



WASB Legislative Agenda

Nov. 2016-Nov. 2017

The WASB will advocate for:

1. **Preserving Governance of Publicly Funded Schools by Locally Elected Boards**, with respect to:

- Restrictions on Scheduling of School District Referendums (Resolution 1.25)
- Unfunded state mandates (Resolution 3.20)
- School district takeover proposals (Resolution 1.01 (b))
- Expansion of vouchers/independent charters (Resolutions 2.70, 2.705, 3.21)

2. **Meeting Unmet Student Mental Health Needs That Interfere with Student Learning**

- Unmet mental health needs negatively impact student success. The WASB will support coordinated efforts to secure state grant funding to support school site-based mental health programs, supports and services in districts that wish to allow third-party providers to provide such services on-site. (Resolution 6.06)
 - The WASB will work to ensure that such programs, supports and services **do not** become unfunded mandates on school districts and that schools are not primarily responsible for providing such services. (Resolution 3.20)

3. **Providing Necessary Resources for Public Schools**, including by advocating for:

- Inflationary “catch-up” adjustments to school district resources with the goal to provide an additional **\$200 per student** in each year of the biennium. Such adjustments could come through **increases in revenue limits** coupled with a corresponding increase in state general aid to mitigate the property tax impact **and/or increases in per pupil aid**. (Resolutions 2.03, 2.05, 2.07, 2.08)
 - Increasing the **low revenue ceiling** to allow the state’s lowest spending districts an opportunity to catch up with higher revenue districts. (Resolution 2.43)
 - Linking **revenue limits/per pupil aid and low revenue ceiling to inflation** (if positive) going forward. (Resolutions 2.19, 2.43)
 - Increasing **special education aid** to reimburse at least 30 percent of aidable costs or providing a special education-related revenue limit adjustment. (Resolution 2.31)
 - Increasing **high-cost special education aid** to fully reimburse districts for the costs of serving any individual pupil with disabilities that exceed \$30,000 for that pupil. (Resolution 2.31 (i))
 - Allowing districts to fully count full-time equivalent (FTE) **summer school** enrollment in revenue limits. (Resolution 2.41 (h))
 - Additional funding for **high-cost pupil transportation aid** to districts with pupil transportation costs that exceed 150 percent of the statewide average cost per pupil to eliminate the need to prorate reimbursements. Add a second tier to this aid program to provide some level of reimbursement to districts with per pupil transportation costs that are significantly above average but that do not qualify for aid under the current program. (Resolutions 2.16, 2.33)

Documentation in Support of 2016-17 WASB Legislative Agenda Items the WASB Requests to be Included in the 2017-19 State Budget

Post-Act 10 Fiscal Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Cumulative Change
Annual % Change in CPI-U	1.67%	1.56%	0.73%	0.68%	0.84%	5.71%
Annual \$ Change in CPI-U	\$164	\$155	\$74	\$70	\$86	\$549
Annual Per Pupil Increase in Revenue Limits	\$50*	\$75	\$75	\$0	\$0	\$200 or about 2%
Annual Increase in Per Pupil Aid	\$50*	\$75	\$75	\$0	\$100	\$250 or about 2.5%
Low Revenue Ceiling Amount	\$9,000	\$9,100	\$9,100	\$9,100	\$9,100	\$100 or about 1%
Special Education Costs Reimbursement Rate	27.5%	27.1%	26.8%	26.5%	--	-1%

*Indicates temporary (one-time only) funding.

