

From: [Superintendent](#)
To: [EPS.MailList](#)
Subject: Legislative session and budget update
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Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Dear colleagues:

One of the state's longest legislative sessions is scheduled to end later this month, and resulted in the 11th-hour passage of a state budget with significant implications for our work as educators. I'll be the first to agree that many of us are relieved the Legislature came to an agreement on budget, also among the first to agree that sweeping and historic changes in how schools are funded and how we can spend both state and levy dollars are incredibly challenging.

These changes are so significant that it will take weeks for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and school districts to understand the ramifications of the deal made between the House and Senate behind closed doors. In addition, Gov. Inslee just vetoed key provisions affecting school districts yesterday, and there are likely to be other legislative adjustments affecting us before the third special session expires July 20.

As if sorting through these major changes isn't enough, plaintiffs in the McCleary case have very publicly raised questions about whether the budget and school legislation comply with the Supreme Court's order. It is most likely we will not know the court's decision on the state's compliance for a number of weeks, possibly months. Nevertheless, we will proceed with our budget approval process using the best available information, adapting as we receive new and relevant information over the next seven and a half weeks (school board adoption is scheduled for August 29). If you'd like to watch our [budget presentation for the first reading](#), I recommend you visit the July 5 regular meeting agenda in BoardDocs.

We've developed a remarkable and incredibly productive climate and collaborative spirit in our Everett Public Schools. Although the changes in school funding and operations laws will affect each and every one of us over the next four years, please rest assured we'll work closely with representatives

of all of our employee associations and non-represented groups as we transition through these changes. Please look for additional information in several installments over the next two months.

I hope you have a restful summer and find time to enjoy family, friends and some outdoor activities in this beautiful weather.

Warm wishes,



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