

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026

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Governor, state education chief seek ban on cellphones in school

'AWAY FOR THE DAY' | Ferguson, Reykdal push for state law prohibiting phones in and out of the classroom during the school day.

By DENISA R. SUPERVILLE
Seattle Times education reporter

Washington's governor and state schools superintendent both plan to ask the Legislature next year to ban cellphone use during the school day at K-12 public schools.

Gov. Bob Ferguson and state Superintendent of Public Instruc-

tion Chris Reykdal are expected to propose "away for the day" cellphone policies that will ban students from using their phones and other smart devices from the first bell to the last bell. In both cases, the restriction would apply between classes and during lunch periods, and offer some exemp-

tions, including for students who need their phones for documented health reasons and as part of their education plans.

Ferguson and Reykdal said the ban is a top priority for them and both want the restrictions in place by next September, for the start of the 2027-28 school year. The proposed ban will be a priority within the slate of bills the governor proposes each session.

Ferguson said a statewide cellphone ban is overdue and he will

use the bully pulpit of his office to make it happen. He plans to announce his proposal at a news conference Tuesday at Robert Eagle Staff Middle School in North Seattle, which started requiring students to stash their cellphones in locked pouches during the school day in 2024.

Similarly, Reykdal said there'd been enough studies and it's time to act.

Katy Payne, a spokesperson for
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EDUCATION LAB

Netanyahu and Trump are at odds over war they started

ANALYSIS

By JULIA FRANKEL
and AAMER MADHANI
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's latest strikes on Lebanon and Iran have made clear that U.S. President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who started the war in lockstep, want different things.

Trump had publicly warned Israel not to strike Beirut in its war with Iran-backed Hezbollah extremists. When it did, on Sunday, Iran responded by firing ballistic missiles at Israel for the first time since the April ceasefire. Israel then struck Iran, with which Trump has been engaged in weeks of high-stakes negotiations.

The fighting has since died down, but the differences between the two leaders are likely to persist.

That's because Trump, whose party faces elections later this year, wants to wind down an unpopular war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz to ease gas prices. Iran says a full ceasefire in Lebanon is key to any deal.

Netanyahu, who also faces elections this year, is under pressure to stop Hezbollah's attacks and prove that he is winning the war with Iran and its allies. He also needs to manage relations with Israel's most important ally without appearing to kowtow to it.

When the United States and Israel attacked Iran on Feb. 28, the allies appeared shoulder to shoulder.

Netanyahu said the goal was
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Drones high on list of worries for law enforcement during Seattle's World Cup



KEN LAMBERT / THE SEATTLE TIMES

King County sheriff's detectives Andy Skaar, left, and Mike Ramirez brush up on their flying skills ahead of FIFA World Cup events on May 6 in Renton. Ramirez pilots a drone specially equipped with thermal imaging and a payload deployment system.

STATEWIDE EFFORT | Several agencies will contribute personnel to keep people safe during the upcoming games.

By SARA JEAN GREEN
Seattle Times staff reporter

Seattle police Capt. Dan Nelson and King County Undersheriff Jeff Flohrare are among the core group of local, state and federal officials who've spent the past 2 1/2 years imagining horrifying scenarios and planning how to respond to them during the six upcoming FIFA World Cup matches at Lumen Field.

People getting crushed in

crowds. Brawls breaking out.

Vehicles ramming into large groups of pedestrians. Drones carrying dangerous payloads.

"There are just a myriad of issues — if you can think of it, we probably have a contingency for how to respond to it," Nelson said. "It really has been an exercise in emergency management, planning and ensuring we have the appropriate contingencies identified or at least the staffing to be responsive in the case

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THE SEATTLE TIMES

King County sheriff's Deputy Mathew Buis practices catching a drone with his hand while brushing up on his flying skills before FIFA World Cup events.

Where can Seattle's ultrawealthy store their toys? Condos

By ALEXIS WEISEND
Seattle Times business reporter

In a city infamous for its high housing costs, Seattle's ultrawealthy will soon be able to buy "condos" for their luxury cars and yachts.

Nearly 9 acres of a former industrial fuel terminal on Salmon Bay waterfront near the Hiram M.

Chittenden Locks in Ballard will undergo a transformation into an extravagant car collector garage, superyacht marina and private community called Terminal One Motor + Yacht Club.

Realogics Sotheby's International Realty is leading the marketing and sales of the 100 commercial condominiums. The garage spaces will

range in size from approximately 850 to 1,250 square feet and have nearly 20-foot ceilings.

The condos will start at around \$600,000 and exceed \$1 million, said Dean Jones, owner of Realogics Sotheby's International Realty, while the slips, or parking spots for yachts, could go for

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Judge tosses policy setting \$100,000 fees for H-1B visas

By ZACH MONTAGUE
The New York Times

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A Trump administration initiative to impose \$100,000 fees on employers seeking visas for skilled foreign workers amounts to an unlawful tax on those companies and must be voided "in its entirety," a federal judge ruled Monday.

The decision by U.S. District Judge Leo T. Sorokin in Massachusetts nullified one of a series of tactics the administration has used to restrict legal immigration, even in fields in which foreign skilled labor helped address severe shortages.

In a 42-page opinion, Sorokin acknowledged that the policy, imposed in September, appeared to step on Congress' "exclusive power" to levy taxes under the Constitution. He dismissed claims by the Trump administration that the fee was a "regulatory payment" that would have been within the executive branch's power to set, not a tax.

"This is mere ipse dixit," he wrote, meaning offered without
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