



## THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

*A high-quality education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.*

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<b>Title: Non-profit Education Advocates Legislative Panel</b>	
<b>As related to:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal One:</b> Develop and support policies to close the achievement and opportunity gaps. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal Two:</b> Develop comprehensive accountability, recognition, and supports for students, schools, and districts. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal Three:</b> Ensure that every student has the opportunity to meet career and college ready standards. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal Four:</b> Provide effective oversight of the K-12 system. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>
<b>Relevant to Board roles:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy leadership <input type="checkbox"/> System oversight <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy <input type="checkbox"/> Communication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convening and facilitating
<b>Policy considerations / Key questions:</b>	What are the legislative priorities of key nonprofit organizations engaged in K-12 advocacy? How can the Board strengthen its partnerships with these organizations?
<b>Relevant to business item:</b>	N/A
<b>Materials included in packet:</b>	2018 legislative agendas of each organization represented on the panel
<b>Synopsis:</b>	

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The Board has invited representatives from key nonprofit K-12 advocacy partners to share their organization's 2018 legislative advocacy agendas:

- Mr. Rick Anderson, Policy Director, Communities in Schools
- Mr. Brian Jeffries, Policy Director, Partnership for Learning
- Mr. Dave Powell, Government Affairs Director, Stand for Children
- Mr. Steve Smith, Executive Director, Black Education Strategies Roundtable
- Mr. Daniel Zavala, Director, Policy and Government Relations, League of Education Voters

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact Kaaren Heikes at [Kaaren.heikes@k12.wa.us](mailto:Kaaren.heikes@k12.wa.us).

# 2018 Legislative Priorities



## Introduction

Communities In Schools of Washington (CISWA) is part of the nation's leading dropout prevention organization. CISWA and partners currently works in 27 school districts to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Last year, CISWA site coordinators helped 73,031 students overcome barriers to success. CISWA is preparing for significant expansion over the next several years with the goal of providing 75% of historically underserved youth with access to intensive case-managed services. The legislative supports below significantly boost our efforts to help school districts close the opportunity gap in Washington State.

## Integrated Students Supports Funding

Integrated Student Supports has been identified by the Legislature and OSPI as a core strategy in closing the opportunity gap in Washington State. However, there is no dedicated funding source for Integrated Student Supports. CISWA supports HB 1511 and other legislative efforts to provide school districts with adequate and stable funding for Integrated Student Supports.

## Integrated Student Data Dashboards

OSPI has published the [Washington Integrated Student Supports Protocol](#) as directed by the Legislature. According to OSPI, CISWA is the only organization in the state currently implementing all of the components of the ISS protocol. As part of our evidence-based model, CISWA collects and maintains a rich array of student assessment and intervention data as well as some student outcome (attendance, behavior, coursework) data. CISWA has data agreements with nearly all of our 27 districts, however student outcome data is hand-entered into our own system. CISWA is seeking a partnership with the State Board of Education to pilot the use of integrated (academic and nonacademic) dashboards to improve student outcomes for our case-managed students. The dashboards will be designed to improve metrics used in the State Achievement Index for student groups who have been historically underserved.

## Community and Family Engagement Coordinators

CISWA supports measures such as HB 1618 to change the name "Parent Involvement" Coordinators to "Community and Family Engagement" Coordinators. The new term is consistent with research associating strong family and community engagement with student success, particularly for historically underserved student groups. CISWA also supports Section 904 of HB 2242. This section provides enhanced staffing formulas for a number of positions, including parent involvement coordinators, and can be used by districts to implement Integrated Student Supports.





# 2018 POLICY AGENDA

**Home to a robust mix of employers and a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, Washington ranks as a top-10 state for job growth and a top-five state for personal income growth per capita.**

The future continues to look bright with 740,000 job openings projected in our state by 2021. However, a closer examination of economic performance reveals significant gaps in regional growth and prosperity. State policymakers have an opportunity in 2018 to lay a foundation for diversified and inclusive growth that benefits communities and individuals across all of Washington and make progress toward better preparing our students for the opportunities being created here.

## Education

Washington's greatest asset is its people. The majority of job openings in our state that offer good salaries and opportunity for advancement will be filled by workers with a postsecondary credential—such as a degree, apprenticeship, or certificate. Yet, less than one third of Washington's students attain such a credential by age 26. Far too few of the young people growing up here are getting the education and training necessary to take advantage of the career opportunities being created here. We can and must do better.

### THE ROUNDTABLE URGES THE 2018 LEGISLATURE TO:

- **Pursue the highest leverage opportunities available to reach the following goal: By 2030, 70 percent of Washington high school students will go on to attain a postsecondary credential by age 26.** This will require focused efforts to increase the percentage of systemically underserved students who enroll in education or training after high school and earn a credential.
- **Maintain the state's commitment to rigorous learning standards, assessments, and high school graduation requirements,** all of which are crucial to ensuring that Washington students graduate high school ready for postsecondary education, training, and careers.
- **In the process of implementing the K-12 education funding plan adopted in 2017, continue to direct resources to the students most in need and drive improvements at low-performing schools.** The state must ensure the plan is sustainable and school districts do not spend local levy dollars to fund basic education.
- **Ensure that Washington's youngest learners enter school ready to learn and excel,** with a focus on expanding high-quality early learning options for low-income children.



# 2018 POLICY AGENDA *(continued)*

## Economic Vitality

The Washington state economy is thriving, but prosperity is distributed unevenly, and some communities are outright struggling. Lawmakers should take steps in 2018 to foster statewide economic growth, with specific emphasis on spreading opportunity and prosperity to Washington's rural areas where recent growth has trailed the state average.

### THE ROUNDTABLE URGES THE 2018 LEGISLATURE TO:

- **Eliminate duplicative regulation and ease regulatory burdens, particularly in rural areas.**  
For example, act to resolve water conflicts that result from the Supreme Court's Hirst decision.
- **Support policies that promote economic development and job growth, particularly in non-urban regions.** This includes support for business attraction and retention efforts, incentives for greater inter-county cooperation, and expansion of broadband infrastructure to underserved communities.
- **Promote transportation infrastructure asset preservation and maintenance.** Implement the 2015 Connecting Washington package as quickly and efficiently as possible, and begin planning for the next round of transportation investments in key economic corridors.

## About Washington Roundtable

The Washington Roundtable is a nonprofit organization comprised of senior executives of major private sector employers in Washington state. Founded in 1983, the Roundtable works to effect positive change on the public policy issues that are most important to supporting state economic vitality and fostering opportunity for Washingtonians. We are committed to making Washington a better place to live, work and do business.

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# 2018 Legislative Priorities

The League of Education Voters will be pursuing a legislative agenda in 2018 that reflects our values. Students come first, and we are focused first and foremost on meeting the needs of every student. We believe in creating an equitable education system that serves all students based on their needs and assets and provides the resources they need to be successful. We are working to close gaps experienced by historically and systemically underserved students—including students of color, students in poverty, students qualifying for special education services, students learning English, and students impacted by trauma—while raising the bar for all. We believe the following priorities will help move us towards that more equitable and just education system.



## Early Childhood Education

Early learning is a vital part of a student's educational experience that ensures students arrive at Kindergarten with foundational knowledge and skills, ready to learn and make friends. State investments in early learning can close opportunity and achievement gaps by focusing on students who would not have otherwise had access to high-quality, early learning opportunities. In 2018, LEV will prioritize:

- ▶ Continuing to increase access to high-quality programming through:
  - ▶ Funding more slots and space to learn for the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).
  - ▶ Restoring Early Achievers resources to enable providers to implement high-quality early learning programming.

## K-12 Funding

Increased state funding alone will not improve student outcomes—improvement also depends on how the state, districts, and schools deploy these resources. Accessible and comparable spending data from districts and schools allows us to follow where new state investments are targeted, and evaluate if our system is effectively meeting student needs. This will help guide our lawmakers to make the necessary changes to create a more equitable funding system. In 2018, LEV will prioritize:

- ▶ Successful implementation of HB 2242 with the creation of additional investment monitoring, including:
  - ▶ Increasing available data on district-to-school spending and use of dedicated funds, including Transitional Bilingual, Special Education, Learning Assistance Program, and
  - ▶ Career and Technical Education funds; Assessing the impact of the regionalization factor and new high-poverty concentration factor investment in the Learning Assistance Program on districts, schools, and students; and
  - ▶ Other opportunities to provide clarity and target investments, such as special education funding.
- ▶ Ensuring fair district access to local levy and local effort assistance revenues.

## Expanded Learning Opportunities

A student doesn't stop learning when the afternoon bell rings—learning happens through activities, interactions, and experiences throughout a student's day. Students need access to high-quality, expanded learning opportunities after-school and in the summer to deepen and enhance their learning in and out of the classroom. In 2018, LEV will prioritize:



- ▶ Increasing student access to high-quality expanded learning opportunities (ELO) by investing \$2.25 million in the ELO Quality Initiative, allowing triple the number of programs to participate—and 11,600 more youth to be served.

## Student Supports

In order to learn, students need to feel like school is a place where they belong, are respected, and are believed in. Creating positive school climates for every student is instrumental in closing opportunity and achievement gaps in our system and improving student outcomes. In 2018, LEV will prioritize:

- ▶ Enabling school climates in which every student receives the supports they need to be successful, including:
  - ▶ School staff trained in addressing trauma and supporting social emotional learning;
  - ▶ Access to mental health services;
  - ▶ Support staff, such as social workers, nurses, and counselors; and
  - ▶ Connecting students and families with services and community resources.

## Career Connected Learning

In order to deliver on the promise of preparing every student for college and career, we need to provide guidance and opportunities in the K-12 system to explore the universe of career options, and the various academic pathways to pursuing career interests. In 2018, LEV will prioritize:

- ▶ Assessing the issues in access to programs that provide career connected learning opportunities, including dual credit, Career and Technical Education, and work-based learning.
- ▶ Improving student access to advising and mentoring through investment and guidance on the implementation of the High School and Beyond Plan, student learning plan, and transition planning for special education students.

## Postsecondary

A credential after high school—either a certificate, two-year, or four-year degree—will be necessary for 70% of Washington jobs by 2020. In order to prepare students for family-wage jobs, University we need to increase access to, enrollment in, and completion of postsecondary programs—particularly for students that are historically and systemically underserved and underrepresented in our postsecondary institutions. In 2018, LEV will prioritize:

- ▶ Continuing to expand access to postsecondary opportunities through the State Need Grant.
- ▶ Protecting and expanding financial aid for undocumented students, including making all undocumented students eligible for the College Bound Scholarship, in addition to the State Need Grant.