



Washington State  
School Directors' Association

# Legislative Update

By [Marie Sullivan](#), WSSDA Director of Governmental Relations

**January 15, 2014**

## Bills of interest scheduled next week

House and Senate education committees have scheduled a large number of bills for public hearing next week. Among those are ones that have been of particular interest to WSSDA members. These include:

### Wednesday, January 22

1:30 p.m., Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education, Senate Hearing Room 1

[SB 5982](#) – preserving K-12 instructional time

This bill would limit the number of early release and late starts to no more than seven in a school year.

[SB 6064](#) – requiring an analysis of how school districts use school days

This bill would require the Washington state Institute for Public Policy to conduct an analysis of how school districts use school days. The analysis would consider:

- How school districts define classroom time and non-classroom time, instructional time and non-instructional time, and any other definitions of how the school day is divided or used;
- Estimates of time in each category and when non-instructional hours occur;
- How non-instructional hours are used, including how much time is devoted to professional development for the purposes of the new evaluation system training and on common core state standards training; and
- The extent to which the use of each category of time is identified or defined in collective bargaining agreements.

The initial report would be due December 1, 2014, with a final report by December 1, 2015.

3:30 p.m., House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, House Hearing Room A

[HB 2207](#) – eliminating the reduction in state basic education funding that occurs in counties with federal forest lands

The bill would restore basic education apportionment payments to 215 districts that are located adjacent to federal forests and receive a payment from the federal government to offset lost economic opportunity. Since 1982, the state has reduced districts' basic education apportionment payments, dollar-for-dollar, based on the federal payment. In the 2012-13 school year, some \$8.3 million was reduced from districts' apportionment.

### Thursday, January 23

10 a.m., House Education, House Hearing Room A

[HB 2181](#) – authorizing and supporting career and college ready graduation requirements adopted by the SBE

The bill would authorize the 24-credit framework that was amended and adopted by the SBE at its January 9, 2014 meeting. Board members Bob Hughes and Cindy McMullen cast dissenting votes. As written, the bill would say that investments made in the 2013-15 biennial operating budget were sufficient to fund the 24-credit framework and additional funding was unnecessary.

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