

Missouri Association of School Business Officials (MoASBO) 2026-2027 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 2026-27 reflect the membership's very diverse nature.

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 members serving the educational needs of approximately 900,000 children.

- MOASBO strongly urges the Foundation Formula Task Force and the Missouri General Assembly to prioritize fiscal stability, predictability, and equitable funding for all public K-12 school districts. Any statutory modifications or modernization of the state aid foundation formula must reflect true operational costs, account for local revenue realities, and ensure state funding remains dependable across economic cycles.
- MOASBO recognizes that Missouri ranks 49th among states in state-sourced funding for public schools. MOASBO supports legislation to align state funding more closely with 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 maintains that the minimum teacher salary grant program and the career ladder program are essential to addressing Missouri's shortage of qualified teachers. MoASBO supports fully funding the minimum teacher salary grant program and career ladder program, and we urge the State to ensure its annual budget includes sufficient resources to support the statutory salary increases.
- MoASBO supports the full and timely distribution of all state funds dedicated to public education, including Prop C and any per-WADA revenue streams, ensuring that all revenue collected for a specific budget cycle is fully allocated to school districts within that cycle.

MoASBO opposes efforts to eliminate the personal property tax or any other revenue streams for school districts without introducing equivalent, sustainable revenue sources. MoASBO opposes legislation that creates new unfunded mandates for school districts.

- MoASBO supports legislation that mandates a system of timely and accurate property assessments by County Assessors across Missouri.
- MoASBO opposes attempts to cap or otherwise arbitrarily change the property assessment process.
- MoASBO supports legislation that protects taxpayers, provided taxing entities have replacement revenue sources to offset potential revenue reductions.
- 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 active collaboration with the General Assembly on legislation affecting school revenue streams to ensure fiscal impact statements accurately reflect the potential financial impact on Missouri public school districts. MoASBO also emphasizes the importance of engaging school districts and other taxing entities and using reliable supporting data to fully evaluate the fiscal impact of proposed tax relief measures on Missouri public school districts.

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 funding programs to improve the overall mental health of our students and staff.
- MOASBO supports expanding grants and additional funding opportunities that will give districts the flexibility to strengthen and improve their current security protocols, school 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 public funds from school districts threatens their financial stability and may reduce the programs, services, and educational opportunities available to Missouri students.. MoASBO supports requiring appropriate transparency, fiscal accountability, and demonstrated educational outcomes from all entities, including approved MOCAP providers, charter schools, and any “non-public school” entities that receive State and local funds to support the education of Missouri students.
- MoASBO opposes open enrollment. MoASBO supports funding all school districts equitably and encourages districts to collaborate to share resources and programming, rather than compete for student enrollment.
- MoASBO supports legislation that provides a balanced approach to granting economic development incentives. MoASBO believes that such legislation should include a provision granting no more than a 50% tax abatement for a project without local school district support, regardless of the incentive tool used, or an option for school districts to opt out of such tax abatement plans.

MoASBO 2026-27 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 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.
- MOASBO opposes legislation that changes school districts' ability to hold bond and levy elections during the April, August, or November elections.