



Spokane Public Schools

Spokane Public Schools and the Board of Directors affirm that all students and educators deserve a safe, respectful, welcoming, and inclusive learning and working environment where their uniqueness is recognized and valued. All students should receive a high-quality, equitable, and inclusive education and have a safe social experience in school. We respectfully ask the 2024 Washington State Legislature to pass policies supporting these goals.

► **Adequate and Equitable Funding**

Advocate for increased funding for K-12 education to ensure that Spokane Public Schools have the resources to provide a high-quality education for all children. SPS encourages the state legislature to update the prototypical funding model to reflect actual school district costs. In the 2024 session we respectfully request enhancement in the Materials, Supplies, and Operating Costs (MSOC) funding; MSOC rates have not been updated to reflect inflation across all MSOCs.

► **Mental Health and School Safety and Security**

Advocate for resources to improve mental and behavioral health supports to support the emotional well-being of students.

► **Capital Facilities**

We urge the Legislature to enhance the state's investment in K-12 construction by increasing the state match for school construction projects. SPS requests the state legislature consider allocating additional funds for school capital improvement projects.

► **Equity and Inclusion**

We request policies and increased investments for professional development that specifically address the unique needs of students of color for all students to feel acknowledged, valued, and provided with an equitable learning experience. This targeted focus will give every student a more inclusive and supportive educational environment.

► **Special Education and Support Services**

We urge lawmakers to fund the cost of education for special education students. Funding support will provide resources to meet the diverse needs of students in special education programs.

► **Transportation**

School bus transportation is critical in ensuring that students can attend school regularly and on time. It provides accessibility to ensure students can attend school and can help reduce absenteeism by ensuring that students can overcome barriers such as distance, traffic, or safety concerns that might otherwise prevent them from attending school. It ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to access education, regardless of their family's economic situation.

► **Early Childhood Education**

Support initiatives that expand access to high-quality pre-K programs to prepare children for success in kindergarten and beyond.

2024 Legislative Agenda

