

# Advocacy in Action

February 2015

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## NEWSLETTER BLURB

The 2015 legislative session is off to a roaring start. Want schools to support the whole child? Concerned about mental health resources in schools? Interested in graduation requirements and standardized testing? These are just some of the issues under discussion in our states legislature.

Engage in advocacy with other Bellevue School District parents and let your voice be heard. Contact: *(insert your advocacy rep)* AND/OR Sarah Butcher, Advocacy Director [bellevueptsacouncil@gmail.com](mailto:bellevueptsacouncil@gmail.com)

## 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING LEGISLATION?

Here are some different resources for engaging this session:

- Engage in the WA State Top 5 Platform issues [here](#).
- Find education related bills [here](#).
- Special Education specific bills are [here](#).
- WA State Legislature page is [here](#). Learn how to comment on bills [here](#).

## **DOES YOUR PTA WANT TO ENGAGE IN SUPPORTING LEGISLATION?**

As a PTA, your board and/or membership body can vote to support a piece of legislation. There are many bills this session that directly relate to the WA State PTA Legislative Platform. Here are the **WSPTA's priorities for the 2015 and 2016 legislative sessions:**

1. [Funding McCleary](#)
2. [Create Positive School Climates Through Social Emotional Learning](#)
3. [Increasing Capital Funding](#)
4. [Increased Access to Higher Education](#)
5. [Breakfast After the Bell](#)

Also supported (listed alphabetically):

[Access, Equity & Opportunity for Students with Disabilities and Special Needs](#)

[Closing Opportunity Gaps](#)

[Equal Access for ELL Students](#)

[Family and Community Engagement](#)

[Inclusive Special Education](#)

[Playground Safety](#)

[Investing in Teacher Professional Learning \(CTWG Implementation\)](#)

[Regulating Child Restraint and Isolation in Schools](#)

For more information on how a PTA can engage in supporting legislation relating to these issues, contact:

Sarah Butcher, Advocacy Director

[bellevueptsacouncil@gmail.com](mailto:bellevueptsacouncil@gmail.com)

## SCHOOL BOARD – FEBRUARY MEETINGS

**Tuesday, February at 4:00pm      WISC Rainer Room**

Review the agenda and Board Packet [here](#). The district's technology plan and math performance review will take place. There will also be a special education study session. As always, you can make public comment at the board meeting on issues of concern or you can email the board at [board@bsd405.org](mailto:board@bsd405.org).

**Tuesday, March 3 at 4:30pm      WISC Rainer Room**

The Agenda and Board Packet will be posted [here](#) about one week before the meeting.

## OPPORTUNITIES

**Save the date: Washington State PTA 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention** April 17 – 19, 2015, Bellevue Hyatt Hotel  
Bellevue, WA

### **BSD Active Shooter Preparedness**

- February 10 at Newport High School
- February 25 at Bellevue High School

All sessions are 6:00 - 7:30 pm in the Performing Arts Center.  
*Parental discretion is advised on whether this conversation is suitable for your child.*

### **BSD Special Education Department Community Education Series: *Summer Activities and Resources, Oh My!***

February 5th  
WISC Rainier Room  
12241 Main Street  
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Come find out about all the great resources available for families and students during summer time! Representatives from various organizations will be available to share information and answer your questions.