Approp	Fromhold
HB 2652	IRS pretax benefits	H Approp	Morrell
HB 2665	Jt tsk frc fam lv	H C&L	Dickerson
HB 2679	Students in foster care	H Education	Roberts
HB 2687	Gov's Suppl GF Budg	H Approp	Sommers
HB 2709	Dist pric loc food	H Education	Hurst
HB 2765	'08 suppl cap appr	Capital Budgt	Fromhold

HOUSE	TITLE	STATUS	SPONSOR	SENATE	TITLE	STATUS	SPONSOR
HB 2781	WA st hist & gov reqs	H Education	Wallace	SB 6535	Req assess teach prep	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe
HB 2804	Est endowmt geogr ed	H Education	Schual-Berke	SB 6536	Best pract studnts risk	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe
HB 2808	Add'l opportun stdts	H Education	Sullivan	SB 6537	Admit surch extrac act	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe
HB 2809	Math & sci teachers	H Education	Sullivan	SB 6538	Progs impr rding instr	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe
HB 2810	Enh resources, ELLs	H Education	Sullivan	SB 6540	Delay areas of WASL	S EL/K-12E	Rasmussen
HB 2811	Hlthy student grant	H Education	Sullivan	SB 6549	Sust enviro culm pro	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe
HB 2813	Assess nd teach prep	H Education	Quall	SB 6640	Oppor instruct assist	S EL/K-12E	Rasmussen
HB 2826	Sec career & techn ed	H Education	Priest	SB 6641	Incr not perm levy base	S W&M	Regala
HB 2831	Study teach prep in Wa	H Education	Anderson	SB 6645	Interrupt mil svc	S W&M	Pridemore
HB 2832	Recodif basic ed act	H Education	Anderson	SB 6646	Military death ben	S W&M	Pridemore
HB 2869	Ext nbpts bonus princ	H Education	Lias	SB 6648	Plan 2 access PEBB	S W&M	Keiser
HB 2870	Oppor instruct assist	H Education	Lias	SB 6649	2 nd Chnc PEBB Enr Win	S W&M	Keiser
HB 2884	Policies lim restraints	H Education	Pettigrew	SB 6651	Plan 3 vesting	S W&M	Pridemore
HB 2886	Incr no school nurses	H Education	Seaquist	SB 6652	Surv PERS 1 inact	S W&M	Pridemore
HB 2954	Auth sch dist treasur	H Education	Hunter	SB 6654	TRS, SERS ½ hr contr	S W&M	Kilmer
HB 2957	DEL,OSPI kndgrtrn rdg	H EL&CS	Sullivan	SB 6655	PERS to SERS auto-tr	S W&M	Schoesler
HB 2976	Appr segm math as	H Education	Sullivan	SB 6656	Out of state svc	S W&M	Schoesler
HB 2982	TRS to PERS Plan 1	H Approp	Haigh	SB 6657	Salary bon in TRS	S W&M	Murray
HB 2983	Exp st leadersh acad	H Education	Haigh	SB 6664	Indexed \$150K DBen	S W&M	Carrell
HB 2988	Ch reqs studt lrn plans	H Education	Quall	SB 6673	Crea ext learning oppor	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe
HB 3005	PERS to SERS auto-tr	H Approp	Conway	SB 6687	Plan 2&3 postret emply	S W&M	Regala
HB 3006	Surv PERS 1 inact	H Approp	Bailey	SB 6715	Auth ex dir st bd of ed	S EL/K-12E	Tom
HB 3007	Military death ben	H Approp	Conway	SB 6720	Schl safety adv comm	S EL/K-12E	Eide
HB 3008	Interrupt mil svc	H Approp	Bailey	SB 6740	Prov teach certif. svcs	S EL/K-12E	Regala
HB 3019	TRS, SERS ½ hr contr	H Approp	Fromhold	SB 6742	Req dev progs autism	S EL/K-12E	Rasmussen
HB 3021	Salary bon in TRS	H Approp	Conway	SB 6743	Reg training autism	S EL/K-12E	Rasmussen
HB 3022	Plan 3 vesting	H Approp	Fromhold				
HB 3024	Out of state svc	H Approp	Conway				
HB 3026	Indexed \$150K DBen	H Approp	Fromhold				
HB 3027	Plan 2 access PEBB	H Approp	Cody				
HB 3028	2 nd Chnc PEBB Enr Win	H Approp	Conway				
HB 3050	Ind study hlth ben reqs	H HC&Ben	Bailey				
HB 3070	Plan 2&3 post-ret emp	H Approp	Conway				
HB 3097	Auth ex dir st bd of ed	H Education	Quall				
HB 3103	Exp list crimes dismiss	H Education	Darneille				
HB 3129	Onl learn prog-coll cred	H Education	Schmick				
HB 3168	Re creat WA head start	H EL&CS	Goodman				
HB 3182	Past pt SERS svc	H Approp	Lantz				
SENATE	TITLE	STATUS	SPONSOR				
SB 5271	Mod wh spec elect held	S GovOps&E	Pridemore				
SB 6042	Req recess period	S EL/K-12E	Franklin				
SB 6135	Elim reqs scoliosis scr	S EL/K-12E	Marr				
SB 6183	Proc dissol 1 st cl sd	S EL/K-12E	Parlette				
SB 6257	Aggre reporting,WASL	S EL/K-12E	Jacobsen				
SB 6286	Ach dist acc st missng	S EL/K-12E	Kauffman				
SB 6313	Rec disab hstry pb sch	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe				
SB 6314	Prov arts ed funding	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe				
SB 6376	Basic ed staff funding	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe				
SB 6377	Re sec career, techn ed	S EL/K-12E	Hobbs				
SB 6377	Sec career & techn ed	S EL/K-12E	Hobbs				
SB 6378	Gov's Suppl GF Budg	S W&M	Prentice				
SB 6380	Enh sch library progs	S EL/K-12E	Eide				
SB 6388	Creat pil prog lrn disab	S EL/K-12E	Rasmussen				
SB 6394	Exmpt crt 1 st ,2 nd yr st tui	S Higher Ed	Shin				
SB 6418	Pol limit use restraints	S EL/K-12E	Kauffman				
SB 6443	Disci act empl sex offs	S EL/K-12E	Kohl-Welles				
SB 6449	Prot stdt free prss,spch	S EL/K-12E	McDermott				
SB 6453	Records rel to DSHS	S EL/K-12E	Tom				
SB 6454	Students in foster care	S EL/K-12E	Tom				
SB 6459	St ltry raffle schlrshps	S LC,R&D	Tom				
SB 6494	High sch grad reqs	S EL/K-12E	Hobbs				
SB 6503	Segm math assessmnts	S EL/K-12E	McDermott				
SB 6534	Revis of math standrds	S EL/K-12E	McAuliffe				

WASA/WSSDA 2008 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The WASA/WSSDA 2008 Legislative Conference is scheduled for February 10-11 at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia. Don't miss this great opportunity to become better informed about this year's legislative issues, network with your colleagues and board members and meet with your legislators. Registration materials have been forwarded and can also be downloaded at <http://www.wasa-oly.org/profdeve/calendar.htm>. We look forward to seeing you there. Don't forget to invite your legislators to join you at the reception Sunday evening from 6:00 - 7:30 in the Forest Ballroom.