
SENATE BILL 5564

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senators McCune, Fortunato, J. Wilson, Boehnke, and Harris

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the goals of a basic education; and
2 amending RCW 28A.150.210, 28A.300.112, and 28A.655.300.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.210 and 2011 c 280 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 A basic education is ~~((an evolving))~~ a program of instruction
7 that is intended to provide students with the opportunity to ~~((become
8 responsible and respectful global citizens, to))~~ gain knowledge and
9 skills to become globally competitive citizens. A basic education
10 should contribute to their economic well-being and that of their
11 families and communities, ~~((to explore and understand different
12 perspectives,))~~ and enhance their opportunity to enjoy productive and
13 satisfying lives. Additionally, the state of Washington intends to
14 provide for a public school system that ~~((is able to evolve and adapt
15 in order to better focus on strengthening))~~ will strengthen the
16 educational achievement of all students, which includes high
17 expectations for all students and gives all students the opportunity
18 to achieve personal and academic success. To these ends, the goals of
19 each school district, with the involvement of parents and community
20 members, shall be to provide opportunities for every student to
21 develop the knowledge and skills essential to:

1 (1) Read with comprehension, write effectively, and communicate
2 successfully in a variety of ways and settings and with a variety of
3 audiences;

4 (2) Know and apply the core concepts and principles of
5 mathematics; social, physical, and life sciences; civics and history,
6 (~~including different cultures and participation in representative~~
7 ~~government~~) emphasizing the foundations of our constitutional
8 republic form of government in this sovereign state and country;
9 geography; arts; and health and fitness. The core concepts and
10 principles must focus on academic accuracy and a sound understanding
11 of mathematical and scientific facts;

12 (3) Think analytically, independently, logically, and creatively,
13 and to integrate technology literacy and fluency as well as different
14 experiences and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve
15 problems; and

16 (4) Understand the importance of work and finance and how
17 performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and
18 educational opportunities.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.300.112 and 2020 c 59 s 2 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (1) (~~By September 1, 2021, the~~) The office of the
22 superintendent of public instruction shall identify and make
23 available ethnic studies materials and resources for use in grades
24 kindergarten through (~~twelve~~) 12. The materials and resources must
25 be designed to prepare students to (~~be global citizens in a global~~
26 ~~society with an appreciation for the contributions of multiple~~)
27 appreciate and admire differing cultures. The materials and resources
28 must be posted on the office of the superintendent of public
29 instruction's website.

30 (2)(a) Public schools with students in grades seven through
31 (~~twelve~~) 12 are encouraged to offer an ethnic studies course that
32 incorporates the materials and resources identified under subsection
33 (1) of this section.

34 (b) Public schools with students in grades kindergarten through
35 six are encouraged to incorporate the materials and resources
36 identified under subsection (1) of this section.

37 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.655.300 and 2020 c 59 s 1 are each amended to
38 read as follows:

1 (~~By September 1, 2021, the~~) The office of the superintendent of
2 public instruction shall identify existing state learning standards
3 that address the knowledge and skills that all public school students
4 need to (~~be global citizens in a global society with an appreciation~~
5 ~~for the contributions of diverse~~) appreciate and admire differing
6 cultures. These state learning standards must be periodically updated
7 to incorporate best practices in ethnic studies.

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