



2015 SESSION:

Updated: 9-10-2014

SBE Legislative Priorities

Ample Provision

Meet the state's constitutional obligation to make ample provision for basic education.

Legislative Action: The Board urges the Legislature to identify reliable and sustainable funding sources for basic education to support a robust response to the *McCleary* Court Order, and make significant progress toward full implementation of the provisions of ESHB 2261 and SHB 2776. Fund public schools in a manner that does not compromise our commitment to early learning, higher education, and vital social services to Washington's citizens.

High School & Beyond Plan

Strengthen the High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) for Washington's students.

Legislative Action: The Board urges the Legislature to provide greater clarity on plan requirements. The adoption of more rigorous graduation requirements and the creation of personalized pathways increases the importance of the HSBP in a student's journey to career and college readiness. By beginning the planning process in the middle school years and defining fundamental elements, the Legislature can help ensure that every student is engaged in these essential activities.

ESEA Flexibility Waiver

Take the needed action to restore Washington's ESEA Flexibility Waiver and return control of federal funds to local districts.

Legislative Action: The Board supports the effort of Governor Inslee and Superintendent Dorn to restore our state's waiver from onerous requirements of No Child Left Behind by securing a legislative change requiring that statewide assessments, when relevant, be used as one measure of student growth in teacher and principal evaluations.

Modify Career & College Ready Exam Requirements

Streamline alternative assessments required for graduation.

Legislative Action: The Board urges the Legislature to expand the use of testing alternatives for students who do not pass the 11th grade SBAC test required for graduation, beginning with the Class of 2019.

Professional Learning for Educators

Incorporate a robust program of educator professional learning into the state's program of basic education.

Legislative Action: The Board urges the Legislature to establish and fund a statewide program of effective professional learning for educators of 10 days or the equivalent as part of the basic education allocations guaranteed to all school districts. Professional learning time outside the 180-day calendar is necessary to ensure that educators are able to meet higher standards for instruction, and schools to meet the goals of basic education for student learning. It will also reduce the need for basic education waivers that erode instructional time for children.