



2022 Issue Paper: Education

Priority Statement

The priority for education is to ensure the state fully funds K-12 public education and increases funding for student support services.

The LWVWA Program in Action lists the following positions on K-12 public education:

- The state has the responsibility to determine uniform educational standards and to provide ample and equal opportunity for education. (K-12-1)
- The state has the responsibility for amply funding both education and those social services needed to ensure that every child, regardless of race, color, gender, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability, is ready to learn and safe in his or her educational environment. (K-12-2)
- All programs mandated by the legislature should be fully funded by the state. (K-12-3)
- Citizen participation should be encouraged at all levels. (K-12- 8)

During the 2022 legislative session the League will be advocating for full funding for special education, increased funding for student support staff (nurses, counselors, social workers, etc.), and carefully watching the implementation of ESHB 1336 and funding in the Capital Budget to expand broadband access to underserved areas.

We will be supporting OSPI's (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction) priority of increasing the number of school nurses in the prototypical school funding model and the SBE's (State Board of Education) priorities of investing in more social emotional health and safety staff and to create more opportunities to engage students, families, and community members as essential partners in policymaking. We will support WASA's (WA Association of School Administrators) goal of updating all ratios in the prototypical model, starting with investment in mental, social, emotional, and behavioral health, and safety. We will also watch for any bills relating to changes to the Charter School Act (RCW 28A.710).

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