

# Our Investment

## in basic education

**Our budget fully funds basic education for Washington's 1 million children.**

This is a budget that builds an education system and an economy that works for everyone. It is a responsible budget that balances over four years and fully funds basic education for 1 million school kids.

Our budget spends \$3.2 billion more in K-12 education compared to the 2013-15 budget. These investments will meet our McCleary obligations, grow the economy, create stronger communities, and a healthier middle class.

### **\$1.4 billion in new basic education investments buys:**

#### **\$412 million — K-3 Class Size Reduction**

We know small K-3 class sizes have the strongest positive impact on our children's educational success.

#### **\$741 million — Textbooks, supplies and operating costs**

Making an investment in classroom materials and operating costs, so children — rich or poor — have the tools they need to learn.

#### **\$180 million — All-day Kindergarten**

This budget fully funds all-day kindergarten for all children.

#### **\$70 million — College and career ready**

Not all kids have the same support systems — we're making sure schools have guidance counselors, family engagement coordinators and extra help for bilingual students.

The remaining \$1.8 billion we're investing in our children pays for the policy decisions we made towards fully funding education in our last budget.



**Building a Washington that works for everyone.**

# Our Investment

## in supporting our teachers

**Our budget makes quality investments for quality teachers.**

If we want our kids to receive a high quality education, they need high quality teachers. Ensuring teachers are adequately paid is critical to attracting and retaining a quality educator workforce.

**We are supporting Washington teachers:**

**\$385 million – Teacher COLAs**

The Legislature suspended teacher cost of living adjustments for the last six years. Now that the economy is recovering, it's time to restore the COLAs.

**\$203 million – Teacher health benefits**

In addition to restoring much-needed COLAs, our budget provides \$203 million in health benefits for our educators.

**Our budget makes the best investment in class size reductions.**

I-1351 was a \$6 billion mandate on the state budget over the next four years. In the simplest terms, the state doesn't have an extra \$6 billion in revenue or \$6 billion in available cuts to fully pay for the initiative.

Our budget proposes to pay for class-size reduction efforts that we know have the highest return on investment for kids. We are allocating \$433 million in K-3 class size reduction.



**Building a Washington that works for everyone.**