Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
January 19, 2023	B-1

Title

Georgia Education Coalition (GEC) 2023 Legislative and Policy Priorities

Requested Action

School Board Adoption of Georgia Education Coalition (GEC) 2023 Legislative and Policy Priorities

Summary Explanation and Background

The Georgia Education Coalition (GEC), a consortium of 14 large and growing public school districts in the State of Georgia created for the purpose of increasing collaboration and legislative/policy advocacy between and among large school systems, unanimously adopted its Legislative and Policy Priorities in December. Those Priorities are attached for School Board consideration and approval.

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

GEC 2023 Legislative Priorities

Source of Additional Information

Kyla Cromer, School Board Chair	770.479.1871
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The **Georgia Education Coalition**
201 17th Street NW, Suite 1700, Atlanta, Georgia 30363

2023 Legislative & Policy Priorities

1. Champion initiatives and defend policies that **put students and local communities first** in the delivery of high-quality, appropriate public education that **prepares students for their futures.**
    - Promote formative and online assessments.
    - Seek additional investment in technology, infrastructure, and innovative education tools to deliver instruction more effectively in-person and digitally.
    - Sustain current funding levels for therapeutic supports for students with disabilities.
    - Support efforts to improve teacher, school, and district evaluative metrics to provide more reliable, actionable, and transparent performance and accountability data.
    - Promote policy, partnerships, and investment supporting graduation pathways and CTAE.
2. Promote **continued investment** in public education and efforts that support **teacher recruitment, training, and retention**.
    - Advocate for the modernization of the QBE formula to recognize the true costs of delivering public education and funding of the existing formula as established by law.
    - Support programs, funding, and incentives, including protection of the Teachers Retirement System and teacher pipeline innovation, to train, recruit, mentor, and retain quality educators.
    - Promote increased funding for school counselors, social workers, and other mental health professionals, student mental health programs, and school safety initiatives.
    - Support legislation and policy increasing transparency and accountability for voucher and tuition tax credit programs and oppose further diversion of public funds to private entities.
3. Support efforts, such as flexibility in testing, calendars, and curriculum, to **foster innovation** in and **reduce burdens** on school districts.
    - Protect contracted flexibility and waivers that allow local innovation and efficiencies.
    - Support flexibility in maturity requirements for local district tax anticipation notes.
    - Seek preservation of sovereign immunity protections to prevent unnecessary disruptions in school operations and processes.
    - Support legislation clarifying the roles of the tax assessor and levying authority in public notices of proposed property tax increases.