



**Federal Way
Public Schools**
Every Student, a Reader

FAIR SCHOOL FUNDING

WASA Legislative Conference

Fair School Funding

LEAP Funding Negatively Impacts

ALL 295 School Districts

*No single district receives the highest funding
for each type of staff unit*

**Every District is Held to the Same Level of
Accountability For Student Achievement**

February 8, 2009



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Fair School Funding

1977 Basic Education Act brought equity to:

the number of staff positions (units),

but left inequity in terms of dollars allocated each district.

Number of Staff Positions include:

K-3 Certificated Instructional Units	49.00 for every 1000 students
4-12 Certificated Instructional Units	46.00 for every 1000 students
Certificated Administrative Units	4.00 for every 1000 students
Classified Units (1:58.75)	17.00 for every 1000 students

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Fair School Funding

1977 Basic Education Act brought equity to:

the number of staff positions (units)

but left inequity in terms of dollars allocated each district.

Dollars Allocated to Units Based on LEAP 2 Documents

Certificated Instructional Allocation:	\$34,426 to \$36,135
Certificated Administrative Allocation:	\$57,986 to \$84,362
Classified Allocation:	\$31,865 to \$36,777

February 8, 2009



Fair School Funding

It's a Funding Formula ONLY

Certificated Instructional Salaries:

Subject to Salary Compliance Laws

Certificated Administrative and Classified Salaries:

NO legal connection between the funding formula (LEAP Document 2) and actual salaries

Actual Salaries EXCEED Funded Salaries in Most

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Fair School Funding

2008-09 Operating Budget – LEAP Document 2

228 DIFFERENT LEVELS of STATE FUNDING

Certificated Instructional Staff:

2006-07 Gap \$1,991

2008-09 Gap \$1,709

Certificated Administrative Staff:

2006-07 Gap \$31,439

2008-09 Gap \$26,376

Classified Staff:

2006-07 Gap \$11,516

2008-09 Gap \$4,912

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LEAP Document 2 has a Ripple Effect

Lost Salary Allocation

Lost Mandatory Benefit Funding

Lost Special Education Funding

Lost Local Levy Capacity

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Fair School Funding

**Judge Heavey's Decision Issued
King County Superior Court
November 2, 2007**

LESTER "BUZZ" PORTER, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW

**DIONNE
& RORICK**

February 8, 2009



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Fair School Funding

“[W]ithin a ‘general and uniform system of public schools’ the legislature could constitutionally and rationally create different funding levels that stem from differences in educational costs. However, the disparities in the current system are not based on the cost of providing educational opportunity in any district. . . .

The plaintiffs have shown proof beyond a reasonable doubt that school districts are funded at disparate levels; that the different levels are based upon a discredited and unconstitutionally funded system of 30 years ago. There is no rational reason to continue this. **This violates the general and uniform requirement of our constitution.”**

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“Because of the vested interests in the *status quo*, these disparate, irrational and inequitable salary allocations will continue if not found unconstitutional. This court finds that basing funding levels on salary levels of 30 years ago is arbitrary and wholly irrelevant to the achievement of legitimate state objectives. . . .

[T]hey violate the equal protection rights of Federal Way students, teachers and taxpayers.”

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Fair School Funding

What's Next?

State's Appeal to Washington State Supreme Court
League of Education Voters Filing Amicus Brief
Legislative Remedy – SSB5379 changes LEAP
Redefinition of Basic Education
Return to Court if Remedy Unsatisfactory

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Fair School Funding

Comments or Questions? Please contact:

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February 8, 2009

