

# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Columbia Board of Education  
2021-2022

---

## SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

---

### We support:

- Local authority for decision making regarding school calendar, open enrollment, curricular decisions, class size, charter schools, and any and all responses due to pandemics
  - 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 targets<sup>1</sup>
- Work to address the impending teacher shortage by dedicating State funds for the recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers
- Funding summer school<sup>2</sup>
- Full funding for school bus transportation, including funding for early childhood transportation<sup>3</sup>
- 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
- Additional state and federal funds to respond to COVID-19 to meet the district needs and support student achievement

### 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 education<sup>4</sup>
- Funding for career and technical education and career development programs<sup>5</sup>
- 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

- 1 For the 2021-22 school year CPS is anticipated to receive approximately \$66.6 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 \$10 million in additional state funding.
- 2 CPS currently spends approximately \$4.5 million to operate the summer school program.
- 3 For the 2021-22 school year, CPS's transportation budget is estimated at \$13.0 million while state funding for transportation is anticipated at \$1.5 million.
- 4 For the 2021-22 school year, CPS's early childhood education budget is estimated to exceed \$4.0 million which includes local, federal, and state funded early childhood programs in the District.
- 5 For the 2021-22 school year, CPS's career and technical education budgets are anticipated to exceed \$4.3 million. Revenue received in state and federal vocation aid is estimated at \$600,000 annually.