

Old Capitol Building
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Olympia, WA 98504-7200



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

k12.wa.us

September 13, 2021

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor of Washington
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

It is my privilege to submit to you my K–12 Supplemental Operating Budget proposal for the state fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

In the first year of the current biennium, the Legislature responded to the urgent needs of families, students, and schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. Partnering with OSPI, early legislative action on transportation and enrollment stabilization funding during the 2021 Legislative Session protected our collective investment in a future-forward vision of public education.

Now, following 18 months of remote and hybrid learning, we must move to the next phase of learning acceleration and recovery. OSPI's 2022 budget requests address significant gaps in the K–12 system that one-time, temporary funding cannot bridge. Together, we can bolster state investment in our students, families, and educators, paving the way for long-lasting, transformative change. To accomplish this vision, I am proposing additional funding to:

1. Provide full funding for school nurses in the prototypical school funding model to meet the social-emotional and health needs of our students.
2. Modernize OSPI's school apportionment system, making it more efficient, accurate, and responsive to change.
3. Strengthen OSPI's staffing levels to meet the level of service school districts need.
4. Fully fund the replacement of inappropriate Native American names, symbols, and images in public schools across the state, as required by the Legislature in House Bill 1356 (2021).

You and I share the belief that our K–12 education system must continue to evolve as the needs of our students, our workforce, and our economy evolves. We must honor the trust placed in us by our 1.1 million students, their families, and our educators, and celebrate their resilience with a renewed commitment to transformative change.

Governor Inslee
September 13, 2021
Page 2

Thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of our young learners, particularly in the face of COVID. I am confident that together we will emerge from this pandemic with a stronger, smarter, and better prepared K–12 education system, and a bolder and brighter future for our students, our families, and our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris P.S. Reykdal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a stylized "R".

Chris Reykdal
Superintendent of
Public Instruction