



BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERED TO LEARN, LEAD, INNOVATE AND SERVE

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Student Supports: Safe, Supported Schools

- Sustain recurring state funding for school safety to support personnel, training, emergency preparedness, and facility-based safety improvements across all schools.
- Increase funding for school-based mental health professionals to ensure students have timely access to counseling, behavioral health supports, and crisis response services.
- Provide districts with flexibility to reduce counselor-to-student ratios based on enrollment, student need, and local context.
- Strengthen cybersecurity protections to safeguard student data, instructional systems, and district operations from increasing digital threats.

Workforce Stability: Educators and Essential Staff

- Advocate for competitive educator compensation and retirement security to improve recruitment and retention statewide.
- Increase investment in teacher preparation and pipeline programs, particularly in high-need certification areas and hard-to-staff schools.
- Support compensation, benefits, and workforce stability for classified and operational staff, including transportation, nutrition, paraprofessionals, and maintenance personnel.
- Allow targeted return-to-work options for retired educators in shortage areas while preserving the long-term integrity of the Teachers Retirement System.

Education Funding & Fiscal Sustainability

- Modernize and strengthen the Quality Basic Education (QBE) formula to better reflect inflation, rising operational costs, and the true cost of educating today's students.
- Oppose unfunded mandates that place new responsibilities on local school districts without adequate state resources.
- Preserve the long-term stability and sustainability of the Teachers Retirement System as a key recruitment and retention tool.
- Address rising employee health insurance costs that impact district budgets and the ability to attract and retain qualified staff.
- Oppose and challenge unjustified rises in premiums for both certified and non-certified employees.

Teaching & Learning: Literacy and Career Pathways

- Sustain state investment in early literacy initiatives that improve foundational reading skills and long-term academic outcomes.
- Expand funding for career pathways, work-based learning opportunities, and industry-recognized credentials aligned to regional workforce needs.
- Support dual enrollment, apprenticeships, and technical education opportunities that increase postsecondary readiness and student choice.
- Encourage public-private and community partnerships that enhance real-world learning experiences and student engagement.

Advocate for Public Schools

- Support accountability systems that emphasize continuous improvement, transparency, and meaningful measures of success.
- Preserve local governance and decision-making authority while ensuring appropriate accountability for all publicly funded education programs.
- Support the elimination of negatively framed school lists to ensure appropriate focus on school and district progress made over time. Advocate for a more cohesive framework of school designations that supports schools in their efforts to educate students, with an emphasis on underserved communities.
- Support public schools and their efforts through stronger narratives from the legislature. Challenge efforts to pit public schools against other education options (private, charter, home-school), and advocate for a more merits-based approach that directly highlights the efforts of public schools.



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