

Old Capitol Building
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ospi.k12.wa.us



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

September 14, 2026

The Honorable Bob Ferguson
Governor of Washington
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Re: 2027–29 Biennial K–12 Capital Budget Proposal

Dear Governor Ferguson:

I am pleased to submit my 2027–29 Biennial K–12 Capital Budget proposal. A high-quality public education depends on safe, functional classrooms and supportive learning spaces. Every student in Washington deserves to learn in facilities that are healthy, secure, and support strong educational outcomes regardless of a district's capacity to raise local capital funds.

The School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) exists to help districts that can supplement state support with local bonds or levies, yet its funding drivers have been underfunded for decades. With market construction costs in Washington roughly \$750 per square foot and SCAP's current allocation at \$399.38 per square foot, a significant funding gap exists. That gap produces inequities: Wealthier districts can provide modern facilities while others remain in buildings that fail to meet contemporary health, energy, or seismic safety standards.

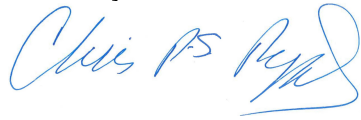
My 2027–29 proposal prioritizes immediate health and safety needs and longstanding facility deficiencies. Key elements include emergency support for schools impacted by wildfires; continued funding for the Small District Modernization Grant Program to complete current projects and support planning for future work; and sustained investment in the School Seismic Safety Program to complete retrofits, relocations, and tsunami tower installations for vulnerable coastal schools.

In addition to these crucial health and safety investments, my proposal provides funding for skills centers to prepare the next generation of Washington workers and ensure students have access to high-quality Career and Technical Education aligned with their future goals, clean classroom air that protects against known health hazards, and energy assessment grants to help districts comply with the state Clean Buildings Performance Standards.

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All students, regardless of their zip code or a district's ability to pass a bond or levy, need the opportunity to learn in safe, effective, and modern spaces. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Reykdal", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris Reykdal
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

CR/tm