



# 2023-2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## Support Public Education, Not Tax-Funded School Choice

Reallocating tax dollars away from public schools weakens public education and local communities. Please oppose any further attempts to expand Georgia's existing school choice programs to stop the diversion of public funds to private schools, religious schools, or home study through vouchers, scholarships, education savings accounts, tuition tax credits, or tax exemptions.

## Increase Teacher & Staff Pay

School districts nationwide face unprecedented recruitment and retention challenges. The State of Georgia must provide financial incentives in order for Districts to attract and keep quality educators.

## Prioritize School Safety

Students must feel safe to effectively learn, and employees must be trained to handle a crisis. In order to equitably address the safety needs of school districts, add a budget line item to address school safety. The amount allocated for each district should be based on full-time enrollment at each school.

## Expand Employment Opportunities for Retirees

To help with teacher shortages statewide, allow Teachers Retirement System (TRS) beneficiaries to fill any available teaching vacancies. Currently, TRS retirees may only teach in certain content areas. In addition, this change would also help the funding of TRS.

## Our Beliefs



### Fully Funded QBE

Full funding is critical to student success. As Legislators review the QBE formula, consider increasing the amount distributed to Districts in a way that accounts for the number of students living in poverty.



### Protect TRS

TRS is especially important for recruitment and retention. TRS works well, so there is no need for reform. Supporting and strengthening TRS encourages teachers to stay in Georgia and discourages them from leaving the profession.



### Local BOE Control

Our Board supports local control and flexibility, not state mandates. To support local governance, legislation should align with the constitutional authority of school boards who best know the needs of their community.

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Dr. Mark Scott

### Board Members

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