



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

Academic Excellence

- ✦ 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**

Well-Being and Family Support

- ✦ 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

Professional & Operational Excellence