

2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



EQUITABLE TREATMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN CHARTER COUNTIES

Support legislation and the enforcement of statutes to provide full equitable treatment in public education accountability, flexibility and resource-distribution in Charter Counties.

- Advocate for DESE to assign accreditation ratings to all public schools, including charter schools, using the same system of measures and accountabilities.
- Advocate for equity by providing the same operational requirements, flexibilities and guidelines for both charter and traditional public schools in Charter Counties.
- Advocate for the annual reporting of financial information via public school district and charter school websites. These websites should provide a comprehensive picture of revenues and expenses, including contributions, contracts, personnel, salary schedules and all debt services connected to the operation of the school.
- Advocate for local governance of all public schools and public access to school board meetings and their minutes.
- Advocate for sharing of publicly funded resources as equity in oversight and operations are achieved.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

Support legislation that provides adequate funding for the social and emotional needs of underserved communities, particularly those most impacted by living in neighborhoods with increasing rates of COVID-19, violent crime and the digital divide.

- Advocate for adequate funding for treatment, facilities and preventative mental health services, particularly in underserved communities.
- Advocate for adequate funding for social and emotional services for K-12 public schools in underserved communities.
- Advocate for expansion and funding of telehealth services for K-12 public school students and staff.



HANCOCK AMENDMENT PROTECTIONS FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS (KCPS AND CHARTERS)

Support legislation that moves the Kansas City Public Schools system under the Hancock Amendment to assure protections for property owners and public schools from sudden and significant changes in assessed valuation.

- Advocate for the protections Hancock provides to every other public school and taxing jurisdiction in Missouri.
- Advocate for modifications that assure current protections under Article X, Section 11g are not vacated in a manner that cause harm and loss to current local revenues for students in public schools in Kansas City.
- Advocate for assurances from the State Auditor's office that provide appropriate tax rate ceiling limits in the annual property tax levy calculation.
- Advocate for protections of the critical components of Article X, Section 11g agreed to as a part of the settlement of the Desegregation Agreement for Kansas City.

TEACHER COMPENSATION

Support legislation and funding designed to provide for compensation for Missouri public school teachers that is competitive, livable and differentiated.

- Advocate for more competitive wages for Missouri's public school teachers and for funding increases to be included in the state budget as a part of the foundation formula to ensure continued funding.
- Advocate for a differentiated pay scale for teachers serving in state-recognized hard-to-fill subject areas.
- Advocate for a differentiated pay schedule for teachers who are hired into schools the state has classified as "Comprehensive" (bottom five percent of all schools in the state as determined by assessment, attendance and graduation rates) or "Targeted" (bottom five percent of schools in the state based on student subgroup performance).