

# Legislative Priorities

- I. Adequate Funding to Ensure Student Success**
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# Legislative Priorities

## Adequate Funding to Ensure Student Success

- Staying invested in the five pillars – no diversions to “new” programs/mandates
- No new cost shifts to local governments, but we need to secure local funding increases for sustainability
- Inflationary adjustments – state and local - operating and capital funding

***Local Maintenance of Effort (MoE) (or Local Share)*** - match historic state investment with a built-in inflation factor

- Local funding has fallen behind statewide investments in per pupil spending. The increases in local spending have not materialized as envisioned by the Kirwan Commission and are not consistent with the increases in county wealth
- We need to move towards greater per pupil equity across the state; State funding moves us towards this goal but it is not reflected in existing local funding obligations
- ***Historically MoE has created a predictable minimum amount of funding; however, it is no longer reflective of the increased cost of running school systems and providing per pupil equity***

# Legislative Priorities

## Supporting Local Governance

- Respect the relationship between the LEAs and the State Board on *setting statewide standards supported by local curricular decisions*
- Local decisions are product of superintendents and board engagement with their communities and other stakeholders
- new unfunded mandates – new legislative initiatives should be discretionary and/or authorizing, not mandatory
- Respect diversity of the 24 LEAs - their priorities and resources

## Enhanced Education Revenue Structure

- <http://fairfundingmd.org/stronger-economy/>

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## **Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Induction**

- Permanent Grow Your Own Funding
- Expanded loan assistance
- State funding for student teachers
- Cohort incentives (differentiated pay for special educators and teachers in low performing schools)

## **Social, Emotional, and Physical Health and Safety of Students and Staff**

- School based health services (telemedicine, increased access to Medicaid reimbursement)
- School Nutrition - expansion of CEP districts
- School safety – restorative practices, physical safety supported by state construction and operating funds
  - Work with law enforcement, public health and safety provides, Maryland Center for School Safety
  - Support SRO training and appropriate interventions – appropriate adult interactions

# Legislative Priorities

## **The Blueprint for Maryland's Future – Supporting and Enhancing the Pillars**

- Permanent funding for Blueprint Coordinators
- Closely examine the PreK mixed delivery system expectations and timeline
- Clarifying definitions/provisions/expectations in CCR
- How to most accurately and fairly account for low-income families
- An updated cost analysis of the Blueprint by the nonpartisan Department of Legislative Services in a post-Covid world. Analysis should consider factors not originally contemplated by the Kirwan Commission such as transportation, building maintenance, operating and capital funds for school security, health services, food services, employee and retiree health benefits, expanded pre-k and CTE classroom spaces