



2024
LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES

PTSA LUNCH
& LEARN
JANUARY 18, 2024

Lake Washington School District

2024 Legislative Priorities

Supporting Every Student and the Whole Child



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- Fully fund special education programs and staffing to align with inclusionary practices
- Update the transportation funding formula to provide clarity and predictability for districts ensuring equitable access to schools
- Authorize alternative teacher training and certification programs to attract, recruit, and retain high-quality, diverse staff

Student Support & Achievement

- Continue to increase staffing allocations in the prototypical model to reflect the actual staff required for student learning and student social-emotional health without impacting local levy funds
- Increase funding for necessary substitutes to reflect the actual cost
- Require a detailed fiscal note on all proposed legislation that affect school districts and corresponding funding

Sustainability

- Develop new funding models to transition transportation systems and infrastructure to zero-emissions vehicles by 2030
- Incentivize funding for sustainable design and construction of school buildings that ensure optimal health and productivity for students and staff

Modern Learning Facilities

- Advance a constitutional amendment that authorizes simple majority for school bond passage
- Change non-voted debt rules to be consistent with other capital funding rules

Future-Ready Schools

- Create a funding mechanism to support school-based health and wellness centers providing basic physical and mental health services
- Direct OSPI to develop guidance on innovative, equitable and responsible use of AI technologies throughout the K-12 education system



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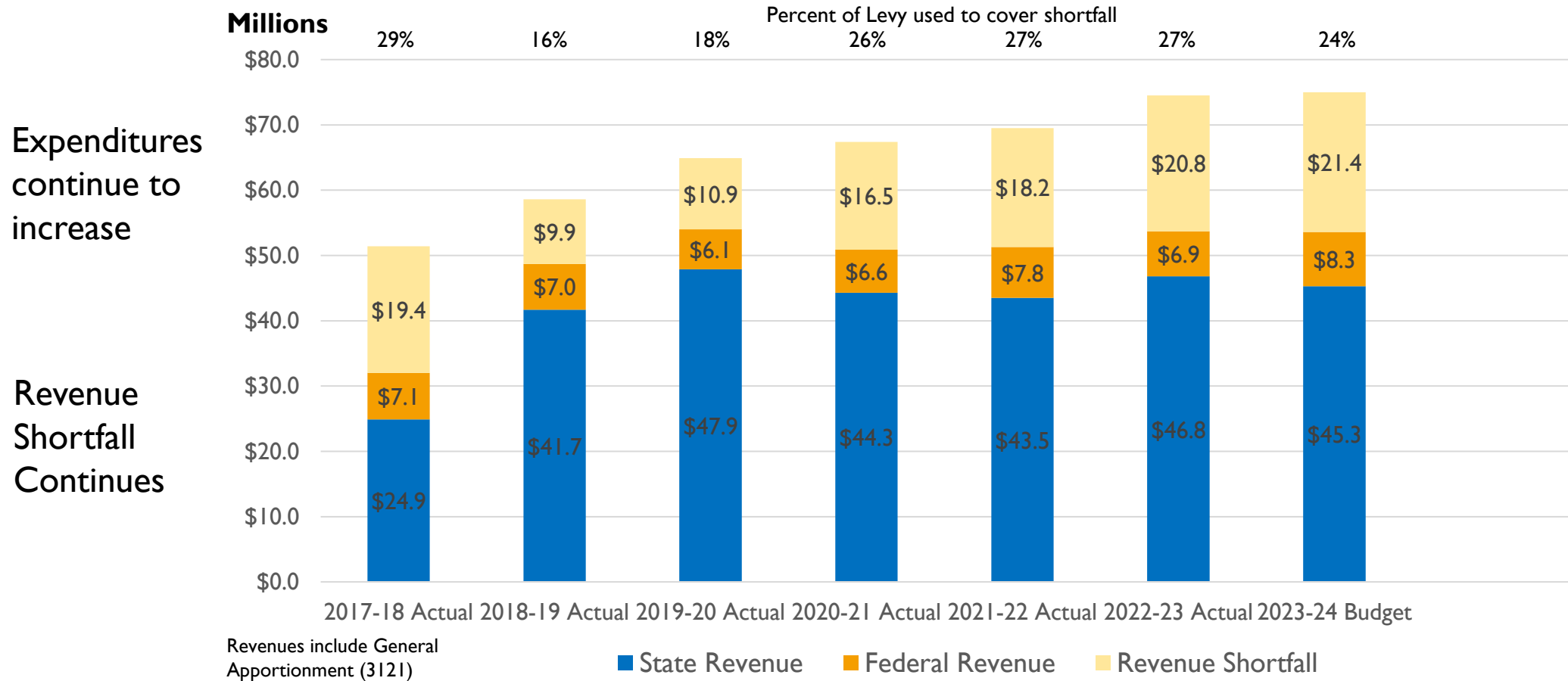
DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Fully fund special education programs and staffing to align with inclusionary practices

Update the transportation funding formula to provide clarity and predictability for districts ensuring equitable access to schools

Authorize alternative teacher training and certification programs to attract, recruit, and retain high-quality, diverse staff

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION FULLY FUND SPECIAL EDUCATION



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

FULLY FUND SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Approximately 9.2% of LWSD students qualify for special education services.
- LWSD spends over \$74 million (13.5%) of district budget on special education for students
- The per-pupil multiplier needs to be increased to 1.81 to eliminate the gap,
 - In 2023 OSPI recommended a 33% increase to the Tier 1 (from .995 to 1.325) and Tier 2 (from 1.0075 to 1.337) rates. This would have provided \$9.1 million additional revenue to LWSD.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

UPDATE THE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FORMULA



- The state only funds 88% of transportation costs, leaving a gap of \$1.9 million
- The state transportation funding formula known as STARS (Student Transportation Allocation Reporting System) uses a regression analysis to calculate costs. Formula is not transparent or predictable.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

ATTRACT & RETAIN DIVERSE STAFF

- A diverse workforce is beneficial for all students, particularly students of colors.
- Strategies should expand the teacher pipeline, remove barriers to pursuing teaching careers, support teachers early in their career
 - Examples: Scholarship programs, expanded teacher residency programs, interstate mobility compacts, mentorship, strategic professional development

STUDENT SUPPORT AND ACHIEVEMENT

Continue to increase staffing allocations in the prototypical model to reflect the actual staff required for student learning and student social-emotional health without impacting local levy funds

Increase funding for necessary substitutes to reflect the actual cost

Require a detailed fiscal note on all proposed legislation that affect school districts and corresponding funding

STUDENT SUPPORT & ACHIEVEMENT STAFFING

- Increase the prototypical model and funding to reflect what is required to support student learning and programs



Lake Washington School District hires over 190 certificated and classified staff that the state does not provide funding for.



The state only funds 12.9% of substitute and leave costs, leaving a gap of \$6.1 million. The state formula provides limited funding for certificated substitutes and no funding for classified substitutes.



When compensation changes are made at the state level, districts are impacted due to the funding gap between funding and what programs and services cost.

- For example, for every 1.0% of a change in state compensation it costs the district \$1.0-\$1.5 million in local funding

STUDENT SUPPORT & ACHIEVEMENT FUND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STAFFING ENRICHMENT WORKGROUP

- Legislature implemented a “prototypical school model” in 2011 providing new staffing allocations that were cost neutral to the prior staffing model. Funding levels for most staff positions have remained the same since 2011.
- In 2014 – Initiative 1351 was approved by voters and provided for phased in increases in staffing allocations in the Prototypical Funding model. In 2017, the McCleary solution repealed the implementation schedule.



STUDENT SUPPORT & ACHIEVEMENT FISCAL NOTES

- The legislature passes bills that increase costs for district with no new funding
- This results in ongoing reductions to programs and services
- A complete picture will allow the legislature to fund proposals adequately

Examples:

- SSB 5072 requires increased HiCap screening with no new funding provided for screening or services
- ESHB 1273 provides menstrual products at no cost in bathrooms

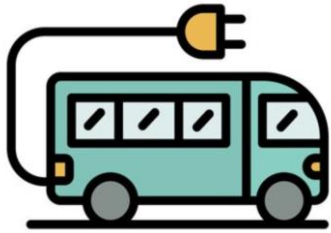
SUSTAINABILITY

Develop new funding models to transition transportation systems and infrastructure to zero-emissions vehicles by 2030

Incentivize funding for sustainable design and construction of school buildings that ensure optimal health and productivity for students and staff

SUSTAINABILITY

FUND A ZERO-EMISSIONS SCHOOL BUS FLEET



- Costs of purchasing electric buses and infrastructure significantly exceeds state depreciation reimbursements.
- District has applied for multiple state and federal grants for electric school buses.
- District is not been awarded grants due to qualification criteria.

Bus Type	Electric Price	Diesel Price	Price Difference
A34	\$246,000-380,000	\$88,000-116,000	\$158,000-264,000
C77	\$368,000-491,000	\$128,000-156,000	\$248,000-335,000
D84	\$400,000-521,000	\$148,000-169,000	\$252,000-352,000

SUSTAINABILITY FUNDING FOR SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

- Funding should be prioritized for sustainable design and construction of school buildings.
- Costs to implement legislative requirement for Clean Buildings Performance Standard (CBPS) were not funded (SB 5293)



MODERN LEARNING FACILITIES

Advance a constitutional amendment that authorizes simple majority for school bond passage

Change non-voted debt rules to be consistent with other capital funding rules

MODERN LEARNING FACILITIES IMPLEMENT SIMPLE MAJORITY FOR SCHOOL BONDS

- Rapid growth creates significant demand for new school facilities with limited ability to raise capital
- We need a constitutional amendment to allow simple majority for school bonds



Bond Election	Approval %	Pass Y/N
Feb. 2018	54.02%	N
Feb. 2016	66.28%	Y
April 2014	52.59%	N
Feb. 2014	57.79%	N
Feb. 2010	55.67%	N

MODERN LEARNING FACILITIES

FLEXIBILITY OF CAPITAL FUNDING

- LGO bonds (non-voted bonds) are a tool that can be used to utilize fund more quickly
- Use of LGO funds is limited to improvements and additions—not allowing new construction
- Including new construction in acceptable use would:
 - Create consistency across funding types
 - Allow districts to utilize capital more quickly
 - Help keep construction costs down
 - Require NO NEW state funding

FUTURE-READY SCHOOLS

Create a funding mechanism to support school-based health and wellness centers providing basic physical and mental health services

Direct OSPI to develop guidance on innovative, equitable and responsible use of AI technologies throughout the K-12 education system This is a more specific ask with a legislative role. We will incorporate training/professional development needs into talking points.

FUTURE-READY SCHOOLS

SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS

- SBHCs can advance health equity and address health-related barriers to learning by
 - Increasing utilization of preventative care and
 - Improve use of early intervention mental health services.
 - In studies, school-based health centers are associated with improved attendance.
- An ongoing source of funding is needed

FUTURE-READY SCHOOLS PLANNING FOR AI

- Technology skills are essential to success in the workforce and in life
- It's too early to create broad regulations on new and unknown technology
- Guidance is vital to creating innovative, equitable, and responsible practices
 - Educators need examples of AI usage directly relevant to their work
 - Students need to be empowered to learn with and about AI

2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- Short session of the biennium, began January 8, ends March 7
- Legislature focuses on creating a supplemental budget and policy-oriented bills



SPECIAL EDUCATION BILLS

Bill No.	Description	Impact
HB 1109	Providing funding for summer (July-September) special education initial evaluations and IEP writing. <i>A proposed amendment would increase funding for K-12 evaluations to \$5700 and IEPs to \$5700 per eligible student. Students five and under, drop to \$2900 for evaluations and \$2900 for IEP.</i>	\$3000 for evaluation & \$3000 for IEP per eligible student
HB 1479/ SB 5966	Eliminates restraint and isolation practices. Requires substantial training, facilities upgrades, and other resources.	Unknown due to unspecified training requirements.
HB 1914	Improving the education of students with varying abilities by enhancing special education services. Requires additional reporting by teachers, providers; due process burden of proof.	Estimate starting at \$3 million per year for added reporting requirements

CAPITAL/CONSTRUCTION BILLS

Bill No.	Description	Impact
SB 5789	Concerning the sales and use tax for school construction assistance program capital projects	TBD
SB 5823/ SJR 8207	Concerning school district elections (simple majority)/Amending the constitution simple majority approval to authorize school bonds	Improves likelihood of bond passage. Requires passage of SJR
SB 5969/ HB 2411	Adjusting school districts' authority to contract indebtedness for school construction	Expands funding options for capital projects, complete projects more quickly, minimize inflation
HB 1353/ HJR 4207	Concerning school district elections (55% approval)/Amending the constitution to allow 55% voter approval to authorize school bonds	Improves likelihood of bond passage. Requires passage of HJR

TRANSPORTATION BILLS

Bill No.	Description	Impact
SB 5873	Providing adequate and predictable student transportation. Creates new funding formula, fully funds “distinct passenger” category, creates new reporting requirements.	Unknown
SB 5431/ HB 1368	Mandates new bus purchases after 2027 be zero emissions vehicles. Creates grant program.	Cost: \$350,000/ bus; \$50,000 per charger

STAFFING BILLS

Bill No.	Description	Impact
HB 1277	Establishing rules to improve the consistency and quality of the implementation of the fundamental courses of study for paraeducators	Cost starting at \$42,000
SB 5882	Increasing prototypical school staffing allocations for teaching assistance, office support, and noninstructional aides	TBD

CURRICULUM/GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Bill No.	Description	Impact
SB 5813	Mandating agricultural literacy instruction in grades 7-12	TBD, new staff needs
SB 5817	Mandating financial education into grades 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12; requires a half credit of financial education for all high school grads beginning with Class of 2029	TBD, new staff needs
SB 5849	Computer science graduation requirement	TBD, new staff needs
SB 5851	Incorporating age-appropriate Holocaust and genocide education into social studies, European History and World History where possible, encourages stand-alone courses	LW already incorporates Holocaust and genocide education

OTHER BILLS

Bill No.	Description	Impact
SB 5956	Concerning the maximum per-pupil limit for enrichment levies. Would apply regionalization to levy limits.	Would allow LWSD to collect additional levy funds on future levies.
SB 5964/ HB 2058	Increasing student access to free meals at public schools. Would include breakfast and lunch.	TBD

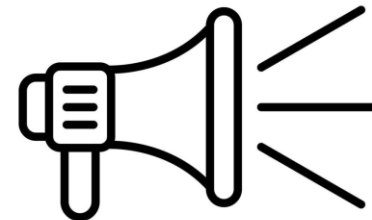
LAKE WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Actions

- Meet with legislators before and after session
- Monitoring bills and upcoming hearings
- Administrators testify during hearings – testified on eight bills in the first two weeks of session
- Provided follow up as needed via email or additional meetings
- Direct outreach to individual legislators on bills of interest
- Legislative Conference in Olympia, continue meeting with legislators

What Can the Community Do?

- Reach out to legislators
- Encourage legislators to support LWSD priorities
- Remind legislators not to implement new requirements without ADEQUATE funding



QUESTIONS

