




School Board Legislative Priorities



October 15, 2024



2023-2028 Strategic Plan Goals

Priority Area 1
Increase Academic Achievement

Priority Area 2
**Provide a Culture of Safety,
Wellness, and Belonging**

Priority Area 3
Support Our Staff

Priority Area 4
**Ensure Effective and
Efficient Operations**



Legislative Priorities: Why this Matters?

The Charlottesville School Board recognizes the importance of setting legislative priorities to advocate for the needs of our students, staff, and community. These priorities guide our efforts to influence education policy on key issues such as funding, equity, and student and teacher supports. By focusing on these areas, we aim to shape policies that create lasting improvements for our schools and ensure every student's success.



Legislative Priorities - Funding

- **Priority:** Combine funding for preschool programs (3 and 4-year-olds)
 - **Impact:** This will streamline early childhood education funding, potentially increasing access and quality.
- **Priority:** Renew the 1% sales tax for education
 - **Impact:** Provides a stable funding source for school infrastructure and resources.
- **Priority:** Implement recommendations from the Joint Legislative Review Committee to improve education funding by addressing SOQ funding shortfall
 - **Impact:** Addresses SOQ funding shortfall, improving overall education funding.
- **Priority:** Grant school boards more authority to raise revenue
 - **Impact:** Increases local control over education funding decisions.



Legislative Priorities - Student Well-Being

- **Priority:** Increase funding for substance abuse and mental health counseling
 - **Impact:** Improves access to mental health support for students.
- **Priority:** Support legislation promoting gun safety measures
 - **Impact:** Enhances school safety and reduces risk of gun-related incidents.
- **Priority:** Advocate for fair assessments for ELL students
 - **Impact:** Ensures equitable evaluation of English Language Learners.



Legislative Priorities - Board of Education

- **Priority:** Change the selection method of members of the State Board of Education (BOE) from gubernatorial appointment to election by local school board members, on a Congressional district basis.
 - **Impact:**
 - **Greater Accountability:** Elected BOE members would be more accountable to local communities, as they would be directly chosen by those most affected by educational policies.
 - **Diverse Perspectives:** A more decentralized selection process would likely lead to a BOE with a wider range of perspectives, better reflecting the diversity of the state's educational needs.





Questions

