



Itemized Priorities for the 87th Legislative Session

Recognize and respond to the pandemic's impact on public education

- Advocate for funding based on enrollment, not attendance
- Seek flexible funding opportunities for remote instruction
- Seek hold harmless funding
- Advocate for return to Prior Year Values
- Seek additional pennies without election
- Advocate for telecom discount for schools
- Seek reimbursements or new funding for COVID-related expenses (health & connectivity expenses)

Prioritize students when making difficult budget choices

- Protect schools from funding cuts
- Advocate for cuts to programmatic funding (or delay/suspension of new programmatic spending such as teacher incentives and outcomes bonuses) before any cuts to FSP (including any reductions to Formula Transition Grants or reductions based on school district fund balances)
- Prevent the adoption of any new programmatic spending in order to prioritize FSP
- Ensure any cuts are temporary in nature and will automatically be restored without need for further legislative action
- Advocate for delay or moratorium on property tax rate compression
- Support new state revenue options

Prevent increased recapture of any form

- Defend the ability for recapture districts to make payments in August
- Defend against increased recapture on M&O (including golden pennies)
- Prevent introduction of recapture on I&S pennies in any form

Preserve local control and flexibility

- Seek flexibility in spending requirements for remaining dollars after cuts are applied (including delaying the implementation of new requirements)
- Advocate for the elimination of unfunded mandates
- Advocate for checks on authority at state level (Commissioner)
- Defend existing board authority over adoption of 5th golden penny, fund balance amount, etc.

Keep the funding for public schools with public schools

- Defend against the privatization of schools in any form
- Ensure that access to remote and virtual learning comes through public school districts
- Advocate for governance through a locally elected board of trustees