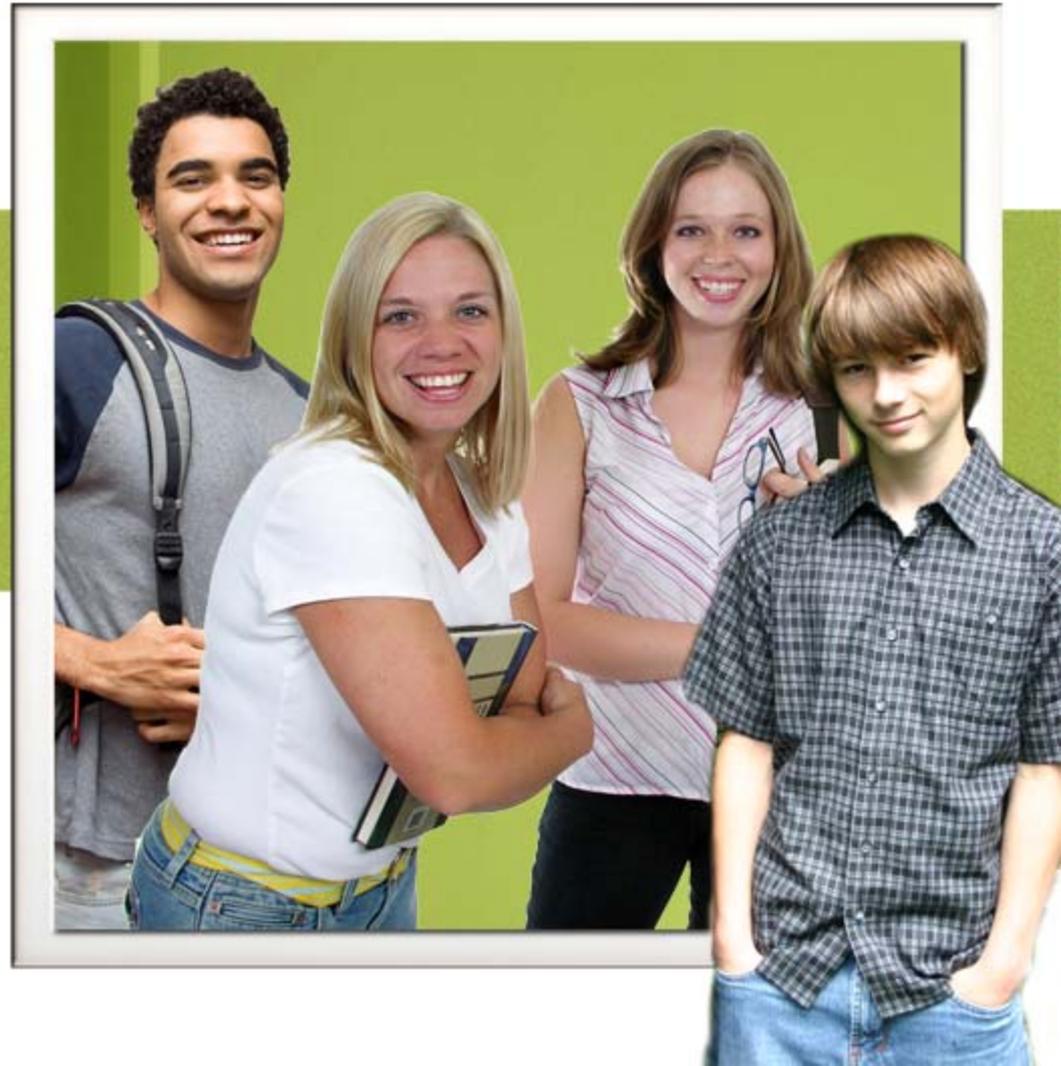


# Together We Can Improve Outcomes for All Children

Joint Task Force on Basic  
Education Finance  
July 8, 2008



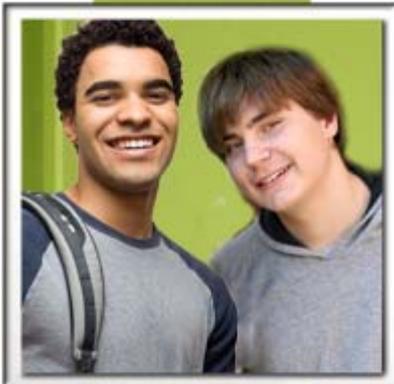
Washington State  
**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
*everychild. one voice.*<sup>®</sup>

*July 8, 2008*



# *Two Overarching Goals*

- 1. A Washington State public education system where all kids achieve at the higher levels now demanded by education reform and our global economy, according to their individual potential and in alignment with their personal goals.**
- 2. A transparent, reliable, and ample system of funding to support such an education system.**



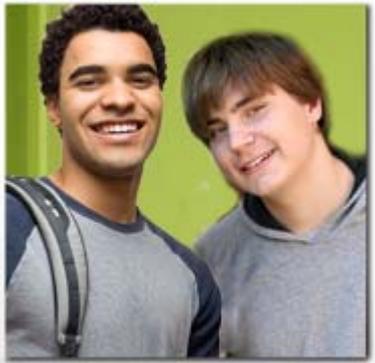
# *Three Notes: Two of Caution and One of Hope*



1. The education system will not support any increased expectations without additional resources.

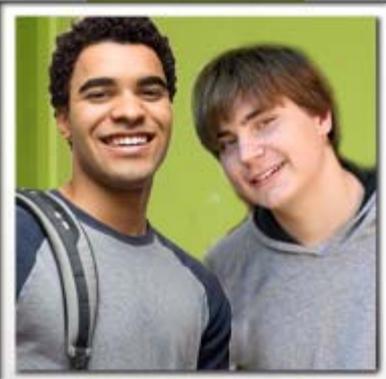
2. System capacity must be increased.

3. We must believe in our collective ability to phase in a more ample, rational, and stable education funding system.



# *Definition of Basic Education – Five Points:*

1. Big Picture Perspective: The Definition must be Child-Centered and focused on the needs of the whole child.
  - Important to continue and strengthen programs such as special education, CTE, highly capable, music and arts education, and others.
  - School nutrition , nursing and social service programs need to be a part of Basic Education as they contribute to ability of all children to fully partake in learning.



# *Definition of Basic Education – Five Points:*

## 2. Standards Based

- Focus must be on end result and not on inputs such as seat time.
- Accountability system must include periodic meaningful assessments that measure individual student growth.



# *Definition of Basic Education – Five Points:*

## 3. Include All Components of Current Programs in the Definition

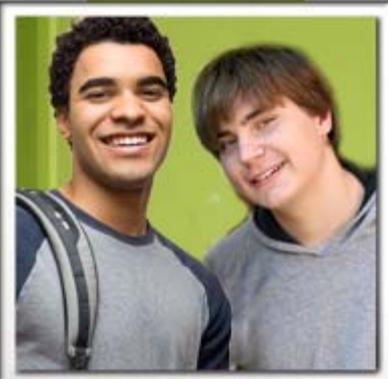
- General Apportionment
- Special Education
- Transportation
- Learning Assistance Program (LAP)
- Vocational Education
- Institutional Education



# *Definition of Basic Education – Five Points:*

## 4. Categorical programs to be included:

- English as a second language
- Enhanced staffing for librarians, counselors, nurses and other professionals
- Targeted pre-kindergarten
- All day kindergarten
- Highly Capable programs
- Counseling and planning programs – for example Navigation 101



# *Definition of Basic Education – Five Points:*

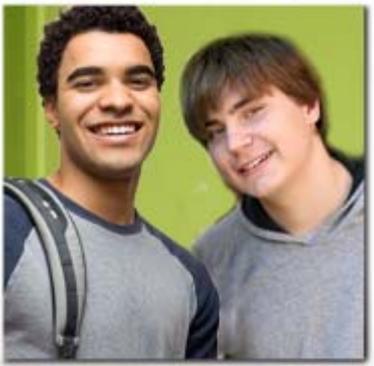
## 5. New Programs to be Added

- Career and technical education options
- World languages
- Technology
- Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs
- Security and Emergency Preparedness



# *Desired Characteristics of the New Education Funding System – A Broad View*

- Provides ample resources
- Stable and predictable over time



# *Desired Characteristics of the New Education Funding System – A Broad View*

- Greater flexibility
- Increased transparency
- Two-way accountability



# *Key Specific Elements of the New Education Funding System*

- Adequate staffing and lower class sizes for early grades
- Adequate staffing for “7 period day” for K-12
- Addresses diversity of student population.



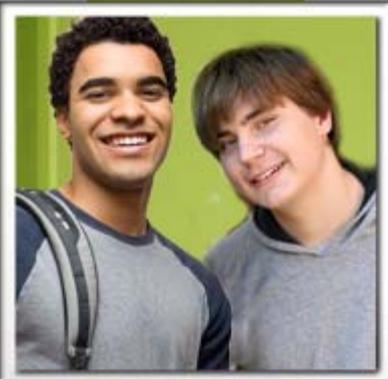
# *Key Specific Elements of the New Education Funding System*

- Compensation
- Levies
- Capital facility needs



# *Washington State PTA*

- 103 year history of supporting public education in Washington
- 150,000 parents, teachers and students in 920 local PTA units
- A powerful voice for children
- A relevant resource for families
- A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child



# Contact Information

Laura Bay, President  
Washington State PTA  
Phone: 360-731-5760

Email: [ptapres@wastatepta.org](mailto:ptapres@wastatepta.org)

Bill Williams, Executive Director

Phone: 253-565-2153

Email: [bwilliams@wastatepta.org](mailto:bwilliams@wastatepta.org)

Kim Howard, Advocacy Coordinator

Phone 253-565-2153

Email: [khoward@wastatepta.org](mailto:khoward@wastatepta.org)

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