Seattle Public Schools
State and Federal Legislative Agenda – 2019-20

SPS has three priorities for this session in alignment with the district’s strategic plan:

1. High-Quality Instruction and Learning Experiences

   Provide Services, Supports, and Staffing for the Whole Child
   • Provide for the academic, social, cultural, emotional, and behavioral needs of students in every school: Increase allocations in the Prototypical School Funding Model for staff such as nurses, counselors, mental health workers, and librarians.
   • Ensure services can be provided for student needs (e.g. Special Education, English Language Learners and Highly Capable): Provide increases to State and Federal categorical funding that reflect the student needs in schools and school districts, including an increase in the special education multiplier.
   • Enable warm, welcoming, and safe learning environments: Provide for comprehensive school safety measures.

2. Predictable and Consistent Operations

   Increase State Funding to Reflect True Cost of Capital Facilities
   • Update the State’s outdated School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP): The current state school construction formula needs to be adjusted to provide sufficient funding for needed renovation and new construction projects by increasing the funding per square foot.
   • Provide directed State capital assistance: Support funding for facilities with critical capacity, safety, security, and environmental sustainability needs.

3. Culturally Responsive Workforce

   Ensure High-Quality and Culturally Responsive Educators in Every Classroom
   • Support competitive salaries and professional development: Fund efforts to assist in recruiting and retaining diverse, high-quality, and culturally responsive staff.
   • Promote strategies for equitable student outcomes: Support programs that focus on reducing disproportionate discipline, increase supports for students furthest away from educational justice, and reduce discrimination.
   • Fully fund the costs of implementing the School Employee Benefits Board (SEBB) Program

Approved on Nov. 6, 2019