

Missouri Association of School Business Officials (MoASBO) 2025-26 Legislative Priorities



The Missouri Association of School Business Officials (MoASBO) represents superintendents, business officials, non-teacher school personnel and other central office staff whose expertise covers every aspect of school district administration, including school finance and operations. MoASBO is the most diverse educational administrative organization in the State. The following legislative priorities for 2025-26 reflect the very diverse nature of the membership.

MoASBO supports efforts of the Missouri Legislature to increase state revenues to educate Missouri's children. MoASBO opposes efforts to eliminate the personal property tax, or any other revenue streams for school districts without introducing new equivalent revenue sources. MoASBO opposes legislation that creates new unfunded mandates for school districts.

- MoASBO opposes attempts to cap or otherwise change the property assessment process arbitrarily.
- MoASBO supports legislation that mandates a system of timely and accurate property assessments by County Assessors across Missouri.
- MoASBO supports legislation that protects taxpayers as long as there are replacement revenue sources for taxing entities to offset potential reductions to revenues.
- MoASBO supports maintaining the tax structures and methods currently provided for in §137.1055, RSMo. MoASBO believes the Missouri General Assembly should support public education by rejecting any legislation that would further limit the State's ability to generate revenue or create limits to State spending on education.
- MoASBO supports working with the General Assembly on any legislation affecting school revenue streams to ensure accurate fiscal impact statements and insight regarding potential impact on Missouri public school districts. Input from taxing entities and supporting data are essential to fully understand how proposed tax relief programs could affect Missouri public school districts.

MoASBO supports full funding of the Foundation Formula and the Transportation Formula, as well as funding for other categorical appropriations. The State of Missouri plays a significant role in properly funding all Missouri school districts with over 100,000 staff serving the educational needs of approximately 900,000 children.

- MoASBO recognizes that Missouri is ranked 50th among other states in state-sourced funding to public schools. MoASBO supports legislation aimed at increasing state funding to bring Missouri closer to the national average.
- MoASBO supports the adjustment to the State Adequacy Target (SAT) as defined in §163.011, RSMo.
- MoASBO supports full funding of the Transportation categorical in the State's annual budget.
- MoASBO supports full funding of the minimum teacher salary grant program. The State's annual budget must include sufficient funds to support the statutory increases in the minimum teacher salary requirement.
- MoASBO supports the funding allocated for the career ladder program.
- As an organization, we believe that funding for the minimum teacher salary grant program and career ladder program is essential if the State is to adequately address the shortage of qualified teachers.

MoASBO supports prioritizing the safety and mental health of all Missouri students and school staff. Furthermore, we support the introduction of additional funding and resources that address the overall safety and well-being of all students and staff.

- MOASBO supports the ability to fund programs to improve the overall mental health of our students and staff.
- MOASBO supports the expansion of grants and additional funding opportunities that will allow districts the flexibility to strengthen and improve their current security protocols, building infrastructure, and community awareness.

MoASBO opposes any legislation that would divert revenue from traditional public schools.

- MoASBO opposes vouchers and the diversion of State and local funds to non-accredited educational entities. Diverting these funds could lead to a reduction in school district programming. MoASBO supports requiring accountability for all entities, including approved MOCAP providers, charter schools, and any “non-public school” entities receiving State and local funding granted for supporting the education of Missouri students.
- MoASBO opposes open enrollment. MoASBO supports funding all school districts equitably and encourages collaboration between districts in sharing resources and programming as opposed to competing for the enrollment of students.
- MoASBO supports legislation that provides a balanced approach to granting economic development incentives. MoASBO believes that such legislation should include a provision that grants no more than fifty percent tax abatement for a project that does not have local school district support, regardless of the incentive tool utilized, or that provides an option for school districts to opt out of such tax abatement plans.

MoASBO 2025-26 Additional Legislative Priorities

- MoASBO opposes any efforts to fundamentally change or disrupt the independent governance or funding structure of PSRS/PEERS. Further, MoASBO opposes efforts to merge PSRS/PEERS with any other entity.
- MoASBO supports legislation that provides maximum district flexibility on Work After Retirement (WAR) provisions to fill critical needs while protecting the financial integrity of PSRS/PEERS.
- MoASBO supports reforms to Missouri’s Tax Credit system that create a sunset on all existing credits and make all credits subject to annual appropriation.
- MoASBO supports legislation that would increase bonding capacity for school districts and allow voters to pass a bond election with a simple majority.
- MoASBO supports a fair and consistent set of standards to evaluate student and district performance, with less emphasis on standardized testing.
- MoASBO believes the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must have the resources to provide comprehensive support for struggling districts before they become unaccredited. MoASBO supports efforts to improve struggling schools in Missouri, but believes transferring students from district to district is not in the best interest of Missouri students or the communities where they live.
- MOASBO supports initiatives that strengthen the alignment between K–12 educational programs and Missouri’s workforce needs, including support for industry certifications, internships, and dual credit opportunities.