

Association of Metropolitan School Districts

2024 Legislative Platform Outline

Funding Priorities

- Increase the basic formula allowance by an additional 2 percent for FY 2025;
- Provide stable funding streams for compensatory revenue and unemployment insurance costs;
- Increase Local Optional Revenue by \$182 per pupil and link it to the basic formula; and
- Increase equalization of the operating referendum, local optional, and debt service levies to reduce taxpayer and education funding disparities.

Enhance School Safety

- Remove the per pupil limit in the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue program and expand allowable uses of revenue to include security modifications to buildings, remodeling, and additions to existing space;
- Increase the Safe Schools levy from \$36 to \$72 per pupil; and
- Clarify language related to physical restraints to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Enhance Local Control and Spur Innovation

- Repeal the requirement that school boards negotiate e-learning days and student-to-staff ratios;
- Increase student-centered learning opportunities by creating alternative pathways to graduation and allowing students to earn credit for learning wherever it occurs;
- Use the flexibility allowed under the ESSA to reduce the number of required standardized tests so school districts can offer assessments that more accurately measure student college or career readiness; and
- Allow locally elected school boards to establish the school calendar that best meets the needs of their students, staff, and community.

Address the Educator Workforce Shortage

- Enhance support for programs like Grow Your Own and apprenticeships to address the educator workforce shortage; and
- Extend the short-call substitute teaching pilot project to 4 years and eliminate the required minimum salary.