LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
Columbia Board of Education
2022-2023

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 targets.
- Work to address the impending teacher shortage by dedicating State funds for the recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers.
- Funding summer school.
- Full funding for school bus transportation, including funding for early childhood transportation.
- 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.

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.
- Funding for career and technical education and career development programs.
- 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 2022-23 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 2022-23 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 2022-23 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 2022-23 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.