



The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education

2023 - 2024 Legislative Agenda

January 24, 2023

The Legislative Principles of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education

1. CMS supports legislation that provides CMS, and all Local Education Agencies (LEAs), with greater local flexibility in and from state regulations
2. CMS supports legislation that provides CMS, and all LEAs, with greater local flexibility and control in how to appropriate funds that CMS receives from the State
3. CMS supports legislation that provides CMS, and all LEAs, additional financial resources for early childhood and Pre-K through 12th-grade education (including 13th grade classes taught as part of CMS), provided funding is augmenting current funding levels and is not supplanting them
4. CMS opposes legislation that requires CMS, and all LEAs, additional requirements and mandates but does not provide new revenues to fund said programs

Specific State Legislative Requests

1. **Academics**
 - a. School Performance Grades – Adjust current grade calculation from 80% Proficiency / 20% Growth to 51% Proficiency / 49% Growth
 - b. Opportunity Scholarship Tutoring – Shift all unspent funds from the prior year's allotment of the Opportunity Scholarship Fund to a K-12 Tutoring Program with funds provided to all public schools
 - c. Calendar Flexibility – Allow LEAs the ability to start the school year in conjunction with their local community college
2. **Finance**
 - a. Eliminate Economic Tier System in Education – Elimination of the use of the county-tiered system created for economic programs in education funding.
 - b. Leandro – Fully fund the court-ordered Comprehensive Remediation Plan without supplanting existing funding levels
 - c. Statewide School Construction – Provide capital funding for schools through any funding mechanism the NCGA believes is most appropriate and allocate funds based off ADM.
 - d. Provide free lunches for all students
 - e. Provide funding for feminine hygiene products for students in all middle and high schools



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3. Personnel

- a. Licensure Reciprocity – For all 49 States, Alternative Pathways, and Montessori
- b. Increase Pay for all LEA Staff
- c. Leave Benefit – Allow all LEA Staff to take leave without using annual leave during holidays and spring break. Any additional annual leave per this provision cannot rollover in subsequent years or be used for retirement purposes
- d. Reinstate Master’s Pay Benefit for staff on the ‘A’ Salary scale who receive a master’s degree in Relevant Subject Matters
- e. Return Full Retirement Benefits to all employees hired since Jan. 1, 2021.
- f. Restore Longevity Payments for all LEA Staff
- g. School Nurses – Allow Certified Nurses without bachelor’s degree to be employed
- h. Retirees – Allow Retirees to Return to Workforce full time after 30 days (LGERS)
- i. Adjust Pay Bands for Superintendent and Principals – Create a principal pay band to capture schools that exceed 2,000 students, 2,500 students, and 3,000 students. Create a superintendent pay band to capture LEAs that exceed 75,000 students, 100,000 students, and 125,000 students.
- j. School Supplies – Provide \$200 per teacher for classrooms supplies

4. Statutory

- a. Limit Early Voting at Schools – Require LEA agreement for the use of schools as early voting locations.
 - b. Open Zoning for Schools – Make public school construction a by-right development classification in all zoning codes throughout North Carolina.
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Specific Federal Legislative Requests

- 1. Carl Perkins ACT – Full and Continual Funding of Carl Perkins ACT
 - 2. Visa Rules & Regulations – Increase Flexibility in all Visa Rules & Regulations for Educational Purposes
 - 3. Technology & Broadband Expansion – Provide necessary funding to fully connect K-12 students
 - 4. Increased funding and assistance to local communities and refugee resettlement organizations to address the needs of new arrivals due to national immigration policy changes
 - 5. Provide free lunches for all students
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Specific Municipal Requests

- 1. Free ridership on CATS for all CMS employees and High School students