



## Legislative Priorities for 2022

### 1. PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING

- Ensure that taxpayer dollars fund only public schools, with no new unfunded mandates.
- Prioritize state funding to eliminate or reduce the “budget stabilization factor.”

### 2. SCHOOL/DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY

- Provide guidelines and resources for how to best deal with instruction during the pandemic, using evidence-based information.
- Ensure adherence to statutorily required measures for accountability committees and genuine family engagement.
- Amend state accountability provisions applying to schools and districts on Turnaround status, removing punitive consequences and mandates that give outside “management organizations” control over school boards and superintendents.

### 3. EDUCATOR ACCOUNTABILITY

- Change the educator evaluation law (SB 10-191) to focus on support and improvement rather than rating performance based on statewide mandated testing.
- Put more stress on the extent to which principals and other administrative leaders provide support for teachers and do problem-solving.
- Provide more support for teacher recruitment, compensation, and retention, including child care workers and school support staff.

### 4. EQUITY

- Provide more equity in school funding, by restoring the “factors” in school finance that were created for equity.
- Hold schools and districts, as well as district and school administrators, accountable for the extent to which they allocate resources and staff to promote equity among schools, provide equitable access to classes and resources for students, and ensure that different learning needs of students are met.
- Promote greater diversity of educators and less student segregation among schools.
- Ensure that during the pandemic there is equity among schools and districts related to instruction, connectivity, translation, home instruction challenges, and mental/behavioral health.
- Ensure that schools are teaching history, culture, and civics in a truthful and culturally responsive way.
- Provide guidelines for the new Department of Early Childhood to ensure that it is implemented equitably throughout the state and that both child care and preschool programs meet the needs of all children.

### 5. SAFETY & HEALTH

- Ensure that schools keep students safe from bullying and violence.
- Designate resources to prevent suicide, self-harm, and substance misuse.
- Provide funding to help deal with the pandemic in regard to the physical and mental/behavioral health of students and staff and the provision of supplies for the safety of school environments, including cleaners, masks (such as N95 masks), COVID tests, etc.