

**2012 Washington State Gubernatorial Race
Candidates' Formal Positions on Education**

Topic	Jay Inslee	Rob McKenna
Closing the Achievement/ Opportunity Gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop innovative curricula and improve cultural competency. • Recruit more teachers from minority communities to better reflect diversity in schools. • Create teacher residencies in urban schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate the achievement/opportunity gap between students of color and white students in reading, math and science by the time today's kindergarteners graduate from high school. • Train educators at underperforming schools with effective strategies for teaching struggling students.
Early Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Washington Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS), Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program, Working Connections Child Care, Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS), and home visitation programs to provide at-risk families the support that helps them raise children healthy and ready to succeed. • Prioritize class size reductions in K-3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize and fund early learning programs so kids come into kindergarten prepared to learn. • Focus on kids at highest risk of academic failure. • Increase the share in the budget for early childhood education for three and four-year olds, all-day kindergarten, and after-school tutoring.
Dropout Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand extra-curricular and after school programs targeted at schools with the most at-risk youth. • Increase the number of dropout coaches, counselors, and community outreach personnel in the highest need districts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the dropout rate from nearly one-third today to less than 10 percent when today's kindergarteners reach graduation.
Postsecondary Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support every student in developing a post-high school career plan through programs like Navigation 101. • Increase student participation in Running Start which helps students get an early start on earning college credits while saving them money. • Increase access to higher education through College Bound Scholarship and Passport to College. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare every graduate to succeed in college, vocational training, or the workforce, and reduce the number of college freshman who require remedial math or English courses to less than 10 percent.
Innovative Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a competitive grant program to spur innovation in science and arts programs. • Improve low performing schools through the Collaborative Schools project. • Create new learning opportunities in classrooms through new technology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use technology to expand the reach of effective schools and teachers by immersing students in subjects like language study, and delivering otherwise unavailable classes to rural school districts.

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Public Charter Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Included 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit and encourage highly innovative charter schools, drawing on the most successful models across the country, such as KIPP, Rocketship, and Harlem Success Academy.
Educator Training & Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase amount of National Board Certified teachers. • Provide better training and mentoring opportunities to teachers, principals, and new school board members. • Increase leadership training for superintendents through collaboration, mentorship, and training opportunities. • Create teacher residencies in urban schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a superintendent training academy with particular emphasis on leadership potential and effectiveness. • Emphasize pedagogical expertise, leadership abilities and management skills in improved recruitment and training of school principals. • Pair new teachers for the first three years with an experienced mentor who is an effective teacher. • Train educators at underperforming schools with effective strategies for teaching struggling students.
Teacher & Principal Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement an evaluation system that provides support for teachers & principals in need of improvement and timely removal for those who are not able to meet high standards. • Include evaluations as a significant role in placement and retention decisions, in addition to seniority, student growth, and local needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include improvement in student achievement scores as a significant component of a teacher's evaluation, and utilize school-wide improvements in evaluating principals and superintendents. • Link effectiveness to compensation, retention, and promotion. • Include self-review, peer review, and supervisor review in evaluations. • Phase out "last in, first out" seniority rules and allow teacher effectiveness to be considered during staffing reductions.
Education Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore education funding as the economy recovers and the budget grows. • Reverse the trend of cutting education budgets and fulfill the paramount duty to fully fund education by the court-imposed deadline of 2018. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize education funding as state revenue rebounds and the budget grows.
New Revenue Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End corporate tax loopholes that have outlived their purpose and are not generating jobs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Included