



Direct

Washington State School Directors' Association

June 2011

Legislature wraps up special session

Education takes more hits as lawmakers adopt plan to close \$4.9 billion shortfall

After 105 days of regular session and 30 days of special session, on May 25 the 2011 Legislature reached agreement on a two-year operating and construction budget.

To close a projected \$4.9 billion shortfall, the operating budget (E2SHB 1087) includes \$4.5 billion in reductions and \$459 million in transfers. It leaves more than \$700 million in reserves. The budget passed with bipartisan support in the Senate but relied on Democrat votes in the House.

After analyzing how education funding fared in Gov. Chris Gregoire's "all-cuts budget" that was unveiled last December, no one expected K-12 funding to escape some serious reductions.

The unprecedented budget shortfall for the biennium, the gap in the current fiscal year, and the sluggish economic recovery dogged legislators, as budget negotiators struggled to identify cuts and "resize" state government spending.

School directors and education advocates took their messages to Olympia throughout the session, describing to legislators the consequences of cuts to basic education, local effort assistance and employee salaries, the impact of unfunded mandates, and more.

Their effort is marked with some successes, such as protection of LEA, but the deficit was so vast that legislators were faced with cutting activities not considered part of "basic education."

To close a \$1.1 billion gap for fiscal year 2011, the Legislature increased cuts to K-4 that had been previously



(L-to-R) First-term State Representatives Kris Lytton (D-Anacortes) and Cathy Dahlquist (R-Enumclaw) pause for a photo at the end of the special session. Both legislators are former school board members.

made in a December 2010 special session, and made the cuts retroactive to the start of the 2010-11 school year.

They also shifted \$128 million of the June 30 apportionment to July 1, effectively moving the payment to districts into the next biennium. To help with cash flow issues caused by the deep level of cuts and the apportionment shift, the Legislature set aside \$13 million (contact OSPI for more information) for districts that meet eligibility standards.

For the 2011-13 biennium, lawmakers continued previous "savings" to the state by suspending I-728 (class

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Board candidate workshops offered in July

What does a school board do? What are the responsibilities of school board service, and what does it take to be effective?

School board candidates are invited to attend one of seven free workshops offered throughout the state in July by WSSDA. The two-hour sessions cover the fundamentals of school board service, including board/superintendent roles, legal requirements for school boards, and tips for effective leadership. Participants will also receive an overview of education reform efforts at the state and national levels. (Note: These are not workshops on how to campaign.)

Online resources will be available as well, including WSSDA's popular manual *Serving on Your Local School Board: A Foundation for Success*. The manual and other materials are found at wssda.org/serving.

School Board Candidate Workshops



- Monday, July 18 Olympia
- Tuesday, July 19 Renton
- Wednesday, July 20 Burlington
- Monday, July 25 Wenatchee
- Tuesday, July 26 Spokane
- Wednesday, July 27 Yakima
- Thursday, July 28 Vancouver

All workshops take place from 7 to 9 p.m.

For locations and driving directions visit wssda.org/serving.

WSSDA seeks officer candidates for 2012

School directors are asked to pay particular attention to the mailing *WSSDA Seeks Officer Candidates for 2012*, which explains the procedure for becoming a candidate for WSSDA President-elect and Vice President.

For 2012, the position of President-elect is open to candidates from throughout the state. The position of Vice President is open to candidates from the west side of the Cascades. Both positions will be voted upon at the WSSDA Annual Conference in November.

Candidate applications are due June 14. Information may be submitted on paper using the forms in the packet, or electronically through wssda.org. Interviews will be held July 30. If you have questions, please contact your Director Area representative on the WSSDA Nominating Committee; a roster is available at wssda.org under "WSSDA Information." Or, contact Kevin Laverty, Nominating Committee Chair, at 206.498.8726. In the WSSDA office, contact Terri Eixenberger, 360.252.3002.

Legislature

continued from cover

size reduction) and I-732 (teacher COLAs) for \$1.2 billion. An additional \$215 million was "saved" by eliminating K-4 class size enhancements. New in this budget—and a possibility for the veto pen—is a cut of \$41 million for alternative learning experience programs.

Perhaps the largest and most complex cut to education is a reduction in funding for K-12 employee salaries.

The cut is \$179 million, and applies to administrators (3 percent) and certificated and classified staff (1.9 percent). An option to hold harmless employees who make \$30,000 or less failed to make it into the final budget.

By reducing the allocation for salaries, the Legislature pushed down to school districts the decisions on how the cuts will be absorbed. Information on options available to districts, including potential legal and bargaining ramifications, is available on the WSSDA website (wssda.org).

On the plus side, the budget included \$33.6 million in K-3 class size enhancement for high poverty schools and \$25 million to implement the new funding formula and shift to prototypical schools. All-day kindergarten (limited) and the teacher/principal evaluation pilot program were continued.

The capital budget fully funded the school construction assistance program, and included funding for energy efficiency grants, the emergency repair program, and some vocational skills centers, for nearly \$732 million.

WSSDA is creating a summary of the 2011 legislative sessions, which will provide more detail on fiscal and policy bills. The summary will be posted on the WSSDA website at wssda.org.

Registration opens for fall Legislative Assembly

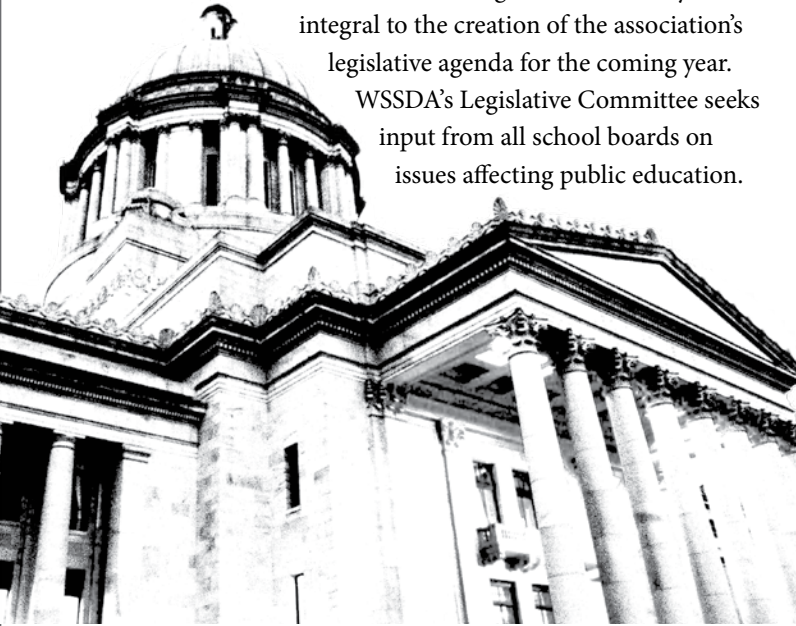
2011 Legislative Assembly: Pasco Red Lion Hotel

Pre-Assembly program: Friday, Sept. 23, 1 p.m.

Assembly: Saturday, Sept. 24, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The annual WSSDA Legislative Assembly is integral to the creation of the association's legislative agenda for the coming year.

WSSDA's Legislative Committee seeks input from all school boards on issues affecting public education.



The committee meets during the summer to analyze legislative proposals and generate proposals of its own.

The Legislative Assembly acts on these proposals, creating a comprehensive legislative agenda, subject to final approval by the WSSDA Board of Directors.

All school directors and district staff are encouraged to attend, although only school directors may address the Assembly and only one director per district may vote on an issue. While Legislative Representatives from each district normally serve as delegates to the Assembly, any director from the district may be appointed as alternate. If desired, a different alternate may be designated for each issue.

Registration is required; register online at wssda.org/assembly. For those paying by check, use the printed form which will be available online and mailed to each board's Legislative Representative.

Pre-registration is \$195 through Sept. 2. Registration includes Friday evening reception/hors d'oeuvres, Saturday breakfast and lunch. See wssda.org/assembly for hotel information or call the Pasco Red Lion Hotel at 800.Red.Lion. Be sure to indicate that you are attending the WSSDA Legislative Assembly.

Gov. Gregoire signs education bills

Gov. Chris Gregoire has signed more than 30 education-related bills from the recent regular and special legislative sessions, with more yet to come.

To date, the governor has approved bills regarding high school math and science exams, kindergarten readiness assessments, innovative schools, anti-bullying programs, dropout prevention, and suspension of I-728 and I-732.

Bills awaiting action from the governor include the operating and capital budgets for the coming biennium and a change in the allocation formula for alternative learning experiences (ALE).

The governor is scheduled to act on all remaining bills by June 15.



At a recent bill signing ceremony: (L-to-R) State Representative Marcie Maxwell (D-Renton), Gov. Chris Gregoire, WSSDA Governmental Relations Director Marie Sullivan, WSSDA Executive Director Jonelle Adams. Maxwell is a former member of the Renton School Board.

Apply for Boards of Distinction



WSSDA encourages every school board to apply for recognition as a Board of Distinction. Most boards conduct annual self-assessments at this time of year. Since you will likely be discussing how your board's actions align with effective governance practices, this is a good time to begin drafting your application for WSSDA's Boards of Distinction program.

Each board which meets the criteria will receive recognition as a Board of Distinction at this year's Annual Conference. The highest scoring board will be honored as the Washington State Board of the Year.

Watch for the mailer pictured above later this year, or visit wssda.org > Awards & Recognition for complete details and the application form. Applications are due Sept. 21, 2011.

Proposals sought for WSSDA positions

Each year school boards are invited to submit their ideas for WSSDA's permanent positions.

Delineating WSSDA's beliefs, positions and values as viewed by its members, WSSDA positions are advisory to school boards as well as to other organizations and stakeholders. School directors will be mailed a WSSDA resolution proposal form in June which must be submitted by Friday, August 19; forms will also posted online at wssda.org. School directors are invited to submit positions to be considered for adoption by the Delegate Assembly during the Annual Conference in November.

The call for submittals of permanent positions is coordinated by the WSSDA Resolutions Committee.

ESD elections announced

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction will conduct an election in October for board positions in the state's nine educational service districts. ESD boards have seven or nine members, depending on their organization.

To be eligible for membership on an ESD board, a candidate must be a registered voter and live in the ESD for which he or she files. ESD Board members serve four-year terms and are elected by the members of local school boards within each ESD. Terms of office for ESD board members elected in fall 2011 will begin the second Monday in January 2012 and expire the second Monday in January 2016.

Declaration of candidacy forms may be obtained after Aug. 22 from the Administrative Resources office, Old Capitol Building, P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA, 98504-7200, 360.725.6132, or any ESD office. They must be filed with the Administrative Resources Office between Sept. 1 and Sept. 16. Voting by ballot will take place from Oct. 3-18.

For a list of vacant positions visit www.k12.wa.us/Communications/PressReleases2011/ESD_Board_Positions.pdf.

WELCOME, NEW SCHOOL DIRECTORS!

Congratulations and welcome to the following new school directors:

Mavis Nickels, *Battle Ground*
Ken Root, *Battle Ground*
Colleen State, *Chehalis*
Sid Green, *Colville*
Ruby Walker, *Curlew*
Tom Green, *Darrington*
Kathie Stratton, *Easton*
Timothy Ballew II, *Ferndale*
James Campbell, *Longview*
Brian Emanuels, *Mercer Island*
Ruben Peralta, *Pasco*

Thanks and best wishes to those who have recently left board service:

Sam Kim, *Battle Ground*
Glen Dickason, *Chehalis*
Janet Stephens, *Curlew*
Brenda Sargent, *Easton*
Tamarah Hancock, *Enumclaw*
Calvin Miller, *Kelso*
Lisa Strauch Eggers, *Mercer Island*
Timothy Marshall, *Odessa*
H.W. Felsted, *Pasco*

Receive free E-Clippings

Receive the E-Clippings—WSSDA's popular clickable list of the day's top education articles delivered to you by e-mail every weekday morning.

You'll receive links to education stories in state and national daily newspapers and other online news services. To subscribe, go to wssda.org/eclips.

Annual Conference keynote speaker line-up

Registration begins in July for the
WSSDA Annual Conference

November 17 - 20, 2011
Hyatt Regency Bellevue



Opening session, Friday, November 18



Daggett

Bill Daggett, Ed.D., CEO of the International Center for Leadership in Education, is recognized worldwide for his proven ability to move education systems towards more rigorous and relevant skills and knowledge for all students. He has assisted states and hundreds of school districts with school improvement

initiatives, many in response to No Child Left Behind and its demanding adequate yearly progress provisions. Daggett has collaborated with education ministries in several countries and with the Council of Chief State School Officers, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the National Governors Association, and other national entities. For more information, visit www.LeaderEd.com.

Saturday luncheon, November 19



Ravitch

Diane Ravitch is a historian of education who has advised governors, state boards of education, and national organizations about education policy and a vision for the future of public education. Ravitch currently serves as Research Professor of Education at New York University. She is a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings

Institution in Washington, D.C., as well.

Ravitch is recognized nationally and worldwide as author, her most recent book being *The Death and Life of the Great American School System: How Testing and Choice Are Undermining Education* (2010). Other books include *Left Back: A Century of Battles Over School Reform* (2000); *The Troubled Crusade: American Education 1945-1980* (1983); and *The Great School Wars: A History of the New York City Public Schools* (1974). In addition, she has written more than 400 articles and reviews for scholarly and popular publications. These books and

articles have been translated into many languages, including Chinese, Polish, Arabic, Spanish, Swedish, and Japanese. Visit her website at: www.dianeravitch.com.

Closing general session, Sunday, November 20



Danielson

Charlotte Danielson is an educational consultant based in Princeton, New Jersey. She has taught at all levels, from kindergarten through college, and has worked as an administrator, a curriculum director, and a staff developer. In her consulting work, Danielson specializes in aspects

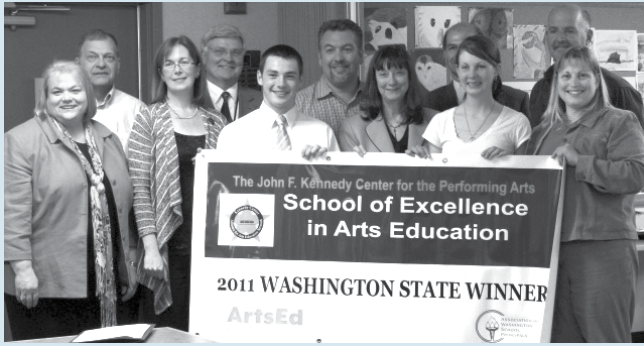
of teacher quality and evaluation, curriculum planning, performance assessment, and professional development. She has consulted with hundreds of districts, universities, intermediate agencies, and state departments of education in virtually every state and in many countries.

This work has ranged from the training of practitioners in aspects of instruction and assessment, the design of instruments and procedures for teacher evaluation, to keynote presentations at major conferences. Her clients include the College Board, Educational Testing Service, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Visit www.danielsongroup.org for further information.

Register online for WSSDA's Annual Conference

Online Annual Conference registration begins July 1. Register at wssda.org/conference.

Save money by registering early. Check the website above for information on scholarships, hotels, and Bellevue visitor information.



The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts School of Excellence in Arts Education was awarded to Carnation Elementary (Riverview) at a May board meeting. Jonelle Adams, WSSDA Executive

Director presented the award. Riverview board members are Gregory Bawden, Danny Edwards, Lori Oviatt, Daniel Pflugrath and Carol Van Noy. Bethel and Tacoma districts received awards as well (see related article in last month's *WSSDA Direct*).

Miller joins WSSDA staff as training specialist

WSSDA Executive Director Jonelle Adams has announced the appointment of Colleen J. Miller as Training Specialist for WSSDA



Miller

Leadership Development Services.

"We're pleased to welcome Colleen to the WSSDA team," said Adams. "She brings a wealth of education and professional development expertise to our association, which will benefit WSSDA members in strengthening their leadership and governance skills."

Miller, a former teacher and school administrator, has 23 years of experience in developing and delivering training for educators. She most recently served as Principal of Raleigh Hills K-8 School in Beaverton, Oregon. She has also served as a middle school assistant principal and an elementary school instructional coordinator and physical education teacher.

Miller holds a Bachelor's of Science in Physical Education from Oregon State University and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Lewis and Clark College in Portland.

The Training Specialist position replaces the assistant director position in Leadership Development Services. The position recently became vacant through the retirement of Sue Kerber.

The Training Specialist position will be focused on developing curriculum, based on the Washington School Board Standards, that supports board performance. Miller will also assist with board coaching and training, especially in expanding WSSDA's online training.

Miller starts with WSSDA June 6. She can be reached at 360.252.3006 or C.Miller@wssda.org.

Former WSSDA presidents retiring from school board service



McMullen



Thomas



Williams

Three former WSSDA presidents are retiring from school board service this year—Bill Williams, Cindy McMullen and Ted Thomas.

Williams, who served on the North Thurston

School Board for 25 years, was WSSDA president in 2001. He recently announced that he won't seek another term on his local school board, though he continues his work as executive director of the Washington State PTA.

McMullen, WSSDA's 2007 president, has served on Central Valley's board since 1987, with five terms as board president. She has been active in the WSSDA FRN and is a graduate of Leadership WSSDA. She recently announced she will not seek another term.

Thomas, who served as WSSDA president in 2008, was a member of the Longview School Board for 14 years until stepping down recently. Thomas served three terms as school board president; he also served as chair of the WSSDA Legislative Committee and has been active in the WSSDA FRN.

WSSDA, the social network

twitter



Sign up for a Twitter account and receive WSSDA's "tweets"—brief updates on education news and association activities.

Visit twitter.com/wssda.



Find us at [Facebook.com/wssda](https://www.facebook.com/wssda) and click on "Like." (You must be a Facebook member: Sign up to be a member at [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com).)

Applications being accepted to fill State Board of Education vacancy

The State Board of Education has announced that it is accepting applications from those who want to be considered for appointment to fill a vacancy in one of the WSSDA-elected positions on the board.

The vacancy was created this month with the resignation of Warren Smith of Spanaway. Smith held Position 5 on the board, which is elected by school directors in Western Washington.

To be eligible for appointment, applicants must be from western Washington, which is defined as Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum and Whatcom counties.

The appointee to the State Board may not concurrently serve as a member of the board of directors of either a public school district or a private school. In addition, elected SBE members cannot be employed by any public or private school, college, university or other educational institution, any educational service district, or the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The selected member's term will begin in July or September 2011 and end in January 2014. The appointee will have the opportunity to run for the position after completing the remainder of the unexpired term.

The deadline for submitting applications is June 16. Additional information and application forms are available on the State Board of Education website: www.sbe.wa.gov.

Later this year, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction will be conducting elections for two WSSDA-elected positions on the State Board. Up for election are Position 1 from Eastern Washington, currently held by Dr. Steve dal Porto of Quincy, and Position 3 from Western Washington, currently held by Connie Fletcher of Issaquah.

OSPI will post information on SBE elections at www.k12.wa.us in the coming weeks. Candidate filing normally occurs from late July to the end of August, with ballots mailed at the end of October.

WSSDA will also provide information on its website (wssda.org) and through a voters' guide published in the fall.

NEWS BRIEFS

Kira Powell, an 11th grade chemistry student at Odessa High School, has qualified to attend the London International Youth Science Forum. She earned her spot by taking first place in environmental science at the National Science and Humanities Symposium, held last month in San Diego. Powell will travel to London in July to participate in a two-week residential event in which students present research, tour state-of-the-art science facilities and attend demonstrations presented by the world's top scientists.

Powell is the first student from Washington to qualify for the forum. Her project uses sodium polyacrylate, a non-toxic polymer found in baby diapers, to absorb moisture and create reservoirs of water around newly planted seeds. The seeds access the water as they grow, allowing farmers to make the most of both rainfall and irrigation. Powell worked on her project, from seed to harvest, with Odessa area farmers.

Educational Service District 113 has moved its offices from Olympia to Tumwater. According to Superintendent Bill Keim, the new offices include approximately 10,000 square

feet of meeting space with flexible configuration options; this area will be named the Capital Events Center. ESD 113's new mailing address is 6005 Tye Drive SW, Tumwater, WA 98512.

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has issued a "dear colleague" letter, fact sheet, and question and answer document on school district enrollment practices. OCR indicates that it has "become aware of student enrollment practices that may chill or discourage the participation, or lead to the exclusion, of students based on their or their parents' or guardians' actual or perceived citizenship or immigration status."

OCR states such practices contravene Title IV and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin by public schools and recipients of federal financial assistance, respectively. Likewise, according to OCR, *Plyler v. Doe* "makes clear, the undocumented or non-citizen status of a student (or his or her parent or guardian) is irrelevant to that student's entitlement to an elementary and secondary public education."



WSSDA Direct is published monthly by the Washington State School Directors' Association to provide information of interest to school directors and the education community. The views expressed in opinion articles appearing in WSSDA Direct are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent WSSDA policies or positions. If you have a disability and need this publication in an alternate format, please contact the WSSDA Communications Department.

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Dr. Jonelle Adams, <i>Executive Director</i>	360.252.3001
David Brine, <i>Communications Director</i>	360.252.3013
Kate Vikstrom, <i>Communications Specialist</i>	360.252.3015

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Policy and Legal Services	360.252.3019
Toll Free (In-State)	800.562.8927
E-Mail	mail@wssda.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

- Paramount Duty Coalition, Federal Way June 15
- WSSDA Executive Committee conference call June 16
- WSSDA Legislative Committee, Olympia June 17-18
- WSSDA Board of Directors, Olympia June 24-25
- WASA/AWSP Summer Conference, Spokane June 26-28
- AESD Executive Board and ESD Supts., Spokane June 28
- WSSDA Cadre training, Olympia June 28-30
- Independence Day July 4
- Board of Natural Resources, Olympia July 5
- Professional Educator Standards Board, Tumwater. . . July 7-8
- NSBA Pacific Region Summer Meeting, Portland . . . July 8-10
- State Board of Education, Tulalip July 12-14
- WSSDA Executive Committee conference call July 14
- WSSDA Legislative Committee, Olympia July 22-23
- WSSDA Nominating Committee, Olympia July 30

- WSSDA WORKSHOP: THE SCHOOL BOARD'S ROLE IN LEADING FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
 - Spokane: June 11
 - Marysville: June 11
 - Chehalis: June 11
- SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE WORKSHOPS
 - Olympia: July 18
 - Renton: July 19
 - Burlington: July 20
 - Wenatchee: July 25
 - Spokane: July 26
 - Yakima: July 27
 - Vancouver: July 28
- WSSDA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
 - Pasco: Sept. 23-24
- WSSDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 - Bellevue Hyatt Regency: Nov. 18-20
- NSBA FEDERAL RELATIONS NETWORK CONFERENCE
 - Washington D.C.: Feb. 5-7, 2012