



# Montgomery County Board of Education

## 2024 Annual Legislative Priorities

The Montgomery County Board of Education supports —

- ✚ Preparing all students to be **college, career and community** ready
- ✚ Investing in **early childhood education**-including funding for universal pre-K and promoting the availability of **high-quality affordable child care**
- ✚ Funding to provide **equitable access** to programs of academic rigor and to support **social and emotional well-being** of students
- ✚ Increased funding for specialized programs, including Career and Technology Education Programs
- ✚ Ensuring that accountability systems are focused on rigor for all and **eliminate disparity** based on race and economic circumstances
- ✚ Funding to expand co-curricular opportunities for students
- ✚ Adequate funding for special education programs and additional services
- ✚ Maintaining **high expectations and accountability** for all students
- ✚ Funding for programs and resources to assist with meeting the needs of **English Language Learners** and their families

### Academic Excellence

- ✚ Funding to support the **physical, social, and psychological well-being** of all students, including the availability of additional mental health professionals in schools
- ✚ Creating a **safe and secure** learning and working environment for all
- ✚ Increased supports for students including the implementation of restorative practices and promotion of positive behaviors
- ✚ Continued promotion of an atmosphere of **respect and nondiscrimination** for all students and staff
- ✚ Supports to build the cultural competency of staff with the goal of improving relationships with students and families
- ✚ Creating and maintaining an **anti-bias and anti-racist learning environment**
- ✚ Funding for National School Breakfast and Lunch Program, universal school meals, and other nutritional programs
- ✚ Actions to permit communication between the school and state and local agencies to help ensure student safety and provide resources and supports for **students in crisis**

### Well-Being and Family Support

- ✚ Fully fund the **Blueprint for Maryland's Future** and other legislatively mandated initiatives, including the **Maintenance of Effort** formula
- ✚ Preserving **local autonomy** over education-including school calendars, curriculum, testing, procurement issues, and operational decision-making
- ✚ Support for programs that make **housing more affordable** for teachers to live in the communities where they teach
- ✚ A robust and innovative statewide school construction and renovation funding plan
- ✚ Establishing incentives for **green and energy-efficient school** construction
- ✚ Importance of retaining **public funds to be used for public education**
- ✚ Support for recruitment of a **high-quality and diverse workforce**, including alternative pathways to teacher certification and increase salaries
- ✚ Resources to offer tailored and differentiated professional development opportunities to build **cultural responsiveness** and address implicit bias

### Professional & Operational Excellence