

**K-12 Educational Agencies,
Associations, and Organizations**

Quick Reference

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Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee
Washington State Senate

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Association of Washington School Principals

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www.awsp.org

The Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP) is a professional association for public and private school principals, assistant principals, and principal interns. Membership also includes central office administrators, state policymakers, and other K-12 representatives. AWSP ensures access to professional development seminars, leadership publications, legal support, employment resources, media and public relations consulting, governmental relations, networking events, and volunteer opportunities. AWSP also provides student education programs with an emphasis on student leadership and outdoor education programs. AWSP is headquartered in Olympia. It has approximately 3,500 active or retired members statewide and almost 97 percent of all school principals belong to AWSP.

AWSP is funded by member dues, professional development, contracts, and grants. Member dues are the primary source of income for AWSP; some members pay their own dues, but most have their dues paid by their employer as part of a negotiated compensation package. Conferences and workshops are provided as a service to AWSP members and are a source of revenue. AWSP manages the principal internship program through a contract with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). AWSP is the fiscal agent as well as a partner in the development of the Leadership Academy, which is funded by the state.

Washington Association of Educational Service Districts (ESD)

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www.aesd-wa.org

Educational Service Districts (ESDs) are regional, quasi-governmental, administrative units created by statute that evolved from county superintendents. There are nine ESDs in the state. The State Board of Education (SBE) has statutory authority relating to the number and boundaries of ESDs. Each ESD is governed by a board of either seven or nine members, with each member representing a subdivision of the district called a director district. The board members are elected by the school directors of each school district within the ESD. Each ESD board has the responsibility to hire a superintendent to manage its affairs. There are approximately 1,700 FTEs in the nine ESDs. In 2013-14, there were approximately 1,025,000 students and 102,000 local school district staff that were served and supported by the ESDs in the K-12 sector.

Individually, the nine ESDs provide cooperative and informational services to local school districts. As a network of ESDs, they assist and partner with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the State Board of Education, and the Legislature in the performance of their respective statutory or constitutional duties, and provide services to school districts to both seek financial and service efficiencies as well as assure equal educational opportunities across the 295 school districts.

ESDs depend on the state, federal government, and local school districts for funding. OSPI approves and monitors ESD budgets. State aid from the State General Fund is appropriated by the Legislature to OSPI for allocation to ESDs based on a core services funding formula. Federal aid is either allocated directly to the ESDs or through grants administered by OSPI.

Office of the Education Ombuds

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www.governor.wa.gov/oeo

The Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO) is an agency within the Office of the Governor. It was established by the Legislature in 2006. The director of OEO is appointed by the Governor.

OEO is independent of the public education system. It is meant to be a neutral and impartial agency that helps resolve conflict between families and schools; provides information to elementary and secondary public school students, families, and communities regarding the school system; promotes family and community involvement in education; provides policymakers with recommendations to improve the education system; and collects data to identify problematic issues and patterns within the education system, which is reported to the Governor, Legislature, OSPI, and State Board of Education. OEO is also available to answer general questions, i.e. regarding the public education system as a whole or ongoing legislation.

OEO has the ability to serve all students, even those struggling with a language barrier. OEO uses “The Language Line,” which is a national phone interpreter service that is contracted by the state. If a caller struggles with English, the caller is put on hold, OEO calls “The Language Line,” and an interpreter is put on the line for a three-way conversation.

OEO is funded by the State General Fund.

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Randy Dorn - Superintendent of Public Instruction

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www.k12.wa.us

The Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) is one of eight officials whose offices are established by the State Constitution. The SPI is elected on a nonpartisan basis every four years. In Article III, Section 22 of the State Constitution, the SPI is charged with the duty “to supervise all matters pertaining to public schools, and . . . perform such specific duties as may be prescribed by law.”

The SPI’s primary responsibilities are to: (a) gather and report school information to state and federal authorities, prepare specifically requested reports each year, and provide other entities of state government with information for policymaking and budget preparation as needed; (b) secure needed laws and appropriations from the state and federal governments and implement those statutes enacted; (c) apportion and distribute moneys to local school districts and ESDs, approve and monitor the nine ESDs and 295 local school districts’ expenditure budgets; (d) administer the state school construction assistance program and other grant programs, provide facilities services, and assist local school districts with boundary issues; (e) provide technical help in finance and curriculum matters to ESDs and school districts, monitor and conduct consultation in areas such as basic education, assessment, curriculum development aligned with the essential academic learning requirements, special needs programs for special student populations, and educational technology; (f) issue certificates for teachers, support personnel, and administrators of the K-12 system; and (g) represent the interests and needs of education dealing with technology, environment, arts, and partnership issues by serving on various state boards.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has 352.8 FTEs. There are approximately 91,000 certificated employees in public schools in Washington State.

OSPI receives both state and federal funding.

Professional Educator Standards Board

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www.pesb.wa.gov

The purpose of the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) is to establish policies and requirements for the preparation and certification of educators that provide standards for

competency in professional knowledge and practice in the areas of certification; a foundation of skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to help students with diverse needs, abilities, cultural experiences, and learning styles to meet or exceed the four state learning goals.

PESB is comprised of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and 12 members appointed by the Governor for four-year terms. Membership must include active practitioners, with the majority being classroom based, and individuals possessing experience of one of the following types: providing or leading a state-approved teacher or educator program; mentoring and coaching education professionals or others; and having education related community experience.

PESB is housed within OSPI, but it is a governor's agency and has 14.0 FTEs.

PESB receives a majority of its funds from the state.

Public School Employees of Washington

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www.pseclassified.org

Public School Employees of Washington (PSE) is a labor union that represents classified educational support professionals in K-12 public schools and universities. In 2005, PSE affiliated with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and has become SEIU Local 1948. It is one of the largest labor organizations in the state.

Classified employees include paraeducators, secretaries, custodians, and those involved in campus security, technology, transportation, maintenance, grounds, and food service. PSE employs 44 individuals. It represents approximately 27,000 of the 55,000 classified employees and has 221 bargaining units in 178 school districts across the state. There are four PSE offices, located in Kennewick, Spokane, Vancouver, and Auburn.

PSE is funded solely by member dues.

State Board of Education

Ben Rarick - Executive Director - ben.rarick@k12.wa.us

Sarah Lane - Communications Manager

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Linda Drake - Research Director

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www.sbe.wa.gov

The State Board of Education's (SBE) powers and duties are prescribed by law and relate primarily to establishing rules and policies pertaining to basic education programs, providing K-12 education system oversight, and advocating for student success. This work includes designing a K-12 accountability system, developing the Washington Achievement Index, ensuring basic education compliance, establishing minimum high school graduation requirements, approving public charter school authorizers, and approving private schools.

SBE is a policy board comprised of 16 statutory members. Five members are elected by local school board members (two from eastern Washington and three from western Washington), and seven members are appointed by the Governor. One member is elected to represent private schools, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction is on the board as well. The final two members are student representatives. All members except the students are voting members. SBE employs 8 FTE as staff.

SBE is funded by the state.

Washington Association of School Administrators

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www.wasa-oly.org

The Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) is an organization open to superintendents and central office, school building and educational agency administrators. It is a private, not-for-profit organization. WASA has 1,000+ active and 500+ retired members. It employs ten people.

WASA is funded by membership dues, professional development conferences, workshops and training, and contracts for services relating directly to the administration and management of school districts.

Washington Association of School Business Officials

Nancy Moffatt - Executive Director

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www.wasbo.org

The Washington Association of School Business Officials (WASBO) is the Washington State affiliate of the Association of School Business Officials International. WASBO represents school district Financial and Operation professionals. Professional members include, but are not limited to: the CFO or Deputy Superintendent responsible for Finance and Operations, Payroll, Purchasing, Facilities and Capital Projects, Risk Management and Safety, Child Nutrition, Maintenance, Transportation, and Technology. WASBO employs four people and has approximately 1,100 members.

WASBO is funded by member dues, fees obtained from conferences, workshops, certification programs, classes, and business partnerships.

Washington Education Association

Rod Regan - Director of Governmental Relations – rregan@washingtonea.org

Lucinda Young - Chief Lobbyist - K-12 Education Employee Issues, Licensure, Teacher Quality, Election, and Eclectic - lyoung@washingtonea.org

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Shawn Lewis- Lobbyist - Funding, Budget, Compensation, Health Care - slewis@washingtonea.org

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www.washingtonea.org

The Washington Education Association (WEA) is Washington State's largest public employee union and the main professional union for Washington's public school employees. WEA employs approximately 180 people and represents approximately 82,000 members statewide, including teachers, classified staff, and higher education staff. WEA works to attract and retain teachers and support employees, to strengthen the profession, to shape education policy, and to provide a unified voice in support of schools.

WEA is funded by member dues.

Washington State Parent Teacher Association (WSPTA)

Kathryn Hobbs - Executive Director - khobbs@wastatepta.org

Sherry Krainick - State Legislative Director

Heather Gillette - President, WSPTA Board of Directors

Phone: (253) 214-7410

www.wastatepta.org

Washington State PTA (WSPTA) is the state's largest and oldest child advocacy association. Founded in 1905, it is a non-profit, membership association that advocates for the well-being and education of all children and seeks to bring together the home, school, and community, on behalf of all children. The association is chartered by the National PTA, has an Executive Director, and five (5) staff employees. It has over 133,000 members and approximately 875 local PTAs and Parent Teacher Students (PTSAs) across Washington State.

WSPTA is governed by a member-elected, volunteer Board of Directors, which consists of an Executive Committee (EC) of five Statewide Officers—President, Vice President, Secretary, and Finance Officer, and a member elected by Board members to the EC; 13 Region Directors (who manage 32 Region Councils that mentor, train, and coach, local PTA/PTSAs); and five State Directors—Leadership, Legislative, Program, Outreach, and Membership. The Board governs the affairs of WSPTA and provides leadership and education training to volunteers at local PTAs, PTSAs, and councils.

PTA is primarily funded by member dues. Additionally, it seeks grants for special projects.

Washington State School Directors' Association

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www.wssda.org

The Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) is a state agency comprised of all 1,477 school board members from Washington's 295 public school districts. WSSDA is authorized by the Legislature, pursuant to chapter 28A.345 RCW, to be self-governed and self-funded through a president and board of directors elected from school boards throughout the state. WSSDA provides materials and educational services to its members, maintains consultant resources to assist school boards in their work, implements an active governmental relations program to communicate school directors' views to state education policymakers, and convenes a wide array of committees and other meetings. WSSDA has 15 full-time employees.

WSSDA is funded by a variety of sources. Revenues for 2012 were \$2.9 million. Approximately 58 percent of the revenues were from annual membership dues and 42 percent were from services, subscriptions, annual conference attendance, and other sources. Membership dues

are based on a graduated scale (e.g., the minimum for the smallest districts in 2013 was \$635 and the maximum dues for the largest district were \$33,400).

WSSDA is not funded by state or federal money. The Legislature may direct WSSDA (through statute or direct appropriation) to develop model policies or conduct training programs for school districts.

Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

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www.wtb.wa.gov

The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB) was established by the Legislature in 1991. It was further revised by Executive Order #99-02, which implemented the Workforce Investment Act and clarified the responsibilities of the WTECB for coordination, policy development, and accountability for the state's workforce development system. The primary statutory purpose of the WTECB is to provide planning, coordination, evaluation, monitoring, and policy analysis for the state workforce development system as a whole and to advise the Legislature and Governor.

The workforce development system is made up of many parts, including: career and technical education at the high school level; professional, technical and literacy training at community and technical colleges; retraining for dislocated workers; private career schools; apprenticeships; employment and training programs for the disadvantaged; the job skills program; and employment services, including WorkSource.

WTECB consists of three business representatives, three labor representatives, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Executive Director of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Commissioner of Employment Security, a Chairperson appointed by the Governor, and a member representing underserved populations. The Executive Director of WTECB is appointed by the Governor. WTECB has 30 FTEs.

WTECB is funded by a variety of sources, including: (1) state appropriation from the general fund; (2) federal appropriation; and (3) the Tuition Recovery Trust Fund (state).

Quality Education Council

Contact: Andrea Cobb - Research and Policy Analyst, (OSPI) - andrea.cobb@k12.wa.us

Phone: (360) 725-6181

www.k12.wa.us/QEC

The QEC was created in 2009. It is composed of eight legislators, five representatives of state education agencies and Governor's Office, and one representative of Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight & Accountability Committee. The QEC is staffed by OSPI and other agencies as necessary.

The QEC was created to inform and recommend the ongoing implementation of the program of Basic Education and financing to support it; develop strategic recommendations; identify measurable goals and priorities for a ten-year time period for the education system; and monitor technical working groups.

Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee

Contact: Maria Flores - Director Title II, Part A & Special Programs (OSPI) -

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Phone: (360) 725-6359

www.k12.wa.us/AchievementGap/

The Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee was created during the 2009 legislature to continue to address the achievement gap in Washington State. It is comprised of six legislators, the education ombuds, a representative from the office of superintendent of public instruction, and five representatives of major student populations (Native American, African American, Hispanic American, Asian American, and Pacific Islander American).

The committee is charged by Second Substitute Senate Bill 5973 to synthesize the findings and recommendations from the five 2008 Achievement Gap Studies into an implementation plan and recommend policies and strategies to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Professional Educator Standards Board, and the State Board of Education in the following areas: (1) supporting and facilitating parent and community involvement and outreach, (2) enhancing the cultural competency of current and future educators and the cultural relevance of curriculum and instruction, (3) expanding pathways and strategies to prepare and recruit diverse teachers and administrators, (4) recommending current programs and resources that should be redirected to narrow the gap, (5) identifying data elements and systems needed to monitor progress in closing the gap, (6) making closing the achievement gap part of the school and school district improvement process, and (7) exploring innovative school models that have shown success in closing the achievement gap.

Washington Student Achievement Council

Gene Sharratt - Executive Director - genes@wsac.wa.gov

Aaron Wyatt - Communications Director - aaronw@wsac.wa.gov

Government Relations Director - (hiring)

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www.wsac.wa.gov

The Legislature created the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) in July 2012 (chapter 28B.77 RCW). By statute, the Council provides strategic planning, oversight, advocacy, and programs to support increased student success and higher levels of educational attainment in Washington.

The nine member Council consists of five citizens (including a current student) and one representative from each of the state's four major educational sectors. WSAC is responsible for developing a roadmap to increase educational attainment, and a complementary strategic action plan. The agency's additional responsibilities include administration of student financial assistance programs, the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) Program, and student outreach and support through Ready Set Grad and Washington State GEAR UP. Additionally, WSAC sets minimum college admission standards and authorizes higher education institutions to operate in Washington.

WSAC has 103 FTEs. Funding for WSAC is a combination of federal funds, state funds, and fees assessed on account holders of the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) program.

Washington School Nutrition Association

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www.washingtonsna.org

The Washington School Nutrition Association (WSNA) is the Washington State affiliate of the national organization School Nutrition Association. WSNA represents school and childcare food service professionals, industry representatives, and other professionals committed to furthering the goals of our organization. WSNA employs two people and has approximately 2,300 members.

WSNA is funded by member dues, fees obtained from conferences, workshops, classes, and business partnerships.