



2013 Legislative Accomplishments

The League of Education Voters is a non-partisan organization that partners with parents, students, and civic leaders who believe in a quality education from cradle to career.

During the 2013 legislative session, we worked with parents, community members, and educators to ensure measurable progress toward LEV's vision that every student in Washington state receives an excellent public education that provides the opportunity for success.

Early Learning

HB 1723 –Early Start

Increases Working Connections childcare rates pending funding. Provides school districts three days to meet with families to assist with kindergarten transition.

SB 5595-Working Connections Child Care

Improves the stability and quality of care for children from low-income households through changes to the Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) program. Consumer service will improve by requiring phone calls be returned within two business days, the option to submit forms online, and notifying providers and parents ten days before loss of benefits. Establishes a legislative taskforce that will develop recommendations for creating a tiered-reimbursement model for WCCC, expansion plan for ECEAP, and market rate reimbursement for WCCC.

5904 - High Quality Early Learning

Increases both enrollment and the slot rate for Washington's preschool program (ECEAP) by ten percent. Requires the Office of Financial Management to develop an implementation plan for expanding the preschool program. In addition, the Washington State Institute for Public Policy is required to develop a comprehensive retrospective outcome evaluation and return on investment analysis of the preschool program.

K-12 Education

HB1642 – Academic Acceleration

Encourages districts to adopt Academic Acceleration policies. Creates the Academic Acceleration Incentive program that provides resources to support districts in the adoption of Academic Acceleration policies.

SB 5329 – Assists Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools to Become More Accountable

Charges OSPI with the development of a tiered system of intervention and support for challenged schools and establishes two levels of required action for persistently low-achieving schools. Establishes two levels of Required Action and specifies that the State Board of Education will nominate districts for Level II Required Action. OSPI will develop criteria for required action plans and the corresponding system of supports for each level of challenged schools.

HB 1472 – Initiatives to Improve and Expand Access to Computer Science Education

Requires school districts to count Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science as equivalent to high school mathematics or science toward graduation requirements for seniors who have taken or are currently enrolled in Algebra II.

HB1178 - Authorizing Alternative Assessments for Teacher Certification

Professional Educator Standards Board may identify and accept other tests and test scores for admission to approved teacher preparation programs and for out-of-state Washington teaching certificate applicants.

HB 2051 – Implementation of Basic Education Expenditures

Expands the definition of the Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program (TBIP) to require districts to make instructional support available for up to two years for students who have exited the TBIP program, temporarily redirects several revenue streams into the education Legacy Trust Account, and reduces required transfers into the Education Construction Fund.

SB 5946 – Strengthening Student Educational Outcomes

Increased district support and accountability for early literacy, requiring the use of evidence-based practices in the Learning Assistance Program, school discipline reform, establishes the Educator Support Program to provide assistance to beginning and struggling teachers, and Alternative Learning Experience program reform.

HB 1450 – Assessments in Public Schools

Reduces the number of assessments a student must pass to attain a high school diploma from five to three. Creates an implementation timeline to transition to high stakes assessments created through the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium by the class of 2019. Declares intent to transition from a biology-based science assessment to a comprehensive science assessment.

7/8/13