



Monroe County School Boards Association

Position Paper: The Role of Regents & SED for Public Education

MCSBA supports the Regents initiatives aimed at enhancing the educational experience and elevating academic standards. Our constituent districts have high expectations for all students and recognize the importance of academic rigor as well as challenging students to reach their full potential as global citizens. Improvement of education requires the collaborative efforts and mutual respect of school districts, professional organizations, the Board of Regents, the State Education Department and the State Legislature.

MCSBA requests: Our membership asks that the Board of Regents and the State Education Department partner with our districts by:

ISSUES	SOLUTION
Supporting a predictable, sustainable, equitable and adequate state aid formula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → The State Aid formula must be predictable, sustainable, equitable, and adequate. Foundation Aid needs to continue to reflect current conditions in NYS schools while fully funding categorical aids. → Newly approved graduation requirements will incur additional costs related to professional development and staffing that must be covered by state funding.
Supporting Mandate Relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Develop a periodic review of the current mandates, especially around those identified as most burdensome and recommend revision or removal of these. For the numerous special education mandates, put together a comprehensive group of stakeholders, that include parents of students with disabilities that have graduated, to garner input.
Supporting Models of Continuous Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Promote continuous improvement in teaching by utilizing evidence-based teaching practices, advocating for funding for professional development, including mentorship, and evaluation of curriculum for effectiveness to maintain college, career and civic readiness. → Aligning math and literacy curricula to evidence-based methods requires heavy investment from our districts, both financially and professionally. We ask NYSED to advocate for funding initiatives that ease this transition, including those that support identifying and evaluating high-quality curricula, purchasing evidence-based resources, and providing professional development and ongoing teacher training in current, data-backed practices.
Supporting Professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → It is critical to develop new pathways for educational professionals especially with the numbers entering the profession decreasing and the need for special areas increasing. SED should work with teacher programs to allow for teacher certification reciprocity across state lines as well as develop programs for teachers as a second career. → It is important to the stability of all our professions that NYSED be fully staffed and have the capacity to effectively advance student achievement and support school districts.
Supporting the recommended changes to graduation measures as determined by the Portrait of a Graduate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → MCSBA requests that delivery is done in a timely manner with adequate funding to support all facets of the transformation including teacher training (professional development), college preparedness, etc.