

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Columbia Board of Education
2023-2024

SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

We support:

- Local authority for decision making regarding school calendar, open enrollment, curricular decisions, class size, and charter school.
- Local school board elections taking place in April, a non-partisan election date

FINANCE AND FUNDING

We support:

- Full funding of the foundation formula; maintain integrity of current foundation formula; non-negotiable and with no further downward changes to adequacy targets¹
- Work to address the impending teacher shortage by dedicating State funds for the recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers
- Funding summer school²
- Full funding for school bus transportation, including funding for early childhood transportation³
- Full funding of mandates at federal (ESSA, IDEA, McKinney-Vento, Title I) and state levels (dyslexia screening)
- Legislation to enhance federal and state funding, such as cigarette tax, Internet use tax, fuel tax
- Equivalent distribution of state funds to meet any state teacher pay minimum increases, even when districts may already be above the state minimum.
- Local discretion in the use of teacher stipends to meet building needs and incentivize high growth.

We oppose:

- Diverting state funds from public schools by any means, including tuition tax credits/vouchers
- Redirecting resources from public schools to unproven charter schools until the charter reforms passed in 2012 are implemented and proven effective

SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, AND FAMILY RELATIONS

We support:

- Full funding for quality, voluntary early childhood education⁴
- Funding for career and technical education and career development programs⁵
- Continuation of the current independence, structure, and governance of the Missouri State High School Activities Association
- Legislation that recognizes the Internet as a utility and makes possible internet access, reliability, and

speed throughout Missouri

- Legislation that promotes an educational experience free from prejudice against a student's race, color, socioeconomic status or class, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, ability, age or genetic information.

- 1 For the 2023-24 school year CPS is anticipated to receive approximately \$65.7 million in state foundation formula funding. If the state adequacy target was currently operating as prescribed in the foundation formula when written in 2006-2007, CPS would receive over \$12 million in additional state funding.
- 2 CPS currently spends approximately \$4.8 million to operate the summer school program.
- 3 For the 2023-24 school year, CPS's transportation budget is estimated at \$13.0 million while state funding for transportation is anticipated at \$6.1 million.
- 4 For the 2023-24 school year, CPS's early childhood education budget is estimated to exceed \$4.5 million which includes local, federal, and state funded early childhood programs in the District.
- 5 For the 2023-24 school year, CPS's career and technical education budgets are anticipated to exceed \$4.7 million. Revenue received in state and federal vocation aid is estimated at \$600,000 annually.