

# 2022 Legislative Advocacy Update

Update for the Richmond City School Board

Presented by: Matthew Stanley, Director, Advocacy & Outreach

Venue: Richmond City School Board Meeting

Date: January 3, 2022

## Governor Northam’s PK-12 Education Budget Highlights

Provision	FY23 (millions)	FY24 (millions)
Rebenchmarking	\$154.1	\$177.5
Rebenchmarking - COVID-19 Impacts Hold Harmless	\$177.1	\$177.4
Teacher Salaries - 5% each year	\$245.5	\$505.5
School Construction - Grants	\$500	\$0
School Construction - Literary Fund Loans & Subsidies	\$200	\$200
At-Risk Add-On	\$194.2	\$74.2
English Learner Teacher Ratios	\$9.7	\$10.5
Early Reading Intervention Expansion to Grades 4-5	\$31.5	\$31.5
Grocery Tax Hold Harmless	\$45.5	\$112.5

## Additional Highlights

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### What is not included?

- Hold Harmless for Enrollment Loss - approximately \$33 million per year
- Hold Harmless for LCI Changes
- LCI Reform
- Removal of Support Staff Cap
- The Equity Fund
- Proficiency-Based English Learner Ratios

### What is included?

- Expansion of VPI for 3-year-olds - \$19,399,862
- Expansion of Mixed Delivery Grants (w/pilot for infants and toddlers) - \$6,707,915
- Early Childhood Educator Higher Ed Pipeline Grant Program - \$2,100,000
- Early Childhood Educator Grant Program - \$10,000,000
- Community Schools Fund - \$10,000,000
- Communities in Schools Expansion - \$1,520,000
- Computer Science Teacher Workforce Diversity - \$3,000,000
- K-8 Robotics and Coding Programs - \$500,000
- Richmond Teacher Residency Program - \$500,000

## 2022 State Legislative Advocacy Priorities

Priority Area	Recommended Action
Enrollment Loss	Hold divisions harmless from enrollment losses that have occurred since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Standards of Quality & Equity-Based Funding	Implement the equity-based recommendations for Virginia's Standards of Quality from the Virginia Board of Education, also known as the School Equity & Staffing Act, that call for the Equity Fund, more counselors and other support staff, and investments in teacher leader and mentor programs.
English Language Learners	Implement the 2019 BOE recommendation to amend the staffing requirements for English Learner teachers to differentiate the distribution of positions based upon the proficiency level of students – ratios vary from 1:25 to 1:58 (teacher to ESL students in the division).
Staff Compensation	Continue investing in teacher salaries to bring them in line with the national average.
Support Staff	Eliminate the Support Staff Cap that arbitrarily limits the number of state-funded support positions such as nurses and social workers.
School Construction	Support continued efforts to fund school construction through legislation, the budget, and the newly created Commission on School Construction & Modernization.

# How to Get Involved & What To Expect

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## Visit Our Advocacy Website

The new Advocacy Hub has launched on our website to inform and empower the RPS community to advocate at the local, state, and federal levels. The hub is our advocacy portal with the RPS advocacy toolkit and resources like form letters and advocacy opportunities from partner organizations. Visit the Hub to learn how to get involved and advocate at [www.rvaschools.net/advocacy](http://www.rvaschools.net/advocacy)

- Advocacy Updates
- Form Letters
- Advocacy Partner Events
- Letters to the Editor
- Social Media

## General Assembly Calendar

- January/February - Key Advocacy Window
- Early February - House and Senate Budgets Released
- Late February - House and Senate Negotiate Final Legislation and Budget