# North Clackamas Schools 2023 & 2024 Legislative Agenda

North Clackamas School District (NCSD) prepares graduates who act with courage to strengthen the quality of life in their local and global communities. North Clackamas School District is also committed to examining and improving our system by affirming students' many identities while building inclusive, barrier free schools and workplaces.

Fulfilling this mission requires reliable funding that provides for a full school year, teacher-to-student ratios and staffing levels that allow for strong relationships between students and educators, a well-trained and supported diverse workforce, robust emotional and mental health supports, and high-quality academic and support programs.

NCSD calls upon the legislators to take action to fully fund public preK-12 education first, early in the legislative session to allow for adequate planning for the 2023-2024 school year.

# 2023 & 2024 Legislative Agenda Priorities

# Adequate, Predictable, and Stable Funding

- Ensure full funding for the Quality Education Model is in place by 2027
- Adequate State School Fund with at least \$10.3 Billion to minimally maintain current service levels
- Fully fund Special Education and Preschool Programs
- · Establish dedicated and consistent state funding for high-quality summer learning opportunities
- Continue K-12 facilities capital improvements funding

# **Student Experience & Success**

- Protect and continue to implement programs with a focus on historically underserved students
- Ensure teacher to student ratios that allow for strong core instruction and positive relationships
- Empower students and include student voice in state and local decision-making
- Protect and expand anti-bias, anti-racist curriculum and policies
- Protect the Student Success Act (including the Student Investment Account/High School Success/Career Technical Education)
   and Early Childhood Special Education

# **People & Culture**

- · Promote educator diversity and advocate for programs that increase the number of diverse school staff
- Improve education workforce recruitment and retention practices in the state
- Ensure cultural responsiveness and anti-bias, anti-racist training and actions by public employees
- Invest in funding models that establish strong employee compensation

# Family & Community Collaboration

- Support initiatives that provide child and family enrichment activities
- Maintain and expand out of school time activities, including after-school activities and summer activities provided by school districts and community based organizations
- Expand affordable childcare options

#### **Resources & Service**

- Promote resources and policies that support emotional, mental and physical health needs in schools and in the community
- Enhance programs that address food and housing insecurity for students
- Promote efforts that enhance school safety, including digital safety for students and cybersecurity

# **Maintain Local Control of preK-12 Education**

- Support local control of state funding resources
- Oppose any new unfunded mandates
- Return specific subject-related instructional minutes determinations to school districts
- Advocate for flexibility in any new requirements

#### **NCSD Key Legislative Advocacy Principles:**

- When representing NCSD, the Board, staff leaders, and the Parent and Community Leadership Alliance (PCLA) will follow the legislative agenda as approved by the Board.
- The key partners for legislative advocacy (eg. Board, staff leaders, and PCLA) will speak with one voice on behalf of school district legislative positions.
- Personal advocacy priorities should be identified as such and not those of the school district. The school district name should not be used to advocate personal or professional organizations' positions unless the superintendent or the Board has approved the action.

#### **NCSD Staff Operational Latitude:**

The Board takes action to adopt a legislative agenda in order to publicly establish the district's legislative interests. The timing of crucial legislative actions does not always provide an opportunity to seek Board direction relative to all issues on which staff action is important and necessary. In accordance with Board Policy BI, the superintendent, or their designee, may act on behalf of the Board to express the district's interests.

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NCSD Board Adopted 1.26.2023

