



Date: August 6, 2008

To: Basic Education Finance, Joint Task Force
Dan Grimm, Chair

From: Mike Brown, Ex. Director, Washington Fire Chiefs
Roger Ferris, Ex. Secretary, Washington Fire Commissioners

Subject: Implementation of SSB 5097 and Fire Service Funding

My name is Mike Brown. I am the Executive Director of the Washington Fire Chiefs. Here with me today is Roger Ferris, the Executive Secretary of the Washington Fire Commissioners Association. We want to thank the members of the Task Force for allowing us the opportunity to address you today. I promise to be brief!

We came to speak to you about SSB 5097, which pertains to Safe Schools, and the inadequacy of funding available to Fire Districts to implement the requirements outlined in the legislation.

Currently, the only school funding allocated for Fire Districts is addressed in RCW 52.30.020, which authorizes approximately \$1.15 per student. This funding formula was established in 1973 and has not been updated since.

With the passage of SSB 5097, the financial impact to the Fire Service for providing services has increased significantly. Prior the passage of SSB 5097, a survey was performed in a typical large fire district to identify the cost of providing emergency services to schools. Central Pierce Fire and Rescue was used as the sample fire district. This district provides service to 3 school districts with 6 high schools, 6 junior high schools, 2 alternative high schools, 23 elementary schools, and 28,236 students. The estimated cost of providing services to these students was found to be approximately \$5.43 per student. The prescribed formula of \$1.15 per student was inadequate prior to the passage of SSB 5097, and now it is even more so.

The Fire Chiefs and Commissioners supported the passage of this needed safe school legislation, realizing that as emergency service providers, we need to invest in the safety of our children. None-the-less, in order to implement the provisions outlined in this bill, we need additional financial support.

SSB 5097 requires training in NIMS and ICS, as it establishes schools as a resource for community-wide emergencies. It requires the Fire Service to work with School Districts to update safe school plans annually and to inventory hazardous materials in every school. In

addition, SSB 5097 requires one safety-related drill each month, to include lockdowns, shelter-in-place, earthquakes, tsunamis, six fire drills and other high-risk local events for every school.

Again, the Fire Commissioners and Fire Chiefs support these plans to make our children safe. However, we need your help to provide the Fire Service with sufficient financial assistance to implement the safe school plans. The financial resources currently received by Fire Districts are barely sufficient to provide basic emergency services.

We want to thank you again for allowing us to address this task force, and we encourage you to consider our request for additional funding to protect our children and to make our schools safer.

We look forward to answering your questions!

Attachment: CPFR Public School Program Expenses

CPFR PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM EXPENSES 2006

28,236 Students

	Labor Hours	Done By	Total Labor	Materials/Supplies
Elementary Schools (34)				
First Grade Presentations	174	Eng. Co.	\$4,876.06	\$1,075
Fifth Grade Presentations	150	Eng. Co.	\$4,203.50	\$1,576
Daffodil Parade	40	A/C, PEC & Sec.	\$1,293.10	\$201
Engine Visits	123	Eng. Co.	\$3,446.87	\$3,075
Helmet Sales	44	PE Division	\$1,445.18	Break Even
Fireflies Safety Newsletters	34	PEC	\$1,058.76	\$3,582

Middle Schools (7)

Career Events	3	PES/LT	\$83.85	\$90
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High Schools (7)

Think Again	43	OT PM/LT	\$2,704.48	\$3,225
Career Events	20	PES/LT	\$559.00	\$500.00
CPR/First Aid Overviews	21	PES/LT	\$586.95	\$4,725.00
22 Football Game Standby	88	O/T	\$4,400.00	\$ 300.00
Reimbursed by Schools for Football Games			(\$2,700.00)	
Rogers Active Shooter Drill	38	On/Off Duty	\$12,480.00	0

Sub Total's	778		\$34,437.75	\$18,349.00
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School Districts Served by CPFR

Bethel
Franklin Pierce
Puyallup

CPFR Responded to 310 Incidents at Public Schools

911 Emergency Dispatches	# Incidents	Type of Response	Fee Schedule Per Unit	Total
ALS Medical	63	1 Engine Co.	\$ 167.00	\$ 10,521.00
	63	1 Medic Unit	\$ 90.00	\$ 5,670.00
BLS Medical	64	1 Engine Co.	\$ 167.00	\$ 10,688.00
	32	1 Medic Unit	\$ 90.00	\$ 2,880.00
ALS Trauma	7	1 Engine Co.	\$ 167.00	\$ 1,169.00
	7	1 Medic Unit	\$ 90.00	\$ 630.00
BLS Trama	155	1 Engine Co.	\$ 167.00	\$ 25,885.00
	78	1 Medic Unit	\$ 90.00	\$ 7,020.00
Fire/Explosion	5	4 Engine Co.	\$ 167.00	\$ 3,340.00
	5	1 Ladder Co	\$ 167.00	\$ 835.00
	5	1 Medic Unit	\$ 90.00	\$ 450.00
	5	2 Battalion Chief	\$ 40.00	\$ 400.00
Service/Good Intent	32	1 Engine Co.	\$ 167.00	\$ 5,344.00
False Alarms	77	2 Engine Co.	\$ 167.00	\$ 25,718.00
Emergency Responses				\$ 100,550.00
School Program Materials				\$18,349.00
School Program Labor				\$34,437.75
				\$ 153,336.75

Central Pierce Fire Rescue (PCFD#6)

Matlick, Mike (WSP)

From: Mike Brown [mike@washingtonfirechiefs.org]
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2007 10:21 AM
To: Melissa Beard
Cc: Roger Ferris (Roger ferris); Matlick, Mike (WSP)
Subject: School Funding
Attachments: Public School Program Expenses.xls

Melissa, here is the Public School Expense Report for 2006 from Central Pierce Fire & Rescue. My quick calculations indicate a \$5.43 per student FTE. I believe these expenses would be pretty typical for most departments. However, CPFR is one of our most progressive departments and it may be reflected in this report.

Please give me a call and we can discuss how to proceed.

Thanks again for all your help and assistance on this important issue for the fire service and the safety of our school children.

Mike Brown