

2020 Legislative Session Wrap Up

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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?

