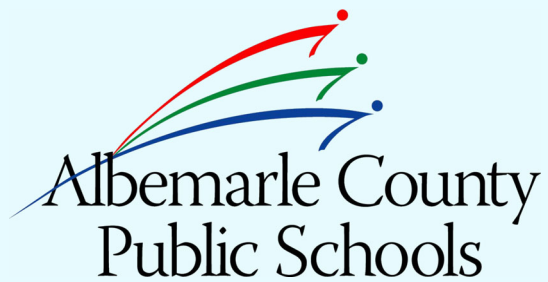


2024 Legislative Agenda



November 9, 2023
Dr. Helen Dunn

Strategic Plan: Learning for All

VISION

Our learners are engaged in authentic, challenging, and relevant learning experiences, becoming lifelong contributors and leaders in our dynamic and diverse society.

MISSION

Working together as a team, we will end the predictive value of race, class, gender, and special capacities for our children's success through high-quality teaching and learning for all. We seek to build relationships with families and communities to ensure that every student succeeds.

We will know every student.

VALUES

Equity
Excellence
Family and Community
Wellness

GOALS



Thriving Students



Affirming and Empowering Communities



Equitable, Transformative Resources

Purpose and Goals

Purpose:

The annual Legislative Agenda articulates the School Board's legislative priorities and positions on key policy issues to state legislators.

Tonight's goal:

To receive input and direction from the Board



Timeline

- **November 9: Information to Board**
- **Next steps: Meetings with legislators**

Considerations

As of the time of this presentation, we actually do not know the committee assignments of our local delegation, having just had elections.

Other Key Dates

Note: all dates are tentative pending approval of 204 session procedural resolution.

- **Monday, November 20:** Prefiling begins
- **Wednesday, December 20:** Governor presents Budget Bill
- **Wednesday, January 10:** Session convenes; Prefiling ends at 10:00 a.m.
- **Friday, January 12:** Last day to submit budget amendments
- **Friday, January 19:** Bill cut-off
- **Tuesday, February 13:** Crossover (last day for each house to act on its legislation, except budget)
- **Sunday, February 18:** House Appropriations and Senate Finance & Appropriations Committees to complete action on Budget Bills
- **Tuesday, February 20:** Amendments to Budget Bills available



Other Key Dates (continued)

- **Thursday, February 22:** Houses of origin to complete action on Budget Bills
- **Wednesday, February 28:** Last day to act on Budget Bills and revenue bills of other house and appoint conferees
- **Monday, March 4:** Last day for committee action on remaining bills
- **Thursday, March 7:** Last day to act on remaining bills and appoint conferees
- **Saturday, March 9:** Session adjourns sine die
- **Monday, April 8:** Last day for Governor's action on legislation
- **Wednesday, April 17/24:** Reconvened session
- **Monday, July 1:** Effective date of enacted legislation



Legislative Agenda Items

- **K-12 FUNDING**
- **TEACHER PIPELINE**
- **SCHOOL DIVISION AND LOCAL AUTHORITY**

→The agenda is organized a little differently this year, as we took a lot of direction from the Joint Legislative and Audit Review Committee's, or JLARC's, two K-12 studies from 2023.

K-12 FUNDING

- **Virginia's K12 contributions are in bottom half nationally.**
- **SOQ formula needs to be updated.**
- **School Nurses.**
- **Great Recession cost saving measures are still in place.**
- **No adjustment for local labor costs.**
- **No adjustments for high-needs students.**
- **Early childhood education.**

→The Board **opposes** changes that divert K12 funding away from local public schools and toward non-public options.

TEACHER PIPELINE

→Supports JLARC study on teacher pipeline.

- **Waivers.** We **support** Recommendation 3: GA may wish to consider amending the Code of Virginia to create a waiver through which the Board of Education shall issue a full 10-year renewable Virginia teaching license to qualified individuals attending approved higher education teacher preparation programs who have not passed the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment but meet established criteria.
- **Teaching Scholarships.** We **support** Recommendation 5: GA may wish to consider including language and funding in the Appropriation Act to increase the annual funding for the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program.
- **Monitoring of Reciprocity.** We **support** Recommendation 7: The Virginia DOE should list and periodically update on its website the specific teacher license types and endorsement areas in other states that qualify for a Virginia teaching license through reciprocity, prioritizing states from which Virginia receives the most reciprocity applications.

SCHOOL DIVISION AND LOCAL AUTHORITY

ACPS **requests** the Virginia GA revise the VA Code to allow the preapproval of easements related to school board-approved capital projects. This would be comparable to the right that Albemarle County local government has established through a resolution (in which they cite state code 15.2-1800-B). This ability would render completion of our capital projects more efficient and, as a consequence, an improved ability to serve our students and local public education.

One of the consequences of the GA underfunding K12 education is that local governments have had to step up. This state-to-local government cost shifting has the secondary impact of having local governments being unable to adequately fund much needed capital projects. To remedy this, we **support** both the addition of state resources to school capital funds and the expansion of funding options for localities for capital and school construction costs. This would include expanding the dedicated local sales and use tax authority first given to select counties in 2019.

Questions/Discussion

