Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are most likely to be put in segregated settings and to be isolated or restrained.

Two years after graduation they are least likely to be employed or continuing their educations.
Make due process in special education fair

Join other states and switch the burden of proof to school districts in special education due process hearings.

- This means school districts submit their data and reasoning about the student’s IEP to the court for review.
- The focus shifts to information schools are gathering and their ability to use it to ensure students are progressing appropriately.

It’s better for kids:
Statistics from states that put the burden of proof on school districts show it leads to quicker resolution disputes and students receive appropriate educational services much sooner.
Design, resource, and enforce inclusive learning

Invest in inclusionary practices and strategies to reconnect with chronically absent students.

Mandate training and IEP review when isolation is used.

Ensure funds for IEPs follow students into general education.

Create a dashboard to monitor placement, discipline, and isolation of students with disabilities.

We need to design, build, and resource what our children need.

- Segregated classes, isolation, informal suspension, and out-of-district placement of complex youth need to end
- Removal is not a legal or moral strategy
End isolation, restrict restraint in schools

- Stop isolating kids
- Require use of de-escalation strategies and training in trauma-informed support like collaborative problem solving
- End the use of mechanical and chemical restraints
- Increase technical assistance and improve followup

Use of isolation & restraint in schools is setting up students and staff for failure.

- These practices do NOT help; they cause psychological harm and further escalation
- They are mostly used on young kids with disabilities or trauma history who are being punished for a stress response. Black children are over-represented.
Remove the cap on special education funding

Underfunded and ill-equipped school districts struggle to provide essential special education services and related supports for students and their families.

End unconstitutional limits on special education funding and ensure that students and their families have access to the resources and funding they need.
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You can download issue papers on these and other topics from The Arc of Washington State’s legislative notebook.