
SENATE BILL 5858

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Senator Dozier

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing parents' bill of rights related
2 to their child's public education; adding a new section to chapter
3 28A.150 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.345 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Parents and legal guardians with a child receiving a public
8 education have the following rights in addition to any other rights
9 provided by law:

10 (a) To know what their child is being taught in school including,
11 but not limited to, curricula and instructional materials used within
12 the curricula, and to have access to these materials for review
13 either online or through an alternative method;

14 (b) To have information on who is teaching their child, including
15 guest speakers and presenters who are not employed by the public
16 school;

17 (c) To know the individuals, organizations, vendors, and other
18 entities that have contracts with the school district or public
19 school and are receiving public funding and to have access to this
20 information for review online;

1 (d) To have access to and the ability to participate in school
2 board of directors' meetings in accordance with the open public
3 meetings act, chapter 42.30 RCW, and may include the elements
4 described in section 2 of this act; and

5 (e) To be notified when there is a situation or incident
6 affecting their child's health, safety, or well-being in school
7 including, but not limited to, interactions with school employees.

8 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction and
9 public schools must post these rights online.

10 (3) All the information that must be available online must be
11 posted in a convenient place on each public school website and easy
12 for parents and legal guardians to access and review.

13 (4) For the purposes of this section, "public school" has the
14 same meaning as in RCW 28A.150.010.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.345
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1)(a) By September 1, 2022, the Washington state school
18 directors' association must update a model policy and procedure
19 regarding school board of directors meeting conduct, order of
20 business, and quorum.

21 (b) The updated model policy and procedure must:

22 (i) Provide for increased public access and participation in
23 board meetings through real-time telephonic, electronic, internet, or
24 other readily available means of remote access to the meeting at no
25 cost to members of the public;

26 (ii) Require an audio or video recording of, or to provide an
27 online streaming option for, all regular board meetings; and

28 (iii) Make recordings of board meetings available online for a
29 minimum of six months.

30 (c) The Washington state school directors' association must
31 maintain the model policy and procedure on its website at no cost to
32 school districts.

33 (2) School districts are encouraged to amend their policies and
34 procedures to incorporate the elements of the updated model policy
35 and procedure described in subsection (1) of this section.

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