
SENATE BILL 6588

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senators Chase, McAuliffe, Hasegawa, and Conway

Read first time 01/27/16. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to music education in elementary schools;
2 amending RCW 28A.150.315 and 28A.300.040; and adding a new section to
3 chapter 28A.230 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.315 and 2012 c 51 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, funding for voluntary
8 all-day kindergarten programs shall be phased-in beginning with
9 schools with the highest poverty levels, defined as those schools
10 with the highest percentages of students qualifying for free and
11 reduced-price lunch support in the prior school year. During the
12 2011-2013 biennium, funding shall continue to be phased-in each year
13 until full statewide implementation of all-day kindergarten is
14 achieved in the 2017-18 school year. Once a school receives funding
15 for the all-day kindergarten program, that school shall remain
16 eligible for funding in subsequent school years regardless of changes
17 in the school's percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-
18 price lunches as long as other program requirements are fulfilled.
19 Additionally, schools receiving all-day kindergarten program support
20 shall agree to the following conditions:

21 (a) Provide at least a one thousand-hour instructional program;

1 (b) Provide a curriculum that offers a rich, varied set of
2 experiences that assist students in:

3 (i) Developing initial skills in the academic areas of reading,
4 mathematics, and writing;

5 (ii) Developing a variety of communication skills;

6 (iii) Providing experiences in science, social studies, arts
7 including music, health and physical education, and a world language
8 other than English;

9 (iv) Acquiring large and small motor skills;

10 (v) Acquiring social and emotional skills including successful
11 participation in learning activities as an individual and as part of
12 a group; and

13 (vi) Learning through hands-on experiences;

14 (c) Establish learning environments that are developmentally
15 appropriate and promote creativity;

16 (d) Demonstrate strong connections and communication with early
17 learning community providers; and

18 (e) Participate in kindergarten program readiness activities with
19 early learning providers and parents.

20 (2)(a) It is the intent of the legislature that administration of
21 the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills as
22 required in this subsection (2) and RCW 28A.655.080 replace
23 administration of other assessments being required by school
24 districts or that other assessments only be administered if they seek
25 to obtain information not covered by the Washington kindergarten
26 inventory of developing skills.

27 (b) In addition to the requirements in subsection (1) of this
28 section and to the extent funds are available, beginning with the
29 2011-12 school year on a voluntary basis, schools must identify the
30 skills, knowledge, and characteristics of kindergarten students at
31 the beginning of the school year in order to support social-
32 emotional, physical, and cognitive growth and development of
33 individual children; support early learning provider and parent
34 involvement; and inform instruction. Kindergarten teachers shall
35 administer the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing
36 skills, as directed by the superintendent of public instruction in
37 consultation with the department of early learning and in
38 collaboration with the nongovernmental private-public partnership
39 designated in RCW 43.215.070, and report the results to the

1 superintendent. The superintendent shall share the results with the
2 director of the department of early learning.

3 (c) School districts shall provide an opportunity for parents and
4 guardians to excuse their children from participation in the
5 Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills.

6 (3) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the
7 superintendent of public instruction shall designate one or more
8 school districts to serve as resources and examples of best practices
9 in designing and operating a high-quality all-day kindergarten
10 program. Designated school districts shall serve as lighthouse
11 programs and provide technical assistance to other school districts
12 in the initial stages of implementing an all-day kindergarten
13 program. Examples of topics addressed by the technical assistance
14 include strategic planning, developing the instructional program and
15 curriculum, working with early learning providers to identify
16 students and communicate with parents, and developing kindergarten
17 program readiness activities.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1) Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, districts not already
21 offering at least ninety minutes per week of instruction in music in
22 all of their elementary schools shall begin to increase the number of
23 hours of music offered in elementary schools so that, by the 2022-23
24 school year, every elementary student has the opportunity to receive
25 at least one hundred minutes per week of instruction in music.
26 Nothing in this provision may be read to require an increase in the
27 number of total instructional hours or days already offered by a
28 district.

29 (2) Second class districts, for which provision of at least
30 ninety minutes of music per week in elementary schools would be an
31 undue hardship, may apply to have this requirement modified or waived
32 pursuant to rules adopted by the superintendent of public
33 instruction.

34 (3) Instruction of music is to be taught by a certified music
35 specialist. In exceptional cases, in accordance with RCW 28A.150.203,
36 people of unusual competence but without a teaching certificate may
37 teach students music in the elementary school so long as a
38 certificated person exercises general supervision.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.300.040 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 302 are each
2 amended to read as follows:

3 In addition to any other powers and duties as provided by law,
4 the powers and duties of the superintendent of public instruction
5 shall be:

6 (1) To have supervision over all matters pertaining to the public
7 schools of the state;

8 (2) To report to the governor and the legislature such
9 information and data as may be required for the management and
10 improvement of the schools;

11 (3) To prepare and have printed such forms, registers, courses of
12 study, rules for the government of the common schools, and such other
13 material and books as may be necessary for the discharge of the
14 duties of teachers and officials charged with the administration of
15 the laws relating to the common schools, and to distribute the same
16 to educational service district superintendents;

17 (4) To travel, without neglecting his or her other official
18 duties as superintendent of public instruction, for the purpose of
19 attending educational meetings or conventions, of visiting schools,
20 and of consulting educational service district superintendents or
21 other school officials;

22 (5) To prepare and from time to time to revise a manual of the
23 Washington state common school code, copies of which shall be made
24 available online and which shall be sold at approximate actual cost
25 of publication and distribution per volume to public and nonpublic
26 agencies or individuals, said manual to contain Titles 28A and 28C
27 RCW, rules related to the common schools, and such other matter as
28 the state superintendent or the state board of education shall
29 determine;

30 (6) To file all papers, reports and public documents transmitted
31 to the superintendent by the school officials of the several counties
32 or districts of the state, each year separately. Copies of all papers
33 filed in the superintendent's office, and the superintendent's
34 official acts, may, or upon request, shall be certified by the
35 superintendent and attested by the superintendent's official seal,
36 and when so certified shall be evidence of the papers or acts so
37 certified to;

38 (7) To require annually, on or before the 15th day of August, of
39 the president, manager, or principal of every educational institution
40 in this state, a report as required by the superintendent of public

1 instruction; and it is the duty of every president, manager, or
2 principal, to complete and return such forms within such time as the
3 superintendent of public instruction shall direct;

4 (8) To keep in the superintendent's office a record of all
5 teachers receiving certificates to teach in the common schools of
6 this state;

7 (9) To issue certificates as provided by law;

8 (10) To keep in the superintendent's office at the capital of the
9 state, all books and papers pertaining to the business of the
10 superintendent's office, and to keep and preserve in the
11 superintendent's office a complete record of statistics, as well as a
12 record of the meetings of the state board of education;

13 (11) With the assistance of the office of the attorney general,
14 to decide all points of law which may be submitted to the
15 superintendent in writing by any educational service district
16 superintendent, or that may be submitted to the superintendent by any
17 other person, upon appeal from the decision of any educational
18 service district superintendent; and the superintendent shall publish
19 his or her rulings and decisions from time to time for the
20 information of school officials and teachers; and the
21 superintendent's decision shall be final unless set aside by a court
22 of competent jurisdiction;

23 (12) To administer oaths and affirmations in the discharge of the
24 superintendent's official duties;

25 (13) To deliver to his or her successor, at the expiration of the
26 superintendent's term of office, all records, books, maps, documents
27 and papers of whatever kind belonging to the superintendent's office
28 or which may have been received by the superintendent's for the use
29 of the superintendent's office;

30 (14) To administer family services and programs to promote the
31 state's policy as provided in RCW 74.14A.025;

32 (15) To promote the adoption of school-based curricula and
33 policies that provide quality, daily physical education for all
34 students, and to encourage policies that provide all students with
35 opportunities for physical activity outside of formal physical
36 education classes;

37 (16) To promote the adoption of school-based curricula and
38 policies that provide quality daily music education for all
39 elementary school students, and to encourage policies that provide

1 all elementary school students with opportunities for musical
2 activities;

3 (17) To perform such other duties as may be required by law.

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