2020 Legislative Session Wrap Up

Julia Warth and Carey Morris

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Agenda

• 2020 session context
• Progress on LEV 2020 priorities
• Q&A
Session Context

• Short session, supplemental budget
• New Speaker in House
• COVID-19 response
• Changes in legislature moving forward
Priority Areas

• Special Education Resources
• Supportive and Safe Learning Environments
• Equitable Access to Levy and LEA funds
• High Quality Early Childhood Education
• Closing Gaps in K-3
Special Education Resources

Priority
• Lift the 13.5% cap on funded enrollment of students receiving special education services

Outcome
• $1.9 M increase in Safety Net funding
• Did not pass: SB 6117 proposal to increase funding for special education services, no cap lift
Supportive and Safe Learning Environments

Priorities:

• Provide reliable and consistent access to mental health services for students in every school building

• Encourage and enable districts to implement multi-tiered systems of support
Supportive and Safe Learning Environments

Outcomes:

• HB 2816 WSSDA model policy on positive school climates
• $31.8 M counselors for high poverty elementary schools
• $2.6 M strengthen network of behavioral supports and school safety measures
• Did not pass: HB 2690 creating MTSS implementation framework
Equitable Access to Levy and LEA funds

Priority:
• Reform local effort assistance program to account for student and community needs, rather than just property values.

Outcome:
• $45.8 M one-time hold harmless for Local Effort Assistance Districts
High Quality Early Childhood Education

Priority:
• Increase access to high-quality, affordable, culturally and linguistically responsive early learning—including childcare and preschool.

Outcome:
• HB 2456 and $2M to extend homeless grace period for Working Connections Childcare (WCCC)
• $6M for WCCC copay cliff
• $32.5M for WCCC rate increase
• $9.1M for ECEAP rate increase
Gap Closing in K-3

Priority:
• Restore funds to districts unable to reduce K-3 class sizes to invest in strategies aligned with the Washington Integrated Student Supports Protocol to close access and opportunity gaps in grades K-3.

Outcome:
• Did not pass: HB 2719 allow use of K-3 class size funds for student supports for the 2020-21 and 2021-2022 school years.
Resources

• Budget Summary:
  • https://educationvoters.org/2020/03/12/2020-supplemental-budget-summary/#more-32678

• Wrap-Up Blog:
  • https://educationvoters.org/2020/03/16/2020-washington-legislative-session-recap/
QUESTIONS?