

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5024

---

---

As of February 1, 2023

**Title:** An act relating to establishing parents' bill of rights related to their child's public education.

**Brief Description:** Establishing parents' bill of rights related to their child's public education.

**Sponsors:** Senators Dozier, Boehnke, Braun, Holy, McCune, Schoesler, Short, Warnick, Wilson, J. and Wilson, L..

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Early Learning & K-12 Education: 2/01/23.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Requires school districts and public schools to post certain assessment results on the home page or landing page of their websites.
- Provides parents and legal guardians with a child receiving a public education certain rights regarding access to specified information and being communicated with based on their preferences.
- Directs the Washington State School Directors' Association to update a model policy and procedure regarding accessibility through remote participation in and recordings of school board meetings, and encourages school districts to amend their policies and procedures to incorporate the elements of the model.

---

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON EARLY LEARNING & K-12 EDUCATION

**Staff:** Ailey Kato (786-7434)

**Background:** Assessments. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is a survey of student achievement in core subject areas. NAEP measures what students

---

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

across the country know and can do in ten subject areas, including math, reading, writing, and science.

Smarter Balanced assessments for English language arts and math are administered to students in grades 3 through 8 and 11 for the purposes of federal and state accountability.

Parental Access to Classrooms. Current state law requires every school district board of directors to adopt a policy assuring parents access to their child's classroom and school sponsored activities for observing class procedures, teaching material, and class conduct. Such observation may not disrupt the classroom procedure or learning activity.

Open Public Meetings Act. In 2022, the Open Public Meetings Act was amended. Public agencies are encouraged to provide increased public observation and participation in meetings through real-time telephonic, electronic, Internet, or other readily available means of remote access that does not require an additional cost to access the meeting. Public agencies are also encouraged to make an audio or video recording of, or to provide an online streaming option for, all regular meetings, and to make recordings available for a minimum of six months.

**Summary of Bill:** Assessment Results. School districts and public schools must post on the home page or landing page of their websites the following information:

- the reading and math results of NAEP by state and school district if available; and
- the English language arts and math results of the Smarter Balanced, or any other statewide student assessment.

Parental Rights. Parents and legal guardians with a child receiving a public education have the following rights in addition to any other rights provided by law:

- to have access to what their child is being taught in school including access to classroom and school sponsored activities, and access to curricula and instructional materials for review either online or an alternative method;
- to have information on who is teaching their child, including guest speakers;
- to have online access to the name and organization or affiliation of the individuals or other entities that have curriculum-related contracts and are receiving public funding;
- to have access to and the ability to participate in regular and special business meetings of school boards in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and may include the elements of a model policy and procedure; and
- to be communicated with regarding their child based on the parent and legal guardian's preferences, which may be indicated during the registration process.

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and public schools must post these rights online. All the information that must be available online must be posted in a convenient place on each school district and public school website.

Model Policy and Procedure. By September 1, 2023, the Washington State School

Directors' Association must update a model policy and procedure to be aligned with the Open Public Meetings Act's provisions and require accessibility through remote participation and recordings, which must be available online for a minimum of six months.

School districts are encouraged to amend their policies and procedures to incorporate the elements of the model.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 26, 2023.

**Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.