

# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Columbia Board of Education

November 12, 2018

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## SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

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### We support:

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

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## FINANCE AND FUNDING

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### 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>
- Funding summer school<sup>2</sup>
- Full funding for school bus transportation, including funding for early childhood transportation<sup>3</sup>
- Allow local school districts and their communities to cooperate on bus systems
- 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
- Simple majority for passage of bond issues
- Continued review of effectiveness of tax credits

### We oppose:

- Any legislation that diverts or reduces revenue from the public schools
- 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

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## CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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**We support:**

- Local control of all aspects of our schools, including curricular decisions
- Less emphasis on state-mandated standardized tests
- Work to address the impending teacher shortage

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## PERSONNEL

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**We support:**

- Legislation that allows districts to establish their own teacher/administrator evaluation model
- Continuation of equitable funding of professional development to improve personnel effectiveness
- Legislation that indemnifies school boards from lawsuits

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## SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, AND FAMILY RELATIONS

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**We support:**

- 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

- 1 For the 2018-19 school year CPS is anticipated to receive approximately \$61 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 \$4.7 million to operate the summer school program.
- 3 For the 2018-19 school year, CPS's transportation budget is estimated to exceed \$12.6 million while state funding for transportation is anticipated to be less than \$2 million.
- 4 For the 2018-19 school year, CPS's early childhood education budget is estimated to exceed \$3.3 million which includes local, federal, and state funded early childhood programs in the District.
- 5 For the 2018-19 school year, CPS's career and technical education budgets are anticipated to exceed \$4.9 million. Revenue received in state and federal vocation aid is estimated at \$700,000 annually.