



LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2021

INTRODUCTION

The Alexandria City School Board believes high-quality public schools are fundamental to keeping our local community and Commonwealth strong. The Board supports increased state funding to support students, staff, and school facility modernization. In addition, the Board requests flexibility to manage resources and set policies at the local level that are in the best interest of the local community.

FUNDING

The Alexandria City School Board supports the continuation of the Sales Tax Revenue Hold Harmless Funding.

The Alexandria City School Board supports funding to protect school divisions from enrollment loss.

The Alexandria City School Board supports the restoration of At-Risk Add-On funding, which was approved in 2020 using the Equity Fund Model.

The Alexandria City School Board supports the restoration of funding for more school counselors and funding additional reduction of the ratio to 1:250.

The Alexandria City School Board supports the implementation of the Board of Education's recommendation to base EL pupil/teacher ratios on the English language proficiency of students.

The Alexandria City School Board supports the return to the General Assembly's prior practice of funding support services to school divisions based upon local school division practices.

The Alexandria City School Board supports the full funding of existing school construction funding options, including the Virginia Public School Construction Grant Program, as well as new, innovative funding and financing opportunities for new school construction and the renovation of older school facilities.

The Alexandria City School Board supports the continued use of the Cost of Competing factor, including the restoration of funds for the inclusion of all support staff, in the reimbursement formula for Planning District Eight.

The Alexandria City School Board opposes any diversion of public education funds to non-public schools including the use of tuition tax credits, tax deductions, or vouchers as a means of reimbursing parents for their children's K-12 education expenses.