

# Inslee calls special confab with legislators to deal with school funding

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A meeting of eight lawmakers later this month could pave the way for a special legislative session in November.

That's according to a letter Gov. Jay Inslee sent to legislators last Friday. In it, he notes that representatives of Republicans and Democrats in the state House and Senate agreed to a McCleary plan work group meeting on Thursday, Sept. 24, in SeaTac.

The eight members will meet with Inslee and his staff to find a plan to fulfil the state's Supreme Court-ordered obligation to fund basic education.

In its 2012 McCleary ruling, the state Supreme Court held Washington was not meeting its constitutional obligation to provide basic education to all students.

Last year, the court held the state legislature in contempt because it felt not enough money was being committed to basic education. Recently, the court levied a \$100,000 fine each day related to that contempt ruling.

If the work group can find consensus by Nov. 19 when the legislature is in Olympia for Assembly Days, Inslee said he will call a special session to address basic education funding.