

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING NO. 147
MAY 10, 2010**

K-12 DROPOUT PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND REENGAGEMENT

Background

There remains a persistent problem of students dropping out of K-12 education. The latest estimate by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is that only 73 percent of ninth graders graduate on time with their class. According to an analysis by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy, \$10,500 is saved for taxpayers for each high school student who does not drop out. The Legislature enacted and the Governor signed ESSB 6403 in 2010. The bill directs OSPI to develop recommendations by September 15, 2010 for “development of a comprehensive K-12 dropout reduction initiative designed to integrate multiple tiers of dropout prevention, intervention, and technical assistance through federal and state programs.” Through prior related legislation and other efforts, Washington has already embarked on planning and implementing a comprehensive approach to the dropout problem.

At the Board meeting, a panel of staff from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board), OSPI, and practitioners and students from New Horizons High School in Pasco, schools in Mason County and the Educational Service Districts in Olympia (ESD 113) and Renton (Puget Sound ESD) will present recommendations from national experts, related actions Washington is taking, and upcoming issues.

In this tab you will find a briefing paper on the national recommendations, related recommendations from *High Skills, High Wages, 2008-2018*, a summary of the dropout legislation passed this session, and a graphic representation of the savings generated from preventing a student from dropping out.

Board Action Requested: None. For discussion purposes only.