

**LEAGUE OF
EDUCATION
VOTERS™**

TRANSFORMING SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

The Next Step

Working to improve
public education
in Washington State
from cradle to career
with ample, equitable,
and stable funding

In this LEVinar:

- Recap of the activities leading up to the passage of ESSB 5946.
- Summary of the scope and impacts of ESSB 5946.
- Next steps in the implementation of the new school discipline law.
- Opportunities for involvement.

A state-wide movement

- First-of its kind research published for Washington State, documenting the reality of suspensions and expulsions for our students.
- 150 community members and stakeholders participated in interviews to share their story and document the problem.
- 1,300 activists participated in over 20 community forums.
- Over 750 actions to legislators were generated, including postcards, emails, petitions, testimonies, phone calls, and personal visits.

An active legislative session

- Multiple bills were introduced regarding school discipline.
- Some bills addressed more of the collateral consequences of school discipline than others.
- Many changes and amendments were made throughout the (very long) legislative session.
- ESSB 5946 is not a perfect bill, but it's a great start in transforming school discipline.

What ESSB 5946 does:

- Limits all suspensions or expulsions to one school year.
- Requires that emergency expulsions be ended or converted to another form of discipline within 10 school days.
- Schools must develop reengagement plans to help students return to school.
- Creates a statewide taskforce to increase the depth and quality of data collection on school discipline.
- Requires that discipline data be made publicly available and be broken down by demographic characteristics.

What's Next:

- After a bill becomes law, need to flush out details.
- Rules = WACs (Washington Administrative Code)
- OSPI will update rules regarding suspensions and expulsions.

Rules Process:

- OSPI will update rules so they align with the new law.
- For example, law said schools need to create reengagement plans.
- But what does that really mean? What should plans include?
- The hope is that rules provide clear guidance to schools.

Rules Timeline:

- Mid-March, 2014: OSPI proposed rules.
- Mid-March to May 5, 2014: public comment period
 - Mail
 - E-mail
 - Fax
- May 5, 2014: 10am-12pm public hearing at OSPI
 - 234 8th Avenue
 - Olympia, WA

Learn More:

- Next webinar: Tuesday, April 15th 12:30–1 p.m.
- Learn about how to get involved and submit comments
- Learn about proposed rules and some recommendations for improving them

Get Involved:

- Over the next few weeks we'll be contacting you about how to get involved.
- Can contact Kelly to learn more about how to get involved.
 - Kelly@educationvoters.org
 - 206-728-6448

QUESTIONS?

