



**OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 620: LEGISLATIVE AND FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR THE 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Olympia School District No. 111, Thurston County, Washington, declaring the district's legislative and funding priorities for the 2021 Legislative Session. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111, THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON, as follows:

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Olympia School District No. 111, Thurston County, Washington (the "District") identifies that the Olympia School District will face funding shortfalls in the 2020-21 school year and beyond. The shortfalls are caused, in part, by inequitable funding mechanisms (Regionalization, Staff Mix) and underfunded mandates (Special Education, Health Care, K-3 Class Size). These shortfalls are exacerbated by the on-going COVID-19 Pandemic and costs to operate in a remote or hybrid environment. To address these financial realities, the Board supports necessary legislative action at the state level as follows this session:

Stabilize the Revenue Impacts of Pandemic

- Adjust funding formulas to stabilize the revenue effects of enrollment loss for the 2020-21 school year. Teachers and other staff were contracted for the current year last spring and need to be available for the multiple modes of education deployed this year.
- Continue the spring 2019 temporary flexibility in the transportation funding formula for the 2020-21 school year. Districts must maintain a transportation system to be ready to return students to in-person learning (or a hybrid system) as soon as possible. However, the current transportation funding formula will drive dramatically less funding due to student ridership and physical distancing requirements due to the Pandemic.
- Partially adjust funding formulas to be based on non-pandemic enrollment levels to stabilize the multiple year impact of enrollment decline. As we look forward to the 2021-22 school year, fall 2021 enrollment may return to pre-pandemic levels but funding formulas that rely on prior year enrollment will continue to be negatively impacted by the 2020-21 school year dip: levy funding, Learning Assistance Program and other categorical programs.
- Temporarily suspend the K-3 staffing and class size requirement for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years. In future years, as enrollment fluctuates to a return to normal, districts will not be able to predict enrollment levels nor have the financial capacity to over-staff if elementary students do not return at expected levels.

Anti-racist Training

- Fund on-going anti-racist training for all school district staff, including locally funded staff. The 2020 Legislature mandated and funded racial literacy training for all certificated instructional staff in the budget bill. The 2019 Staffing Enrichment Workgroup recommended this training for classified and certificated staff. Every adult in the system is responsible for ensuring racial equity and upholding the values of an antiracist organization.

Special Education

- Build on investments in the 2019-21 biennial budget and continue to work toward elimination of underfunding. Olympia School District underfunding was \$5.2 million in the 2019-20 school year.

State Salary Allocations

- Fully fund the cost of basic education staffing, including full funding for the premium associated with a highly experienced and highly educated teacher workforce or increase levy authority commensurate with this cost.

Physical and Mental Well-Being of Students

- Increase the number of counselors, social workers, psychologists, security staff and nurses that are funded in the state's basic education prototypical school model to meet the changing needs of students.

Health Care

- Fully fund the costs of the local impact of more employees becoming eligible for full benefits.

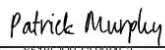
Equitable and Flexible Funding

- Revise the regionalization model to address inequities where other school districts receive regionalization despite lower housing costs than Olympia School District.
- Continue to make improvements to the Olympia School District's levy authority to ensure that voters can backfill state funding shortfalls and provide adequate staffing and supports to students.
- Strengthen school safety by supporting services for and training to safeguard the social-emotional health of students and staff.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Olympia School District No. 111, Thurston County, Washington, at a regular open public meeting thereof, of which due notice was given as required by law, held this 10th day of December 2020, the following Directors being present and voting in favor of the resolution.

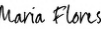
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111, THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Attest:

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Patrick C. Murphy, Ed.D.,
Superintendent

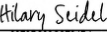
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Scott Clifthorne, President and Director

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Maria Flores, Vice President and Director

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Justin McKaughan, Director

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Hilary Seidel, Director

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Leslie Huff, Director