



## Legislative Priorities

### Kentucky General Assembly 2020

- JCPS supports legislation to adequately fund the public education system as required by *Rose v. Council for Better Education* (1989).
  - Establish in statute a consistent rate increase for SEEK over time to allow districts to better plan for capital costs, teacher salary increases, and staffing patterns, and program investment.
  - Provide funding to satisfy the mandates of the School Safety and Resiliency Act (SB1, 2019), including a funding mechanism for any new or future mandates.
  - Fully fund Preschool and Kindergarten.
  - Fully fund SEEK Transportation and appropriate the Volkswagen settlement funds for enhancing district transportation fleets.
  - Restore funding for Learning and Results Services (LARS) programs with particular focus on textbooks and instructional materials.
  - Make significant and historic investments in technology for students through the Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS).
  - Fund additional Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways for Local Area Vocational Education Centers (LAVECs), and ask that Jefferson County be considered a region for the purposes of KDE's CTE regionalization efforts.
- JCPS opposes scholarship tax credits, tax credits for corporations and individuals donating money to pay for private school scholarships. Scholarship tax credits would result in tens of millions of dollars less in the state's General Fund now and over time, and may be subject to Constitutional challenge. The tax credit funnels would-be tax dollars to private and religious schools not subject to transparency and open records, state testing and accountability systems, or control by a publicly-elected board of education.
- JCPS opposes funding for charter schools, including funding that would divert SEEK Average Daily Attendance dollars or local levied taxes from local school districts to charter schools.
- JCPS supports full funding of actuarially required contributions (ARC, ADEC, ADC) for TRS and CERS participants as well as full funding for retiree health insurance. In recognition that local entities have paid their contributions consistently over time, enact rate ceilings for employee and employer pension and health contributions determined by the KTRS and KRS boards.
- JCPS supports programs and funding to promote recruitment and retention of highly-effective public school teachers, including but not limited to reinstatement of the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program (KTIP), the Professional Development Program, Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program, Leadership and Mentor Fund, Teacher Academies Program, and Teacher Scholarship Program.



- JCPS supports legislation that would discourage students from using tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or vapor products, including legislation that taxes alternative nicotine products and vapor products, bans all flavors of vapor products, and increases the minimum age of purchase for all tobacco products to 21. JCPS supports tax revenue generated from the sale of these products to fund community education and prevention programming aimed at educating minors and their families of the danger of use by minors of all tobacco products and education of families for identification of devices used and treatment options available.
- JCPS supports legislation to ensure the membership of a district's Superintendent Screening Committee generally reflects the racial and ethnic composition of the student population the district serves and includes at least one student representative on the committee.
- JCPS supports keeping the responsibility for student assignment to schools with local school boards and strongly opposes legislation that reduces or eliminates local control of student assignment.
- JCPS supports increased flexibility for local districts to generate revenue, including the addition of a non-recallable nickel.