



# **2020 SLPS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

*Prepared by and work product of Steven R. Carroll & Associates, 2019*

*A District on the Move...  
St. Louis Public Schools Offer*

- ★ *High performing neighborhood and magnet schools*
- ★ *Themed schools, including visual and performing arts, medicine and bioscience and gifted curriculum*
- ★ *Strong partnerships with local corporations, non-profits and community groups that create exceptional opportunities for students*
- ★ *Free full day Pre-K taught by certified teachers*

## KEY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- **Support** funding early childhood education through an increased appropriation in the Foundation Formula and no decrease to the SAT paid on the formula.
- **Support** legislation that requires all charter schools to be held to same academic standards as all public schools. In addition, there should be no expansion of charter schools in Missouri unless the local elected school board is the sponsor of such charter school.
- **Support** legislation that requires equal representation and the unanimous support of all taxing jurisdictions for any tax abatement project or otherwise provide an opt-out provision.
- **Support** local school district authority to make the decisions about matters including, but not limited to, employee compensation and working conditions; class sizes; curriculum and instruction materials; professional development; program and employee evaluations; and school calendar. We strongly support local control.

- **Support** maintaining the integrity of the current Foundation Formula and providing appropriations for fully funding the foundation formula; transportation formula, summer school and early childhood education.
- **Support** fully funding the transportation formula, including eliminating Magnet school transportation costs from the efficiency calculation of state funding for the district's transportation costs because of the desegregation settlement agreement and mandate, which no other districts are affected by such.
- **Supports** the desegregation 2/3-cent sales tax to be exempt from TIF projects.
- **Support** funding for professional development that provides both a comprehensive and sustainable approach to improving district personnel effectiveness toward raising student achievement.
- **Support** keeping the current dollar value modifier calculation in the formula and opposes any efforts to lower it.
- **Support** adding a new category for weighted factors for transient students with the factor ratio at 25 percent.
- **Support** current Proposition C funding distributions on a weighted ADA scale.
- **Support** pro-active local measures or state legislation that will reduce violence against our children.
- **Support** a new initiative known as S.O.S. "Save Our Students." Work with state and local officials to develop programs for urban school districts to deal with dropout reduction, gang resistance, mentoring, family intervention and support, after school programs and urban youth job opportunities. Support various governmental and private funding sources for the new S.O.S. initiative.
- **Support** legislation to help reduce homelessness for our school children in the city which will improve stability in their education, strengthen families while improving neighborhoods. In addition, look at various property tax abatement issues and the underlying consequences of accruing delinquent property taxes and its affect on city taxpayers and property owners.

- **Oppose** any legislation or proposals that would divert public monies or resources from the public schools to non-public education entities.
- **Oppose** legislation or proposals that authorizes any mandate regarding open enrollment.
- **Oppose** any amendment to the Missouri Constitution to allow the distribution of state monies directly or indirectly to non-public educational entities or organizations.
- **Oppose** any legislation that would make summer school funding a separate line item.
- **Oppose** mandatory programs for public education without appropriating the necessary funds to implement and sustain the program.

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