

Advocacy in Action

March 2016

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NEWSLETTER BLURB

As a parent, you are your child's best advocate. As a PTA, parents and teachers come together to be the voice for children in our community. Ready to use that voice on an issue you are concerned about?

Engage in advocacy and let your voice be heard. Contact me at bellevueptsacouncil@gmail.com to learn how to best engage on issues of importance to you.

Sarah Butcher, Director of Advocacy

MARCH SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 1 and March 15

4:00pm

Wilburton Instructional Service Center (WISC)
Rainer Room
12241 Main Street
Bellevue, WA 98005

The Agenda and Board Packet are posted [here](#). You can make public comment at the board meeting on issues of concern or you can email the board at board@bsd405.org.

2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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 2016 legislative session:**

Top 5 Legislative Priorities:

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
- Access to Health and Dental Care
- Career Development and Training for Paraeducators
- Closing Opportunity Gaps
- E-911 Training for Youth
- Equal Access for ELL Students
- Family and Community Engagement
- Improving Education Outcomes for Foster Children
- Inclusive Special Education
- Paid Sick and Family Leave
- Playground Safety
- Investing in Teacher Professional Learning (CTWG Implementation)
- Regulating Child Restraint and Isolation in Schools

Learn about all bills related to the above platform issues [here](#).

INTERESTED IN ENGAGING ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES?

FIND OUT YOUR LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT [HERE](#).

CONNECT WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS:

41st District Legislators:

[Senator Steve Litzow](#)

[Representative Judy Clibborn](#)

[Representative Tana Senn](#)

48th District Legislators:

[Senator Cyrus Habib](#)

[Representative Patty Kuderer](#)

[Representative Joan McBride](#)

INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING LEGISLATION OR LEARNING WHAT HAPPENED TO EDUCATION RELATED BILLS FROM THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION?

Here are some different resources for engaging on legislation:

- 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](#).

OPPORTUNITIES

The Bellevue School District has many advisory and instructional materials committees. Learn more about them, learn how you can participate, and review meeting minutes [here](#).