

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the mission of Washington's public school system is to ensure that all students achieve at high levels and possess the knowledge and skills to be responsible residents of a democratic society and enjoy productive and satisfying lives; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington's 295 locally elected school boards and 9 elected educational service district boards are the core of the public education governance system in our state; and

**WHEREAS**, the districts and regions they lead serve more than 1.1 million students, have a combined annual budget of over \$16 billion, and employ approximately 120,000 people; and

**WHEREAS**, school directors play a crucial role in promoting student learning and achievement by creating a vision, establishing policies and budgets and setting clear standards of accountability for all involved; and

**WHEREAS**, school directors are directly accountable to the residents of their districts and regions, serving as a vital link between members of the community and their schools; and

**WHEREAS**, school directors and educational service districts provide a passionate voice of advocacy for public schools and the welfare of school children; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to recognize school directors as outstanding public servants and champions of public education;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Ferguson, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim January 2026 as

### ***School Board Recognition Month***

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Ferguson".

Governor Bob Ferguson

