Centerville City Schools
EMPOWER • CHALLENGE • SUPPORT

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Adopted: October 19, 2026
Effective period: 2026-2028; Remainder of the 136th and the 137th Ohio General Assembly
Review required by: September 30, 2028
Expires unless renewed: December 31, 2028

BACKGROUND

What is a district legislative platform?

A legislative platform outlines the Centerville City Schools (CCS) Board of Education (BOE) stances on key issues currently facing public education. This platform serves as a roadmap to inform advocacy efforts, clearly communicating the BOE position to community members, our taxpayers, legislators, and policymakers. Our legislative platform carries at its core our commitment to the CCS mission to Empower, Challenge and Support all students, every day. The BOE and its members may take action on the legislative platform to guide current and future advocacy efforts. The BOE and its members may use the legislative platform to guide current and future advocacy efforts. The platform is dynamic and will be reviewed and updated, with BOE approval, based on the changing landscape of public education and legislation. The annual Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) legislative platform serves as a framework and informs our platform.

How can having a legislative platform benefit the CCS Community?

- Provide a roadmap for CCS BOE legislative advocacy efforts given the nature of the state legislature and volume of legislation affecting public school districts, including CCS.
- Clarity regarding BOE positions may strengthen communication throughout the district and with local and state partners and the community, encouraging advocacy for our district throughout the community.

PREAMBLE

The purpose of the Centerville City Schools Legislative Platform is to state the positions of the CCS BOE on issues affecting public education. The platform communicates the Board's positions to legislators, policymakers, the public, and the media and guides the Board's legislative advocacy.

Upon adoption, this platform will represent the official positions of the CCS BOE for the remainder of the 136th Ohio General Assembly and throughout the 137th Ohio General Assembly. It will take effect on [adoption date] and expire on December 31, 2028, unless amended, renewed, or replaced by Board action.

The Board will review the platform no later than September 30, 2028, in preparation for the 138th Ohio General Assembly. Any amendment, renewal, or replacement must be approved through official Board action.

STUDENTS & LEARNING

1. *Student and Employee Safety*

CCS Supports	CCS Opposes
• Legislation that increases access to school safety measures, including but not limited to: school resource officers (SROs), school safety infrastructure, and other security measures designed to protect students and staff. • Policy and legislation that provides training for school employees and enhanced coordination with law enforcement agencies and first responders to ensure appropriate responses to incidents of violence in schools.	• Policy or legislation that mandates services or security measures to be implemented in a "one-size-fits-all" manner without being tailored to the needs of each district or building or without the approval of the district Board of Education.

2. *Educational Equity*

CCS Supports	CCS Opposes
• Legislation and policy that create an inclusive environment with learning opportunities that allow all students to be successful, independent of race, gender, ethnicity, ability or socioeconomic background. • Legislation providing districts with adequate resources and tools to provide high-quality education for students of all backgrounds and abilities.	• Legislation that limits resources and/or opportunities for students who are at risk for being underserved based on race, ethnicity, ability, gender, or socioeconomic background. • Legislation or policy that subjects the more than 600 diverse school districts across the state to a one-size-fits-all approach, failing to recognize the unique needs of individual students and individual school districts.

3. Facilities	
CCS Supports	**CCS Opposes**
• Legislation and a facilities funding program that provide access to state support when a public school district and community determine that a facility program is necessary, rather than a state-prescribed schedule. The facility program must address the demands upon districts and issues related to classroom facilities caused by state operating requirements and expenditure and reporting standards. • Legislation that provides adequate state support for safe facilities that meet building codes and are conducive to providing contemporary educational services. • Legislation that provides funds to support mandated programs, such as all-day kindergarten, preschool programs and accessibility needs	• CCS opposes the current allocation formula for state funding for "high wealth districts." As a result these districts do not receive their fair share, in regards to operating expenses as well as facility needs funding.

PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING	
1. Property Tax/Local Funding	
CCS Supports	**CCS Opposes**
• Legislation and policy that provide property tax relief while ensuring that taxpayers pay a fair share of the cost of public education; includes a “circuit breaker” that provides relief based on property taxes as a percentage of income; and enhances homestead exemption programs to provide financial assistance for senior citizens. • Legislation that decreases the overreliance on local share for public school funding, replacing decreases in	• Legislation that achieves increased property tax relief from existing or future funding for public elementary and secondary education. • Legislation or policy that allows a reduction or repeal of a levy that has been approved by the voters, or that diverts voter-approved tax funds to another purpose without voter approval.

local revenue with an increase in the state share to reflect the requirements of the Ohio Constitution. • Legislation and policy that provide flexibility with local taxing options at the county, district and regional levels for school districts. • Legislation that protects the rights of locally elected boards of education to challenge or appeal property tax valuations.	• Legislation or policy that eliminates the authority of local government to levy or reduce inside millage. • Legislation or policy that places restrictions on district carryover balance(s) or cash reserves

2. State funding	
CCS Supports	**CCS Opposes**
• Legislation that adjusts school funding based on true operational costs and needs of students, with the belief that public school funding formulas must be equitable and adequate. • Legislation that grants Ohio's public schools at least the same per-pupil amount as the chartered nonpublic schools in Ohio receive. • Legislation that provides full and adequate funding for any state or federal mandate placed on the school district, ensuring that the district can implement required programs and services without diverting local resources from classrooms. • Legislation and appropriations that fully fund districts for the cost of transportation of special education students, foster children, unhoused students, or nonpublic school students for whom the district is required to provide transportation.	• Legislation that achieves increased property tax relief by reducing existing or future funding for public elementary and secondary education. • Legislation that imposes new mandates or expands existing requirements without sufficient funding.

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

1. *Local Control*

CCS Supports	CCS Opposes
• Legislation and policy enabling locally elected boards of education to make decisions regarding educational programming, including adoption of curriculum, textbooks and instructional materials, with input from staff, parents, students and community members and in alignment with state-identified learning standards for grades Pre-K through 12. • Legislation that affirms the authority of the Board of Education to make decisions regarding budgeting, staffing, and scheduling within the framework of state law, recognizing the capacity of the local school board to address the challenges and priorities specific to that district.	• Legislation or policy that undermines/restricts local decision-making authority or imposes mandates or statewide policies that do not align with the mission, vision, and values of Centerville City Schools. • Legislation that would reduce the term length of an elected member of a board of education to anything less than four years, would require school board elections to become partisan, or would require primary elections for local school board candidates.

2. *School choice/Vouchers*

CCS Supports	CCS Opposes
• Legislation and policy that require chartered nonpublic and non-chartered nonpublic schools accepting taxpayer dollars to be held to the same academic, financial, operational and reporting requirements as public schools.	• Legislation or policy that establishes or expands publicly funded private-school voucher programs available without an income, disability, school-performance, or other defined educational-need eligibility requirement, or that increases funding for such programs at the expense of adequate and equitable funding for Ohio's public schools.

3. *State Report Card*

CCS Supports	CCS Opposes
• Legislation developing and supporting a system of accountability and evaluation that allows the overall rating on the state report card to serve as a meaningful	• Legislation that does not include all students in the baseline beginning in kindergarten and continuing through third grade.

indicator of the true and holistic quality of a school district. • Legislation that moves toward a system of assessments that allows students to demonstrate academic competency and mastery in ways beyond state standardized tests. • Legislation that ensures graduation rates, as computed for ODEW, does not penalize CCS for allowing students with disabilities additional time to complete graduation requirements as stated in federal requirements.	