

## **Washington State 2010 Supplemental Education Budget**

The final budget and revenue bills that form the \$2.8 billion gap have been addressed in the following ways:

Budget Cuts	\$755 million
Federal Relief Funding	\$618 million
Reserves and Transfers	\$690 million
New Revenue (taxes)	\$757 million

### **New Spending**

\*There are approximately **\$660 million in maintenance level increases including caseload changes** related to the recession and some higher than expected program costs.

\*There are **\$401 million in policy level increases**. Some are:

**\$65 million for additional inflation in employee health benefit costs.**

**\$29.8 million for new K-12 levy equalization costs.**

**\$18 million for additional worker training at community and technical colleges.**

**The rest can be located in the K-12 Education sections 501-517, p.181-233 of the Budget reports.**

### **K-12 Budget Changes**

**Maintenance Level Increases** for K-12 for the biennium due to caseload increases and other increased costs amount to **\$252.1 million**.

#### **Major policy increases:**

- **Levy equalization funding** increase from 12% to 14% -(part of the bill that increases local levy lids by 4%) + **\$29.8 million\***
- **Education Reform funding** – Funding needed to support our state’s Race to the Top federal grant application and some follow up work to 2261 to implement the new funding distribution formulas, and new pupil transportation funding. This funding was necessary to support our top priority bills 2776 and 6696. +**\$5 million**

### **Major Budget Cuts:**

- **728 Funding, all funding related to this initiative has now been eliminated.** Districts often used this funding to reduce class sizes and offer extended learning opportunities. **-\$79 million** (this is on top of the \$600 million that was eliminated in last year's budget) Proposed budgets by the Governor, the Senate and the House all eliminated funding for I-728. There was so much agreement regarding this cut that we did not make saving this funding a coalition priority.
- **Reduction in K-4 Class Size enhancement funding** - Although labeled an enhancement, the K-4 class size enhancement has been funded for approx. 20 years and is considered by districts to be maintenance level funding. **-\$30 million\***
- **Bus Depreciation** – Delays annual payments sent to districts so that they can replace bus fleets to the end of the expected life of buses. - **\$22 million**
- **Learning Improvement Day** – The only remaining state-funded professional development day for teachers has been eliminated. – **\$10 million**
- **Grants and Statewide Programs** – Many grants and programs are reduced or eliminated. - **\$9 million**

\* Below are the 4 PTA coalition priorities listed as well as what happened to them in this budget. The coalition felt that it was successful in its efforts to develop common priorities.

1. Higher levy equalization funding to support the bill that passed this session which increased the levy lid by 4%. There is another factor related to the levy amount that school districts can collect, called the per pupil inflator. The inflator was at 4% in the original 2009-11 budget, but there was a proposal to decrease it to 1%. The 4% level has been maintained. The cost to the state to keep the inflator was minimal (approx. \$7 million) compared to the amount that it allows districts to collect for schools (approx. \$55 million).
2. Although K-4 class size enhancement funding has been decreased by \$30 million, this result was a big improvement over the \$102 million cut (which would have been complete elimination) initially proposed by the Senate.
3. Full funding for classified support staff was maintained.

4. Full funding for all day kindergarten for lowest income schools was maintained.

### **How this budget affects Snoqualmie Valley School District**

Our levy was structured to anticipate the 4% lid lift, so we have brought in maximum funds with our last levy pass.

The 728 and K-4 class size enhancement funding paid for extra teachers to keep class sizes down. Originally, the cut was to be a larger amount which meant the anticipation of losing up to 25 teaching positions. However, because of the increased levy funds and teachers retiring and moving we are unlikely to lose anymore staff.