

Advocacy in Action

November 2015

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NEWSLETTER BLURB

Stand Up, Speak Up, Show Up! Every day families in our district advocate for their children, for the children in our community, for the children in our state. We are part of a community that expands far beyond our own neighborhood. There are many issues impacting children and families across Bellevue and across Washington State. Education will be the main topic of conversation for the upcoming legislative session. As a state we must do better for each and every student. There is no better time to engage your members! Remember, I am here to support you with the tools and resources you need to ensure your members own the power of their voice!

Sarah Butcher, Director of Advocacy

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 3 at 4:00pm

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

The Agenda and Board Packet are posted [here](#). 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.

2015 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RECAP

The Washington State PTA held its 37th Annual Legislative Assembly on Saturday, October 24, 2015 in Olympia. Two new supported issues were added to the platform. The WA State PTA continues to be a whole child advocacy association; the priority issues represent health, well-being, and educational needs for all children in Washington State.

WSPTA Newly Supported Issues

- 1: [Improving Education Outcomes for Foster Children](#)
- 2: [Career Development and Training for Paraeducators](#)

WSPTA 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](#)

[Access to Health and Dental Care](#)

[Closing Opportunity Gaps](#)

[E-911 Training for Youth](#)

[Equal Access for ELL Students](#)

[Family and Community Engagement](#)

[Inclusive Special Education](#)

[Paid Sick and Family Leave](#)

[Playground Safety](#)

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

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

2015 WA STATE PTA LEGISLATIVE FOCUS DAY

SAVE THE DATE!

This is a key year for us to Stand Up, Speak Up and Show Up. Mark your calendars.

Focus Day

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Olympia, WA

INTERESTED IN ENGAGING ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES?

INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING LEGISLATION OR LEARNING WHAT HAPPENED TO EDUCATION RELATED BILLS FROM THE 2015 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](#).