

# Key Legislation that Olympia School District is Supporting / Requesting in the 2023 Legislative Session

---

## Special Education

1. Eliminate the Cap and Increase the Funding Multiplier -- HB 1436

This is Superintendent Reykdal's request and addresses the full scope of the funding problem that school district's face. Currently, the state formula caps the number of students with an individualized education plan that the state will provide funding for (cap) and the amount of funding is inadequate (multiplier). Olympia School District is subsidizing special education program services by nearly \$10 million from the enrichment levy in the 2022-23 SY. (Proposed Substitute SB 5311 is similar to HB 1436 in scope.)

2. Provide special education funding for the initial evaluation of special education eligibility -- HB 1109

This is a helpful solution, but it is a secondary solution to the significant underfunding due to the cap/multiplier for most school districts.

## Salary Funding, Experience Factor, and Regionalization

3. Superintendent Reykdal's proposal for salary and regionalization updates -- [bill number is not yet identified]

Superintendent Reykdal's budget recommendation is to update K-12 staff funding allocations based on a comparable wage analysis; updating regionalization data so that eligibility is determined by county; and formalizing the experience factor so that districts who now qualify receive the funding (and districts that no longer qualify). Superintendent Reykdal's budget request:

<https://www.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/communications/2022docs/P13-Retaining-Highly-Effective-Staff-Through-an-Equitable-and-Competitive-Educator-Compensation-Model.pdf>

4. Experience Factor Fix -- HB 1419, 2021 and 2022 sessions

Former-Representative Dolan had worked on legislation for several years to fix the static factor: a) create an eligibility process so that district could demonstrate they had newly become eligible; b) assign part of the funding to highly experience staff and part of the funding to a highly educated workforce so that a district could receive partial funding (or full funding depending on need); c) and create a step-down process so that as districts' workforce changed there was not a funding cliff, but a slow ramp-down similar to the typical pattern of workforce evolution. Editorial in The Olympian, by former-Representative Dolan:

<https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/op-ed/article261403572.html>

## Transportation Funding Formula

5. Funding Formula Update -- HB 1248; SB 5174

Replaces the inadequate funding formula and reduces the levy subsidy that Olympia must pay from the enrichment levy, about \$800,000 this year.