

## Funding for Education

*(District Goal I – Ensure achievement of high academic standards by all students; District Goal II – Develop our students so that they are able to successfully compete in the global economy)*

Increase educational funding through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) towards the national average in per pupil expenditures, taking into account: actual student enrollment, cost of living, equalizing features in the FEFP formula, inflation, increasing utility and insurance costs, the actual cost of delivering programs to special populations, and the principals of adequacy and equity. **(GFCSB)**

Increase Safe Schools, Supplemental Academic Instruction, ESE Guaranteed Allocation to accommodate student enrollment and inflation. **(GFCSB)**

Create and fund a housing supplement for teachers with five or fewer years of service whose district housing cost are above the state average. **(GFCSB)**

Combine the two current local discretionary millages (.51 and .25) equalized to no more than the state-wide average per student. **(GFCSB)**

## Capital Funding

*(District Goal IV – Reform business practices to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and high ethical standards)*

Amend the Classrooms for Kids (class size reduction capital outlay) allocation formula for capital outlay funding to reflect actual capital outlay need and the intent of the constitutional amendment. **(GFCSB)**

Repeal statutory limitations on the use of the 2-mill capital outlay levy. **(GFCSB)**

## Secondary Education Reform

*(District Goal I – Ensure achievement of high academic standards by all students; District Goal II – Develop our students so that they are able to successfully compete in the global economy)*

Provide formula or competitive funding for secondary education reform that supports an extended school day and year, and encourages themed, career path-based academies and smaller learning communities. **(GFCSB)**

## Professional Development

*(District Goal V – Recruit, develop, and retain high-performing, diverse, and motivated faculty and staff)*

Modify the Special Teachers Are Rewarded (STAR) program to provide districts the flexibility to establish and implement differentiated pay scales that recognize teacher performance and allow for the creation of a teacher career lattice and incentive funding to lure experienced/accomplished teachers to low-performing schools.

Support the creation of an elite cadre of “turn around” school leaders enabling districts to bring back highly effective retired principals to serve as mentors in low-performing schools.

## Legal

*(District Goal IV – Reform business practices to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and high ethical standards)*

Support the passage of a legislative claims relief act on behalf of the Estate of Jaime Gough.

Amend state statutes making it a felony violation for applicants and teachers who knowingly attempt to fraudulently obtain and/or maintain teacher positions.

## Legislative Priorities

## Policy Statements

**Oppose** legislation that subverts local control of local school boards and superintendents. **(GFCSB)**

**Fully fund** the operating and capital outlay costs of implementing the class size reduction constitutional amendment. **(GFCSB)**

**Support** maximum flexibility in the use of categorical funds.

**Provide funding** through a stable, long-term revenue source for the actual capital outlay needs of districts based on existing student station deficits, projected enrollment growth, the need for replacement, remodeling and maintenance of facilities, and providing for cost enhancements associated with varying local construction costs, state-mandated requirements and adverse environmental conditions. **(GFCSB)**

**Maintain** the integrity of the FEFP and equity of funding among school districts.

**Oppose** the imposition of unfunded, state-mandated expenditures. **(GFCSB)**

**Support** increased accountability measures for all publicly funded school choice options.

**Oppose** voucher programs that lack equitable and sufficient accountability measures.

**Maintain** the current dual delivery system of post-secondary programs. **(GFCSB)**

**Oppose** the deletion of impact fees unless replaced with another revenue source. **(GFCSB)**

**Oppose** any attempt to equalize the 2-mill levy.

**Encourage** the education of parents and children regarding the dangers of sexual solicitation and abuse of youth.

**Modify** the Jessica Lunsford Act to require Level II background screening only for those persons who enter school grounds unsupervised and are in direct contact with Pre-K-12 students. **(GFCSB)**

**Oppose** any prescribed expenditure requirement such as the “65 percent solution” as a mandate in the Florida Constitution; further, oppose any such legislation unless established as a spending goal and unless the definition of “classroom-related” expenditures includes all “instructional support” expenditures.

**Repeal** the Florida Schools of Excellence Commission. **(GFCSB)**

**Support** state funding for a high quality, full-day Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) program under the Florida Department of Education. **(GFCSB)**

**Support** state funding for the expansion of the HealthConnect Program in our schools.

**Support** the modification to the current transportation funding formula to include use of the Average Bus Occupancy (ABO) formula modifier in lieu of a “per available seat” basis.

**Maximize** education and job-training opportunities for low-wage working parents under new federal welfare regulations.

**Ensure** that public workforce education programs, effective public schools, and school districts are authorized to provide SES consistent with federal regulations.

**Support** amending the Florida Teacher Lead Program to include full-time pre-kindergarten teachers.



**Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

[www.dadeschools.net](http://www.dadeschools.net)

# Legislative Priorities

Funding  
for Education

Capital Funding

Secondary  
Education Reform

Professional Development

Legal

## Mission

Provide the highest quality education  
so that all of our students are  
empowered to lead productive  
and fulfilling lives as lifelong learners  
and responsible citizens.

The School Board  
of Miami-Dade County, Florida\*  
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# 2007 State Legislative Programs



Miami-Dade County  
Public Schools