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SCHOOL FINANCE - WASHINGTON

Wahkiakum School District No. 200 v. State

Supreme Court of Washington, En Banc - September 7, 2023 - P.3d - 2023 WL 5762673

Public school district brought action against the State, alleging the State violated its constitutional duty to amply fund education of all resident children by failing to provide ample funds for school-related capital construction costs, and seeking declaratory, injunctive, and monetary relief.

The Superior Court granted the State's motion to dismiss. School district appealed.

As a matter of first impression, the Supreme Court held that constitutionally required "education" for which the state alone must provide ample funding does not include school capital construction costs.

Constitutionally required "education" for which the state alone must provide ample funding does not include school capital construction costs; instead, such costs are a shared responsibility between the State and local school districts.

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