Montgomery County Board of Education

2024 Annual Legislative Priorities

The Montgomery County Board of Education supports —

- Preparing all students to be college, career, and community ready
- Investing in early childhood education— including funding for universal pre-K and promoting the availability of high-quality affordable child care
- Funding to provide equitable access to programs of academic rigor and to support social and emotional well-being of students
- Increased funding for specialized programs, including Career and Technology Education Programs
- Ensuring that accountability systems are focused on rigor for all and eliminate disparity based on race and economic circumstances
- Funding to expand co-curricular opportunities for students
- Adequate funding for special education programs and additional services
- Maintaining high expectations and accountability for all students
- Funding for programs and resources to assist with meeting the needs of English Language Learners and their families

- Funding to support the physical, social, and psychological well-being of all students, including the availability of additional mental health professionals in schools
- Creating a safe and secure learning and working environment for all
- Increased supports for students including the implementation of restorative practices and promotion of positive behaviors
- Continued promotion of an atmosphere of respect and nondiscrimination for all students and staff
- Supports to build the cultural competency of staff with the goal of improving relationships with students and families
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bias and anti-racist learning environment
- Funding for National School Breakfast and Lunch Program, universal school meals, and other nutritional programs
- Actions to permit communication between the school and state and local agencies to help ensure student safety and provide resources and supports for students in crisis

- Fully fund the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future and other legislatively mandated initiatives, including the Maintenance of Effort formula
- Preserving local autonomy over education— including school calendars, curriculum, testing, procurement issues, and operational decision-making
- Support for programs that make housing more affordable for teachers to live in the communities where they teach
- A robust and innovative statewide school construction and renovation funding plan
- Establishing incentives for green and energy-efficient school construction
- Importance of retaining public funds to be used for public education
- Support for recruitment of a high-quality and diverse workforce, including alternative pathways to teacher certification and increase salaries
- Resources to offer tailored and differentiated professional development opportunities to build cultural responsiveness and address implicit bias

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