



ONE VOICE, ONE VISION FOR MARYLAND'S STUDENTS

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2021

PROMOTING THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION IN MARYLAND	PSSAM promotes the highest quality of instruction in all public schools by focusing on rigorous standards and providing innovative programs to prepare all students for college and/or careers of the future.
AUTONOMY OF LOCAL BOARDS AND DISTRICTS	Maryland must continue its tradition of local school board autonomy. Maryland is home to a diverse population. One size does not fit all in terms of local school and district education needs and policies. PSSAM strongly supports the independent governance of local school boards in all education policy and budget decisions.
FUNDING SCHOOLS ADEQUATELY	<p>There is no other government investment with a higher and longer-term return than high quality public education. Investing in the next generation is investing in Maryland's future. Maryland education stakeholders are participating in a review of the funding formula by serving on the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education.</p> <p>PSSAM values being an active partner in this process and strongly supports the inclusion of Pre-K students in the education funding formula.</p>
CONSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY	<p>PSSAM advocates for state capital and operating funds to build, maintain, and equip schools for 21st century instruction. Schools must be built to last and to minimize ongoing maintenance and energy costs.</p> <p>PSSAM supports sustained funding for school facilities and technology by advocating for significant investment to improve technology infrastructure and equipment in our schools.</p>

The Public School Superintendent's Association of Maryland (PSSAM) is an organization of educational leaders united to advocate for the success of all students. Local school superintendents are the 24 leaders that comprise PSSAM, providing leadership for quality education in the State by addressing issues with a unified voice. Together, we serve more than 897,040 students. Pre-K through 12th grade, which includes: approximately 12% of our students receiving Special Education services; over 9% of our students receiving English Language Learner (ELL) services; and 41% of our students receiving Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS), an indicator of poverty. As a unified organization, PSSAM is jointly committed to partnering with local boards of education and governments to sustain excellence in education for all students.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND

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