

Education Funding Survey

Q7 Share any other ideas on the best approach our state can take to fully fund basic education:

Answered: 167 Skipped: 135

#	Responses	Date
1	our children need free college education if they keep their grades a C or above.	2/9/2017 8:24 AM
2	PTA involvement fund raising and charities opportunities.	2/9/2017 5:14 AM
3	push the republicans out if the majority in the senate	2/8/2017 11:09 AM
4	We really need to revisit the state constitution and put in an income tax.	2/8/2017 9:18 AM
5	Cut welfare & FREE or discounted tuition for "ILLEGAL" residents. Pass VOTER I.D. requirements. No I.D., no vote, no drivers license, drug testing for ALL assistance programs. . WE are FED up!!	2/8/2017 8:57 AM
6	I am a senior citizen and live in Everett. My wife and I can't see our grandchildren who live in Renton because of the 405 HOV restrictions. We need to get rid of the three or more occupant restriction and lower the cost for other drivers now.	2/8/2017 7:00 AM
7	Charter schools and increase competition pay the good teachers fire the poor ones and get rid of the unions and Inslee.	2/8/2017 4:04 AM
8	Fix the regressive tax system. Period. More money must come into the state and this is the best and most consultant way to do it.	2/8/2017 2:06 AM
9	Buy back local levies, making the state fund each district more equitably. None of the above options address equitable education across the state.	2/7/2017 11:15 PM
10	More fund raising for scholarship of the student.Donation of th the higher class people can help or supporters.	2/7/2017 10:15 PM
11	Our education system has become more than providing basic education. We need to get back to that. We are normalizing assistance to the point of ensuring it is an expectation. We should segregate basic education costs from assistance (including ESL programs). Fund basic education AND as much of the assistance programs as possible but do not consider this as required funding. Thanks for what you do, Steve Richard Morris Maple Valley Email : RichardMor@aol.com	2/7/2017 9:33 PM
12	How about you balance the state budget? Cut spending on non-essential state employees. This state has had a healthy amount of growth in tax revenue through natural growth in our economy. The state is being severely mismanaged. This goes back to democrats like Gregoire wanting to spend spend spend. Property taxes pay for education. I could probably slash 2 billion dollars of waste out of WA state government. This state has become a joke. The state AG is running around suing the Federal Government over immigration. Regular businesses don't "need" Olympia for much except maybe L&I, unemployment, and basic functions - state patrol. The state is collecting more money now than at any time in it's history. I believe our state charter says we are NOT supposed to have a deficit. Again, utter incompetence and mismanagement of duty. Also, you could stop funding the UW since they are now a political institution instead of a school of higher learning. They don't even believe in free speech there (that is in the 1st amendment of the constitution in case you all need to look it up) therefore they don't need taxpayer funding - they can just go private.	2/7/2017 9:21 PM
13	Government costs should be cut - reducing staff and services. This includes education but the cuts should be targeted at administration costs and not teachers who are not adequately compensated. This survey is biased in the wording of the questions.	2/7/2017 9:17 PM
14	GOP Plan. And a survey worded this way insults my intelligence.	2/7/2017 8:59 PM
15	I WANT education funded. End of discussion & not just basic education, I want my grandchildren to have the same education I had in the 1950's & 1960's	2/7/2017 7:21 PM
16	I've heard all this crap about smaller class sizes for 48 years at the Renton school district and it still hasn't happened. How can you expect that to happen when your building houses everywhere . Then you don't make the builders do anything for our roads. How long do you think you can fool us with your smaller class sizes?	2/7/2017 6:23 PM

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17	My experience has been that many businesses fail because they are top heavy, and I see that in education as well. The money needs to go to the people who are actually doing the teaching! If it's not possible to hack away at the load at the top, then at least salaries can be cut. The crowd that's in the other Washington has made it quite clear they don't give a rip about getting our children educated, so we need to do something about that locally and "meeting it to death" won't solve diddly. I also think schools need to be re-defined and re-purposed to match student needs. Heaven knows we can't keep "dumbing down" our population!!!	2/7/2017 5:26 PM
18	I thought the lottery was supposed to "cure" all this? (I wish that was a joke!) I know, I know, when in doubt, raise taxes. Which is better, 100 kids in a classroom where teachers and the education program produces bright, well formed and intelligent students, or a small classroom but the system rubber stamps the diploma because it's easier than holding lil' Johnny back another year? If we establish a system that promotes & rewards genuine academic success then parents from other states will fly in kids and pay "whatever it costs" to have their kids taught in Washington schools. If we raise the bar & deliver a greater than expected result, money will cease to be an issue. Stop treating the symptoms when it's self evident the disease is a killer.	2/7/2017 5:17 PM
19	Definitely on of the ideas on #6!	2/7/2017 4:57 PM
20	And make Boeing and corporate tax breaks ZERO by law unless their corporate headquarters and a significant prt of thier production and/or personell are in Washington State. and institute a state income tax but make it so all income tax can only go to education and public services.	2/7/2017 4:19 PM
21	cut out all the excess overhead!	2/7/2017 4:03 PM
22	How about making education more efficient by combining smaller school districts to cut out administrative costs.	2/7/2017 3:39 PM
23	Increase property taxes	2/7/2017 3:28 PM
24	What happen with the taxes from the lottery.	2/7/2017 3:00 PM
25	What a biased, unserious survey. Shame on you for question 6 and providing no reasonable cost reduction options.	2/7/2017 2:54 PM
26	Why do you always point out things like you do in question 6? We have committed to doing things that don't need to be done, start be cutting there.	2/7/2017 2:53 PM
27	I am tired of paying for people out of my taxes. I work hard for my money and I am tired of my taxes being raised to accommodate those that wish not to work or have 6 children. I am also very tired of the Governor speaking on behalf of the people in Washington. He is not speaking on my behalf, I disagree with just about everything he has done.	2/7/2017 2:50 PM
28	us the rainy day fund to help fund education. make drastic cuts to food stamps and hire an effective budget manager to run our schools bottom line	2/7/2017 2:48 PM
29	No more corporate welfare!	1/31/2017 12:30 PM
30	I get it that we need new revenue, but I also think there are some areas of the budget that could be trimmed down a little.I appreciate the work you're doing.	1/31/2017 12:27 PM
31	Repeal a portion of the tax incentive given to the Boeing Company. Inform them that they have not lived up to their end of the bargain since they have been sending jobs out of state!	1/30/2017 10:20 AM
32	Stop subsidizing education for illegal immigrants. I recently became aware that illegal immigrants are allowed to pay in-state tuition. PLEASE STOP!!	1/27/2017 4:04 PM
33	an income tax on folks earning \$250,000 annually, coupled with a decrease in the sales tax (by at least 1/2)	1/26/2017 10:28 AM
34	I really needed more information. e.g. I would agree with lobbyist, not necessarily "other professional service providers. Tax breaks on bottled water?	1/26/2017 8:48 AM
35	Reduce waste of money already received by schools, by cutting excessive administrative positions, for example.	1/25/2017 10:17 PM
36	It is very important to get this funded. Unbelievable that this has been going on as long as it has.	1/25/2017 5:08 PM
37	Make every state employee accountable for 8 hours productivity for 8 hours pay. As in all large organizations there is too much waste of employee's time. Don't slash jobs, but do cut down where production does not justify the time!	1/25/2017 3:11 PM
38	I am sure the legislature can come up with a better plan than any of the above mentioned options. Example: redefine what a Basic education is. Lower the number of administrators who are not in the classroom and so on and so on. You are bright people. Come up with some bright ideas.	1/24/2017 7:32 AM
39	Give money back to the people who want to send their kids to private school! I'd rather have my children get a good education from a private institute over the garbage education they are getting at the public school level.	1/22/2017 10:33 PM
40	Good luck getting these past the Republicans!	1/22/2017 2:23 PM

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41	Find and force able bodied individuals on welfare to work at jobs provide by the state, cities and counties. Require random monthly drug tests for all adults receiving welfare. NO STATE INCOME OR SALES TAX INCREASE.	1/22/2017 11:41 AM
42	Use the tax money from pot sales to a dedicated account for education.	1/22/2017 11:21 AM
43	I am tired of the talk! Figure out which taxes we need and just do it.	1/21/2017 12:16 PM
44	I know for a fact that there is a lot of fat in state government. Many job and state agency cuts could be made without negatively impacting the state itself. Do it! The previous question is a bad one. It combines too many different and unrelated issues. We don't need to do all of those things, but we certainly should do one or two of them like cutting the fat in state government!	1/21/2017 10:27 AM
45	keep up the great work serving me in Olympia!	1/21/2017 9:57 AM
46	Inform the public so they can have an informed decision when they vote. Just spending more money doesn't always fix something that is not working well. Are we spending too much at the top and not enough on teacher, specialists, and classroom helpers? Is too much required of teachers besides preparing for their class and working with the students? Ask the people on the bottom where the student's are how to improve education.	1/21/2017 7:56 AM
47	Before we discuss raising taxes, I would like to understand how much the system costs per student are and if that cost is reasonable. Are there costs we could reduce? Are there unnecessary projects that could be cut? For example, several years ago, the play field at Honeydew Elementary School was completely reworked by removing about two feet of soil, installing a drain system, and then replacing the soil. This is a field several acres in size and I was told the cost was about two million dollars to do this. The children at this elementary school only use a very tiny portion of this play field. I can verify this because I drive by there almost every day. The major uses of this play field are for walking dogs during off hours, soccer games, an occasional neighborhood baseball game, and flying model airplanes. None of these activities are sponsored or sanctioned by the school district, and as far as I know were not enhanced by the two million dollars of drainage improvement. So why was the drainage project necessary? The school building itself was remodeled over a several year period when it was largely unused. This was about ten or twelve years ago. My impression of this project is that it was probably a "make work" situation that was conducted inefficiently. As you can see, I think there are a lot of "no-brainer" improvements that could be implemented in our school system, if we care to scratch beneath the surface.	1/21/2017 12:23 AM
48	State income tax only for highest income brackets and reduce sales tax.	1/20/2017 9:06 PM
49	survey finished. I would like a definition for FULLY FUND. basic education. I can guess what it means but would rather not.	1/20/2017 7:43 PM
50	Your last question feels biased and has many variables included. I would be supportive of prison reform for nonviolent drug/substance offenders. The other options would not be appropriate. I have major concerns about special education/504 support. I have a newly diagnosed child with a disability (Attention Deficit Disorder-Pervasive inactivity with memory recall issues), and am finding a lot of resistance in addressing my child's needs with the school. It feels like my child's situation is perceived as "more work" or "added expenses" rather than a situation where my child has different learning needs, that will need mild support to meet his potential.	1/20/2017 7:12 PM
51	Get rid of the reams of paper and red tape behind the newest testing regime. Go back to the simple Iowa Basic Skills test that was good enough a generation ago and put that extra money into the classrooms instead of into the pockets of bureaucrats and testing companies.	1/20/2017 3:21 PM
52	Shift revenue from other areas of the budget to cover education funding	1/20/2017 3:12 PM
53	It seems to me that regardless of the economy situation; the funding to education programs always get cut either low enrollment or budget deficit. We need to fund education for K12 and community colleges; they are the fundamental foundation of our nation future. Unlike the four years university they can get extra million and millions of dollars from the alumnus or boosters. I would like to see Olympia to close tax loopholes for the big companies and fund the education.	1/20/2017 2:45 PM
54	The taxes on marijuana should be earmarked to K-12, not put into the general fund.	1/20/2017 11:13 AM
55	Eliminate tax breaks and incentives given to people who buy electric/alternative fuel cars.	1/20/2017 11:10 AM
56	Despite keeping headquarters and a huge workforce in the Seattle area, both Amazon and Microsoft are incorporated outside of Washington state in order to dodge taxes. These companies are sitting on mountains of cash. They need to start to recognize that Washington state is footing the bill to pay for their children's education and supporting the learning of thousands of future regional employees. It's time they were made to step up and contribute.	1/20/2017 10:00 AM
57	I have a concept not voiced previously, therefore would like to meet to discuss.	1/20/2017 9:39 AM
58	Put higher tax implications on the companies and people that make the most money.	1/20/2017 8:53 AM

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59	We are still recovering from the cuts of the last downturn and we have one of the most regressive tax systems in the nation. As a higher-earning Washingtonian I WANT to pay more. Please tax me.	1/20/2017 8:24 AM
60	Agree with #6, except don't let prisoners out early. Have parents pay for kidergarden (babysitting) prior to 1st Grade. Don't increase property tax, which is already 200% of what it should be due to property tax exemptions & subsidies (ref former assessor Scott Noble.	1/20/2017 8:12 AM
61	Help me and others to understand how to not be afraid of this incumbency and how the lower and middle class, what is left of it, will be preserved and indeed, flourish. If I did not have grandchildren here I would leave this country and go live in Canada, or Scandinavia, or Mexico or even Puerto Rico. It is more loss of tax base...	1/20/2017 7:40 AM
62	Drug test all WIC and other welfare recipients. Force them to stay clean including alcohol and marijuana. Term limits on all types of welfare recipients. Educate them with a 2 year trade, get them employed and cut them off after education. They may not return to the system once they are educated. Do not allow them to live on welfare indefinitely or just because they have a new child. Force them on birth control both fathers and mothers. Tax heavily fathers that have multiple baby mothers without marriage. Create trade jobs and stop sending them to China...	1/20/2017 7:39 AM
63	Don't let Microsoft or Boeing or whoever to outsource their money to places like 1209 North Orange Street in Wilmington, Delaware so that don't have to pay taxes here. http://freebeacon.com/issues/delaware-address-home-200000-shell-companies-including-hillary-clintons/	1/20/2017 6:38 AM
64	How about getting Boeing and others to pay taxes when they don't keep jobs in the state. I don't understand #5 as the state is getting the money one way or the other. http://www.findwell.com/blog/buying-a-home/banks-trying-to-make-buyers-pay-excise-tax-on-bank-owned-reo-properties/ Work harder at cutting waste!	1/20/2017 3:57 AM
65	Keep criminals off the streets. The gov't already releases too many early.	1/19/2017 10:56 PM
66	Uh, question 6 is pretty seriously slanted. Did you want actual constituent feedback, or just to have your biases confirmed?	1/19/2017 10:47 PM
67	More audits of how we are using current funds!!	1/19/2017 10:42 PM
68	It's clear to me that, like it or not, fresh funding sources need to be found. Imposing cuts to an already starved education system is cutting off ones nose. Higher tuition at the Univ's is even worse, placing even greater burdens and higher debt to students. How is a debt load on a graduate going to help improve their lives or the society they try to thrive in.	1/19/2017 10:16 PM
69	I don't like the idea, but I think the only way to balance the budget is a small State Income Tax.	1/19/2017 9:25 PM
70	Income tax!!!	1/19/2017 9:25 PM
71	Re-evaluate salary schedule for state senators and representatives. Do NOT take away 900 some odd DSHS FTE but increase Fish & Wildlife by ~100!!! Implement Bob Hasegawa's Bank of WA and stop paying fees to big banks. Implement progressive income tax while reducing sales tax for a more stable income base.	1/19/2017 9:20 PM
72	Question 6 was impossible to answer due to the number of things included. We disagreed because we don't agree with most of that but don't view all issues the same way. Raise business taxes on others too - not just service industries	1/19/2017 9:12 PM
73	Increase property taxes on property taxes for apartment complexes owners. Tax breaks to companies that give \$ for school building and grounds maintenance /improvements. Tax breaks to companies that hire WA college grads. What happened to the lottery fund education that I remember from the 1980's? Thanks Steve! God bless you.	1/19/2017 9:07 PM
74	The real solution is a progressive state income tax. I wish people would quit blaming the legislature for school funding problems. The real people to blame are those who would vote out legislators for raising taxes. There is no way around the fact that this will have to be done.	1/19/2017 8:57 PM
75	tax the families with children (adjusted with ability to pay naturally), and the more children, the more tax	1/19/2017 8:43 PM
76	Education needs to be amply funded, without slashing our safety nets. It is time to tax the rich. PERIOD.	1/19/2017 8:17 PM
77	Use funds gained from the sale of marijuana...like what was stated when legalization went up before the voters. What happened to that???	1/19/2017 8:13 PM
78	How do you know when education is "fully funded"? I have not seen a viable definition. It is easy to throw money at education, but how do you know where to spend it so the funds are spent effectively? Sounds like we are concerned too much about raising dollars and not enough about where to apply the funds effectively.	1/19/2017 7:49 PM

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79	How come my property taxes & that lottery thing isn't funding all of that education stuff? Didn't it used to pay for all that? Are there too many people involved as school administrators that are not necessary taking salaries that could be used elsewhere? Are the retirements in education benefits too high to sustain? What % of their wages they made do they get in retirement(teachers, administrators & etc.)? Maybe there should be a 1% tax on computers bought, software, & education related stuff. The state should start a lottery specific for education and keep there hands off it. Do not throw the money in the general fund. Taxes can't keep rising on real estate property. Some people are retired and have limited income thus no raises. It is a tough situation all the way around. Maybe a tax on hotel rooms or restaurant food would work. Good luck, Bob	1/19/2017 7:47 PM
80	Consolidate supply chain for schools. Determine what programs really work efficiently, abandoning those that don't. Determine actual costs per student based on specific needs based programs. Remove competitive sports from schools, unless they are 50% funded by parents or grants are obtained.	1/19/2017 7:47 PM
81	Spend less \$ on superintendents and their travel - pay paraeducators more	1/19/2017 7:21 PM
82	Your number 6 question shows you are truly biased, what a lousy survey. I'll remember not to reelect you.	1/19/2017 6:52 PM
83	What the hell was with that last question ???? Absurd . Why don't you audit the entire education system on every level and cut all these over administrated districts on every level. Some of these programs are absurd. English as a second language, babysitting services for special needs kids that are uneducable. Remove all illegal students from the schools . I am tired of paying services for criminals .Deport them and make them re-enter legally. Sick of this waste and stealing more money from me and all the tax payers . Sincerely sick of polttics gone bad Daniel Bradley	1/19/2017 6:26 PM
84	I think we should do whatever it takes to become less regressive in our tax system. The wealthy should not receive tax breaks and we should fully fund education, not cut any spending on education.	1/19/2017 6:21 PM
85	I am OK raising taxes to pay for education. It has been far too long for our kids not having the opportunities they deserve. Teacher salaries are too low to hire and retain great teachers. The Governor did a good job at raising salaries in his budget. I am hopeful that the legislature will agree and make it a reality. Please! It is dispiriting that you have been in contempt and fined and still not finishing this job. Please!	1/19/2017 6:07 PM
86	Fix the income tax laws	1/19/2017 6:03 PM
87	I am not an economist or tax expert. I know most tax incentives were put there to create a more favorable business climate which theoretically is good for our economy and job creation. So I can't say which tax breaks to eliminate or which sector to tax more. Seems like the professional service providers may have been unfairly singled out. But there has to be increased revenue, and everyone has to suck it up and contribute to reap their share of the public benefit. I favor any increased taxes the legislature feels are appropriate, especially having the wealthy pay more. I strongly favor including early learning in to the "basic ed" funding, but strongly oppose any other effort to once again debate the definition of basic ed. That was done about 10 years ago. Just move on with the funding!	1/19/2017 6:03 PM
88	Separate funding education from the rest of the budget. Fund education first. Whatever is left over...use on the remaining programs. Revenue has been increasing year after year. Find a way without raising my property taxes, sales taxes, etc.	1/19/2017 5:57 PM
89	easiest and hardest defined real estate tax (slippery slope). defined sales tax increase. 1% reduction to each school; district. 1% reduction across the board for the state operating budget. Have a member from each school district selling the plan around the state. No good answer. But it is what you do YOU NEED TO GET THIS DONE	1/19/2017 5:44 PM
90	find a way to make eye glass dealers charge a fair price for frames. It costs \$6-7 to make a frame but they chare from 80 to 400\$.	1/19/2017 5:33 PM
91	Where is all the funds from the legalization of Marijuana going? I'd like to know more about this.	1/19/2017 5:33 PM
92	Financial transaction tax.	1/19/2017 5:28 PM
93	Items 1-5 will only pass the costs onto the consumer and will not hurt any of the people that are taxed. Put a freeze on all state employees salary. I am retired and have not had a "pay" increase in a long time.	1/19/2017 5:21 PM
94	I actually do think you should be releasing low-level offenders from prison, and lumping that suggestion into a pile of other half-baked conservative ideas made me lose a little faith in the possibility for nuance in this budget conversation.	1/19/2017 5:18 PM
95	Identify the full funding amount for education and then just commit to funding it 100% no excuses. Increase corporate taxes on the rich. Sin taxes jet do it. Vote in one term term limits too	1/19/2017 5:12 PM
96	Ti e to get rid of Boeing, Amazon and Microsoft subsidies besides they are all greedy now and are disrespectful of human beings in general	1/19/2017 5:06 PM
97	Cut educational expenses! Additional funds do not improve the quality of education. It is still poor.	1/19/2017 5:01 PM

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98	Put penalty on the law makers that do not show up for voting, or recess too often. If they miss 3 sessions remove them from their position. Normal citizens lose their jobs if they miss work. If they are not available they are not working for the good of the people of the state. If we want good teacher's, they (teacher's) do need to be paid competitively. They should never have to pay for the supplies for their classes. When our law makers do not do their job in the normal constraints and call for special sessions it should all come out of their pay. No reimbursements peroid. They have the time, they need to do their jobs. I pay 9.9 % of sales taxes and property taxes. my income (retired) it makes it difficult to pay my bills but I do it and pay 16% federal taxes.	1/19/2017 4:53 PM
99	This survey is BS. Number 6 is insulting.	1/19/2017 4:44 PM
100	Direct taxes from marijuana and alcohol toward funding education. Stop funding other services until education is funded first. Perhaps if those other services are in jeopardy, lawmakers will take things seriously, but at least our kids won't suffer.	1/19/2017 4:39 PM
101	Question 6 makes no sense, since it contains too many options. We already spend enough money on the schools. I believe that this is just so the teacher unions can get more money. The supreme court was bought by the unions.	1/19/2017 4:24 PM
102	It is insane how you always resort to scaring people by cutting education and other services in #6. I don't see anywhere about cutting the government waste, duplicity or other creative ideas how to raise the money! Why is it always TAXES, TAXES, TAXES????? Why don't you ask straight the billionaires they supported you like Bill Gates, Howard Schulz and others? If each of them give you 500 million you will have money left instead of totally stupid idea of TAXING SODA!!! Totally desperate and stupid going after pennies from poor people!!! Or let people out of prison early and not to monitor them??? What the hell is this? Clearly scaring tactic the way you suggested. On the other hand everything should be reevaluated, if there are prisoners for minor offenses, they should be let out or move them to Wenatchee to pick up apples and do other farm work instead of illegal immigrants doing that. Cut healthcare for low income families? Isn't there Obama care? Would you like to cut food assistance? Don't cut, but evaluate. People they are selling their snaps, food stamps probably don't need them. So, there is something to it. And the point actually is if you will raise the money, will they actually produced smartest and more literate students, so we don't have to bring work force here from India???Can you look beyond the money and find out what really the problem is in our schools that they produce incompetent students? Thank you for sending me this survey.	1/19/2017 4:23 PM
103	It's time to seriously consider a state income tax structured so the uber wealthy pays more.	1/19/2017 4:05 PM
104	All state agencies should streamline processes and cut costs. Write contracts for roads and other constructions costs to require the contractor to cover all overruns and illegal to over estimate bids for contracts. Reign in existing expenditures. Fund education first, then other services. Prioritize and the lowest priority items just might not be able to be funded.	1/19/2017 4:03 PM
105	Pay teachers better and cut administrator salaries. Quit using scare tactics like #6 and spend money wisely (likely, maybe, might are all trash words that show you're screwing with concepts) Make welfare recipients work for their funds. Be more business friendly so they create more private sector jobs rather than taxing them out of business and giving away free money to the 'poor'. Teach the 'poor' how to use this free money wisely and require that they do so by requiring savings accounts that only a percent of the interest can be taken out. Use professional survey creators who are not biased to write them. Else, ones like this one are flawed from the start and are worthless because you are coercing participants for the answers you want. These tactics are what make true thinking people distrust you and politics.	1/19/2017 4:02 PM
106	As a child-free, middle-class homeowner in super-pricey Seattle, you might expect me to suggest taxing anyone outside my own demographic, but let me assure you that I would cheerfully support an increase in my own sales or property tax, so long as the funds went entirely to education. This is the single most important investment we can make in our state, our nation, and our future. Without world-class primary and secondary schools, how can we hope to prepare our next generation for competition in an increasingly global marketplace? The incoming administration can blather on all day about bringing back American jobs, but the world is undeniably, inexorably changing around us. Old career paths are vanishing rapidly; new and exciting ones are appearing at a similar pace. We can either give our children the education they need to seize these incredible opportunities, or we can doom them to a lifetime of resentment for the vanished past. From the very beginning, our American dream has been a marvel of -- and testament to -- both aspiration and inspiration. We built our cities and government alike on a foundation of hope, determination, and cooperation. We traded rulers for leaders. We sacrificed our old lives for new ideals. We forged a solid future for our children. And every single step we've taken along the way has been a lesson for the rest of the world. America doesn't follow; America runs ahead, chasing the wind. We dream big. We invent, reinvent, and experiment, innovate, explore, and discover. For two hundred years, we have been the cultural force that shapes our entire planet. To fall behind now... to give up and sit down, smug and content with what we've already achieved... to sit idle when we could be running so fast that we finally catch the wind and start to fly... I believe that would repudiate everything our forefathers dared to achieve. So raise my taxes. Let's make a commitment to honor our Constitution and our legacy, and fund our schools. Let's support our children, and continue to inspire the world. Let's fly.	1/19/2017 3:59 PM

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107	Reduce what "basic education" means. What DOES it include!? We don't want to give "education" a blank check. I have seen firsthand massive waste at schools. (I'm a public school teacher) sometimes at the end of the year, the school wastes money on anything just because if they don't spend it, it goes away!	1/19/2017 3:59 PM
108	Traffic ticket revenue from speeders in school zones should go directly to schools. Washington lottery should make some scratch tickets with proceeds directly given to education budget. That goofy new secretary of education should be made to pay a fine every time she proposes something that would not benefit all students. (Similar to football players getting fined for not upholding agreements in their contracts) Her fines can be distributed for public education purposes across all states.	1/19/2017 3:58 PM
109	Did the state give Boeing an \$8B tax break if they kept jobs in the state, & then Boeing moved their jobs to the east coast? What do businesses pay in taxes?	1/19/2017 3:57 PM
110	This is a very complicated issue. I feel like Washingtonians pay an inordinate amount in taxes, yet we have failing road infrastructure (pretty sure a majority of this cost goes to highways because douche nozzels wear metal spikes on their cars here in the winter time for no reason), no money to fund schools and I have to pay money to go play in the woods that no one takes care of. Don't businesses pay taxes in this state? Mainly looking at Amazon, Boeing, Microsoft, Starbucks and the list could go on and on. Or are we literally paying them to be here? I don't mean for this little rant to be negative, I really think we can find the money to educate our awesome community that we have here. I just don't think taxing the 1.5% of our population a little more will solve our problems, or it might. Corporations are people too after all.	1/19/2017 3:57 PM
111	It is critical to keep healthcare and services for the poor and most vulnerable! Make those with the money pay - it's as simple as that!	1/19/2017 3:40 PM
112	Tax sugary drinks, candy, chips and other junk food. Cut middle management in schools. Stop putting more non necessary teaching onto overwhelmed teachers.	1/19/2017 3:39 PM
113	No state income tax. Look at any and all perks provided to legislators where they could be trimmed or eliminated. Set target challenges/goals for each government department to trim their own budgets by working smarter and cheaper. Determine duplicate efforts across departments and either group them together or subcontract them under a bid process to cut the cost. This could trim the cost of equipment and supplies not having to be maintained by the government departments.	1/19/2017 3:28 PM
114	The main selling point to the state adopting a lottery was that the proceeds would fund education so that special levies would not be needed. Who knows where those proceeds are going now? It should be to fund education.	1/19/2017 3:23 PM
115	Implement an income tax	1/19/2017 3:16 PM
116	I feel strongly that there is a great deal of untapped wealth in our State, while ordinary citizens have seen property taxes and rents go up and up. We are tapped out. I support funding for education but we are on a fixed income and cannot afford to pay any more than we already do. I would agree with Item #1 above but believe that small to midsize (under 300 employees) nonprofit organizations should be exempt.	1/19/2017 3:08 PM
117	Basic income tax - our tax system is so regressive.	1/19/2017 2:33 PM
118	You keep raising taxes and every year we are in the same situation. What happened to the 1 billion bond over 2 years ago? What about my property taxes that go up due to the levy's? We keep raising taxes and every year we are in trouble. Tax all the foreign workers coming into our state and taking jobs from our US Citizens. Redo the budget, and see where money is being wasted. Teachers are receiving a lot in pension plans. Let them save money like the rest of us who only have 401ks or use investment companies. Get rid of the unions. They are sucking your dry. They take money from the teachers, and use it for their bottom line. Use contract companies to run the student feeding.	1/19/2017 2:32 PM
119	Repeal the giant tax breaks given to Boeing.	1/19/2017 2:31 PM
120	I don't believe our constitution requires all-day kindergarten, or any kindergarten for that matter. I don't know what "fully funding" education means. I do know that the more money we put into schools the more schools cost. I also know we have way too much administrative cost. It seems to me the more tax money we make available the more costs will be driven up and the more taxes will be required. The result is a never ending cycle of trying to "fully fund" education and increasing taxes. We have rebuilt every school in my district. It cost millions and millions and grades have not improved a bit because of it. Some schools have been torn down, rebuilt, than torn down again and rebuilt again in the time I have lived in my house. There should be no requirement for people who were never able to go to college to fund those who want to go now. We should fill our classrooms with resident students before we provide classrooms for out of state students. I also doubt that our constitution requires many of the classes that we now provide. First do the basics then see what can be provided outside the basic without raising taxes. Then if the students want more they can chose to fund it themselves. Most of the curriculum today is not geared towards educating students to get along in life but rather to get them ready for college. Even if they are not going to college. I also do not believe our constitution requires that everyone attend college. We need to take a fresh look at our whole education system from start to finish.	1/19/2017 2:25 PM

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121	Let's get the levy cliff problem solved with an extension for another year or 2. My district is facing HUGE cuts that could result in over 100 teachers (and all the librarians) being RIFFED.	1/19/2017 2:24 PM
122	I don't understand 6. My suggestions are: break away from the national teacher organizations; let school districts manage their own affairs; listen to the soon to be head of education department.	1/19/2017 2:22 PM
123	Make sure to maintain the CTE enhanced dollars and enhanced dollars for other education programs.	1/19/2017 2:13 PM
124	reduce supplementary services beyond basic teaching.	1/19/2017 2:11 PM
125	Stop funding all the immigration people and only fund US Citizens first..	1/19/2017 2:11 PM
126	Why can't all of the current property tax for schools simply be transferred to schools for use by the legislature? Then set a capital gains tax for the rest of the need.	1/19/2017 2:09 PM
127	Marijuana tax revenue	1/19/2017 1:57 PM
128	Encourage districts to "cut the fat" at the top - don't hire so many administrators & pay the paraprofessionals a living wage. Get rid of TPEP - it wastes time	1/19/2017 1:53 PM
129	Require home builders to fund education for the school districts supporting the population growth.	1/19/2017 1:53 PM
130	Perhaps there is other waste taking place throughout the system that could be cut. For instance, why do road projects get started and then take years to complete. I have heard this is because of annual budgeting, but when the bridge in Skagit county was destroyed, it was able to be rebuilt in a matter of months. If the budget cycle is the problem, maybe that needs to be looked at. I'm sure that there are ways to cut throughout the system. I also heard that another huge increase in gas taxes was in this budget. Ridiculous. It is never enough. Increasing B & O tax is going to drive people out of business. How about some pay freezes for the higher paid state employees and elected officials? Cut chartered flights for state legislators throughout the state. There are lots of belt tightening techniques that could be used to get the budget under control. Just make sure it is the fat and not the necessity.	1/19/2017 1:53 PM
131	Banks already pay excise tax when selling foreclosed properties. The only time excise tax is not paid is when the actual seller is the US Government as in HUD selling homes or the VA.	1/19/2017 1:45 PM
132	How dare you try to impose extra taxes on people and businesses when you have miserably failed to impose the state required sales taxes on all internet sales. They are sales aren't they? Then do your damned job, get some guts and require the necessary sales tax from ALL internet sales.	1/19/2017 1:41 PM
133	The state needs to figure out how to live within it's means. I don't get to go to my boss and demand more money because I couldn't figure out how to budget the money I have. Public education is a WEA controlled racket that fails to produce results for our kids. The solution is not destroying our economy but reforming the government education complex.	1/19/2017 1:39 PM
134	This survey offers no alternatives between tax increases and austerity measures. I, and most others, are not versed in the budget to make educated recommendation. Recommendations would be based on options and political leanings. I would think there are other alternatives like prioritizing what we spend our money on and do an excellent job at what we value most in lieu of doing a poor job on everything. Just like with every budget, you can't do it all. You have to pay for food, clothing and shelter but going to the movies and vacations are extras. Cutting waist and loop holes is another option. Stop pretending like sound transit and general fund dollars are different and can't be mixed. Like most people I just don't have the time to dig into the details. That's why I voted for you.	1/19/2017 1:39 PM
135	Number 6 has some good ideas, but lumping them all together makes it a no go for me. I can see letting people out of prison early and not following them as long for certain crimes, but no to the other things.	1/19/2017 1:38 PM
136	There are a lot of things included in education today that we will never be able to pay for and until you take these social programs out that waste money and do not support traditional American Christian values, we will not vote to fund them. #6 is simply broadening the scope of those things.	1/19/2017 1:33 PM
137	1)Release ALL prisoners serving time for drug related offenses. Drug addition is a medical NOT a criminal problem. 2)Hire a state patrol chief who knows what he is doing. 3)Remove all tax breaks to big businesses. 4)Remove all government office filing fees so you do not have to be rich to run for office. 5)Give a B&O tax break to employers for each employee who is steadily employed for 5 years, 10years, etc.	1/19/2017 1:33 PM
138	I do think we should raise tuition at the state universities. I think adding a small % or flat fee to all property tax, would be a painless way to spread an additional tax without hurting those with low incomes who do not own property.	1/19/2017 1:32 PM
139	Stop wasting money on frivolous programs. Cut service to planned parenthood, cut tax incentives on green vehicles. Use the rainy day fund to pay off part of the gap, Hire an administrator for the public schools who actually watches what is spent, how it's spent, and the ROI.	1/19/2017 1:31 PM
140	Equalize the property taxes (rates) across the state that fund basic education and/or institute the "levy swap" plan that was proposed earlier.	1/19/2017 1:28 PM

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141	Concern with actual distribution of funding (i.e. schools with higher paid teachers get more funding than other schools regardless of student and school needs.	1/19/2017 1:27 PM
142	Carbon taxes are desperately needed. Maybe tying it to ed funding would help make it happen. \$30/ton at minimum; double that better. An income tax would be great, but I guess that's a non starter. Increasing sin taxes--alcohol, tobacco, pot--always a winner. Increasing gas tax by a nickel or so, though I understand that would require a Constitutional change to spend money outside roads.	1/19/2017 1:25 PM
143	Cut schools administrative costs and use that to fund basic education.	1/19/2017 1:25 PM
144	I expect you to pass these concerns on to all involved in the legislature: 1. As a small service business owner, I'm appalled at the proposition of a 67% increase in my B&O tax. During Gregoire, our tax was "temporarily" raised 20% for several years. How can the state single-out one business group but exclude others? 2. How can a state like Washington, with numerous multi-billion dollar companies including sports teams, be short on funding? Tax breaks should not last forever, especially for companies that are clear leaders in their field and have little competition. Make these companies pay equal share. If they are dedicated to improving the state, they shouldn't have much to argue about. 3. What are the lottery and marijuana sales being used for, other than to support government growth?. Lottery sales were initially proposed to suport schools, then pulled from such use after the voters passed the measure. 4. Health insurance and property taxes have increased by huge amounts this year. How much additional taxation is enough? Again, the state unfairly targets specific groups (homeowners), but leaves others out (renters). 5. Washington collects plenty of money to support what's needed, without falling back on the usual rhetoric about impacting the "most vulnerable". Use the money for what it was collected for. Don't divert it to the general fund 2 years after the initiatives pass, then ask for more for the same task.	1/19/2017 1:24 PM
145	We need to do what New Jersey did in '76 and shut down the school. We need to get more voter/parents kicking and screaming that our school should be properly funded. We are wasting 100,000 a day. Introduce an Income tax for our state if we must do so.	1/19/2017 1:24 PM
146	#3 Seems excessive at 7.9 percent. Since they pay capital gains tax and then 7.9 percent on top of that. # 6 makes no sense to me. It's just nuts.	1/19/2017 1:23 PM
147	I strongly disagree with option 2 because as polluters gradually decrease emissions, the tax will cease to be reliable and regular, as the constitution requires. I am sorry to have to admit that it is likely that the only fair way to increase revenues is a flat rate income tax.	1/19/2017 1:22 PM
148	Stop wasting money. Skip the emotional blackmail, stop treating taxpayers like piñatas, and work within your budget. Otherwise, you're failing to do your job.	1/19/2017 1:22 PM
149	Start by fully funding education with existing revenues. And then, fully fund our state constitution's funding mandates. Then, complete the budget process by funding all other government services. Let's see what that looks like before we start raising taxes.	1/19/2017 1:16 PM
150	First of all stop providing education, funds, etc. for all illegal aliens. Get back to the basic in education. Schools should not be used as "babysitters". Get rid of some of the unnecessary staff within each school district, such as vice principal, second vice principal, etc. and allot those funds to provide more quality teachers. Why penalize people with higher capitol taxes. These people worked for their money without free handouts. I am tired of being taxed to death. The last straw was for increasing taxes to finance sound transit. Enough is enough	1/19/2017 1:16 PM
151	Eliminate all school related taxes, especially the portion from our property taxes, for folks 60 and older who have no vested interest in public schools any longer as their children are well beyond the age of attending public schools.	1/19/2017 1:15 PM
152	State income tax	1/19/2017 1:15 PM
153	I agree partially with #6 -- I do feel that the cost of public education needs to be reduced, which could be achieved by reducing overhead, in some cases increasing class sizes (particularly for jr/sr high school) and having parents pay a greater share of non-curricular activities.	1/19/2017 1:15 PM
154	Limit the tax breaks allowed for large corporations, such as Boeing.	1/19/2017 1:14 PM
155	I would like to see an Income tax on anyone that makes over say \$450,000/500,000 a year so that everyone that benefits from our Country and economy reinvests into it for the good of everyone. Hopefully that could include some infrastructure work , as long as they get ideas to go by our citizens first !	1/19/2017 1:09 PM
156	Stop funding non-governmental entities like stadiums and sports arenas, put the money in education or have those sports organizations help fund our educational responsibilities from their highly profitable venues; they eventually pick and choose from our schools, the resources they use in their endeavors!	1/19/2017 1:08 PM
157	Less waste (tighten the belt) in other areas of the budget providing the necessary budget needed for Education.	1/19/2017 1:04 PM
158	very concerned about Governor's proposal to do away with fuel tax and charge by the mile. How would out of state drivers pay? I think this would be a huge loss of income to the State.	1/19/2017 1:04 PM

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159	You gave me no choices. There is too much money wasted in other areas of state government.	1/19/2017 1:04 PM
160	There is great wealth in this state. Those who have very large shares of this wealth must realize that the system of free enterprise our society has created directly led to their success. Taxes are a contract each individual has with the society that makes it possible to live in that society. The rich should pay a greater load than they currently do since they have been benefited more greatly than others.	1/19/2017 1:03 PM
161	Please increase taxes on the wealthy to fully fund basic education. Stop corporate welfare to Boeing. Free community college for high school graduates. Stop Running Start. Reduce college tuition for instate students.	1/19/2017 1:02 PM
162	Get rid of the B&O tax and increase the property tax on business property. Reduce spending in other areas. Stop thinking of taxing income in any form. If you are going to have a separate business tax, like B&O, base it on net not gross.	1/19/2017 1:02 PM
163	Trim the size of state government and agencies.	1/19/2017 1:01 PM
164	PLEASE FUND CHARTERS SCHOOLS. WE NEED MORE OPTIONS. THE SYSTEM HAS BEEN BROKEN FOR 40 YRS AND KIDS CANT WAIT ANYMORE.	1/19/2017 12:59 PM
165	I am wondering what happened to the idea that the Washington State Lottery dollars were supposed to go into education?	1/19/2017 12:58 PM