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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Ortiz-Self, Bergquist, Gregerson, Walkinshaw, Kagi, Tarleton, Condotta, and Farrell

Read first time 02/05/15. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to music education in elementary schools;  
2 amending RCW 28A.150.315 and 28A.300.040; and adding a new section to  
3 chapter 28A.230 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.315 and 2012 c 51 s 1 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, funding for voluntary  
8 all-day kindergarten programs shall be phased-in beginning with  
9 schools with the highest poverty levels, defined as those schools  
10 with the highest percentages of students qualifying for free and  
11 reduced-price lunch support in the prior school year. During the  
12 2011-2013 biennium, funding shall continue to be phased-in each year  
13 until full statewide implementation of all-day kindergarten is  
14 achieved in the 2017-18 school year. Once a school receives funding  
15 for the all-day kindergarten program, that school shall remain  
16 eligible for funding in subsequent school years regardless of changes  
17 in the school's percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-  
18 price lunches as long as other program requirements are fulfilled.  
19 Additionally, schools receiving all-day kindergarten program support  
20 shall agree to the following conditions:

21 (a) Provide at least a one thousand-hour instructional program;

1 (b) Provide a curriculum that offers a rich, varied set of  
2 experiences that assist students in:

3 (i) Developing initial skills in the academic areas of reading,  
4 mathematics, and writing;

5 (ii) Developing a variety of communication skills;

6 (iii) Providing experiences in science, social studies, arts  
7 including music, health and physical education, and a world language  
8 other than English;

9 (iv) Acquiring large and small motor skills;

10 (v) Acquiring social and emotional skills including successful  
11 participation in learning activities as an individual and as part of  
12 a group; and

13 (vi) Learning through hands-on experiences;

14 (c) Establish learning environments that are developmentally  
15 appropriate and promote creativity;

16 (d) Demonstrate strong connections and communication with early  
17 learning community providers; and

18 (e) Participate in kindergarten program readiness activities with  
19 early learning providers and parents.

20 (2)(a) It is the intent of the legislature that administration of  
21 the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills as  
22 required in this subsection (2) and RCW 28A.655.080 replace  
23 administration of other assessments being required by school  
24 districts or that other assessments only be administered if they seek  
25 to obtain information not covered by the Washington kindergarten  
26 inventory of developing skills.

27 (b) In addition to the requirements in subsection (1) of this  
28 section and to the extent funds are available, beginning with the  
29 2011-12 school year on a voluntary basis, schools must identify the  
30 skills, knowledge, and characteristics of kindergarten students at  
31 the beginning of the school year in order to support social-  
32 emotional, physical, and cognitive growth and development of  
33 individual children; support early learning provider and parent  
34 involvement; and inform instruction. Kindergarten teachers shall  
35 administer the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing  
36 skills, as directed by the superintendent of public instruction in  
37 consultation with the department of early learning and in  
38 collaboration with the nongovernmental private-public partnership  
39 designated in RCW 43.215.070, and report the results to the

1 superintendent. The superintendent shall share the results with the  
2 director of the department of early learning.

3 (c) School districts shall provide an opportunity for parents and  
4 guardians to excuse their children from participation in the  
5 Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills.

6 (3) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the  
7 superintendent of public instruction shall designate one or more  
8 school districts to serve as resources and examples of best practices  
9 in designing and operating a high-quality all-day kindergarten  
10 program. Designated school districts shall serve as lighthouse  
11 programs and provide technical assistance to other school districts  
12 in the initial stages of implementing an all-day kindergarten  
13 program. Examples of topics addressed by the technical assistance  
14 include strategic planning, developing the instructional program and  
15 curriculum, working with early learning providers to identify  
16 students and communicate with parents, and developing kindergarten  
17 program readiness activities.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230  
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1) By the 2019-20 school year, each school district shall  
21 phase-in the opportunity for every pupil attending public elementary  
22 school within the district to receive an average of at least one  
23 hundred minutes per week of instruction in music as prescribed by  
24 rule of the superintendent of public instruction.

25 (2) In exceptional cases, in accordance with RCW 28A.150.203,  
26 people of unusual competence but without a teaching certificate may  
27 teach students music in the elementary school so long as a  
28 certificated person exercises general supervision.

29 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.300.040 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 302 are each  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 In addition to any other powers and duties as provided by law,  
32 the powers and duties of the superintendent of public instruction  
33 shall be:

34 (1) To have supervision over all matters pertaining to the public  
35 schools of the state;

36 (2) To report to the governor and the legislature such  
37 information and data as may be required for the management and  
38 improvement of the schools;

1 (3) To prepare and have printed such forms, registers, courses of  
2 study, rules for the government of the common schools, and such other  
3 material and books as may be necessary for the discharge of the  
4 duties of teachers and officials charged with the administration of  
5 the laws relating to the common schools, and to distribute the same  
6 to educational service district superintendents;

7 (4) To travel, without neglecting his or her other official  
8 duties as superintendent of public instruction, for the purpose of  
9 attending educational meetings or conventions, of visiting schools,  
10 and of consulting educational service district superintendents or  
11 other school officials;

12 (5) To prepare and from time to time to revise a manual of the  
13 Washington state common school code, copies of which shall be made  
14 available online and which shall be sold at approximate actual cost  
15 of publication and distribution per volume to public and nonpublic  
16 agencies or individuals, said manual to contain Titles 28A and 28C  
17 RCW, rules related to the common schools, and such other matter as  
18 the state superintendent or the state board of education shall  
19 determine;

20 (6) To file all papers, reports and public documents transmitted  
21 to the superintendent by the school officials of the several counties  
22 or districts of the state, each year separately. Copies of all papers  
23 filed in the superintendent's office, and the superintendent's  
24 official acts, may, or upon request, shall be certified by the  
25 superintendent and attested by the superintendent's official seal,  
26 and when so certified shall be evidence of the papers or acts so  
27 certified to;

28 (7) To require annually, on or before the 15th day of August, of  
29 the president, manager, or principal of every educational institution  
30 in this state, a report as required by the superintendent of public  
31 instruction; and it is the duty of every president, manager, or  
32 principal, to complete and return such forms within such time as the  
33 superintendent of public instruction shall direct;

34 (8) To keep in the superintendent's office a record of all  
35 teachers receiving certificates to teach in the common schools of  
36 this state;

37 (9) To issue certificates as provided by law;

38 (10) To keep in the superintendent's office at the capital of the  
39 state, all books and papers pertaining to the business of the  
40 superintendent's office, and to keep and preserve in the

1 superintendent's office a complete record of statistics, as well as a  
2 record of the meetings of the state board of education;

3 (11) With the assistance of the office of the attorney general,  
4 to decide all points of law which may be submitted to the  
5 superintendent in writing by any educational service district  
6 superintendent, or that may be submitted to the superintendent by any  
7 other person, upon appeal from the decision of any educational  
8 service district superintendent; and the superintendent shall publish  
9 his or her rulings and decisions from time to time for the  
10 information of school officials and teachers; and the  
11 superintendent's decision shall be final unless set aside by a court  
12 of competent jurisdiction;

13 (12) To administer oaths and affirmations in the discharge of the  
14 superintendent's official duties;

15 (13) To deliver to his or her successor, at the expiration of the  
16 superintendent's term of office, all records, books, maps, documents  
17 and papers of whatever kind belonging to the superintendent's office  
18 or which may have been received by the superintendent's for the use  
19 of the superintendent's office;

20 (14) To administer family services and programs to promote the  
21 state's policy as provided in RCW 74.14A.025;

22 (15) To promote the adoption of school-based curricula and  
23 policies that provide quality, daily physical education for all  
24 students, and to encourage policies that provide all students with  
25 opportunities for physical activity outside of formal physical  
26 education classes;

27 (16) To promote the adoption of school-based curricula and  
28 policies that provide quality daily music education for all  
29 elementary school students, and to encourage policies that provide  
30 all elementary school students with opportunities for musical  
31 activities;

32 (17) To perform such other duties as may be required by law.

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