

Legislative Goals of Henrico County Public Schools

Academic Achievement

We support efforts to maintain strong K-12 academic standards while providing a variety of means for achievement of those standards.

Funding

We support full funding for all current state and federal mandated programs (SOL's, SOQ's and NCLB) and for rebenchmarking based on prevailing educational practices occurring in our school divisions to achieve these standards.

Highly Qualified Staff

We support funding instructional positions at an acceptable level in order to remain competitive nationwide and to attract the most highly qualified teachers.

Local Autonomy

We support the preservation of local control over education matters that are best governed at the local level as set forth in Article VIII, section 7 of our State Constitution.

New Guidelines, Programs

We oppose the addition of any new federal or state mandated guidelines or programs without adequate funding.

Pupil/Teacher Ratio

We support continued legislative efforts to recognize the impact of low pupil-teacher ratios on student achievement, particularly in grades K-3.

Safe Schools

We support legislation that provides a safe school environment for all staff and students by building strong relationships with community partners, resulting in strong school disciplinary measures and high expectations of student conduct.

Technology

We support current legislation for funding technology implementation in all K-12 classrooms, while providing fair and equitable online access to information for all students.

21st Century Skills

We support federal and state efforts to align Virginia's curriculum standards with 21st century international performance standards and assessments to create a competitive workforce.

Henrico County School Board

Michelle F. "Micky" Ogburn, Chair - Three Chopt District
 Beverly L. Cocke, Vice Chair - Brookland District
 Roscoe D. Cooper III - Fairfield District
 Lisa A. Marshall - Tuckahoe District
 John W. Montgomery Jr. - Varina District
 Patrick C. Kinlaw - Superintendent of Schools

Just the Facts

STUDENTS

Elementary	23,379
Middle	11,603
High	15,243
Other	537
Total Students	50,762

GRADUATES

Total 2016 Graduates	3541
On time 2016 Graduation Rate	91.1%
Plans to Continue Education	83.3%
Scholarships Accepted	\$24.8 Million

STUDENT DIVERSITY

Asian	10%
African American	36%
Hispanic	9%
Caucasian	40%
Other	5%
Economic Deprivation	41.05%

SCHOOLS & CENTERS

Elementary	46
Middle	12
High	9
Advanced Career Education (ACE) Centers	2
Alternative Program Centers	3
Total Schools & Centers	72

EMPLOYEES

Total Teachers	3,877
Total Employees (FTE)	6,803

PUPIL/TEACHER RATIOS

Elementary	20.4
Middle	22.2
High	22.2

FINANCE

2016 -17 Operating Budget	\$558.7 Million
Per Pupil Expenditure	\$9,713

(Data as of November 2016)



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Henrico County Public Schools



Legislative Program

2017

Our Mission:

Henrico County Public Schools, an innovative leader in educational excellence, will actively engage our students in diverse educational, social, and civic learning experiences that inspire and empower them to become contributing citizens.



Henrico County Public Schools 2017 Legislative Program

2017 Legislative Priority Positions

FUNDING

- Support full funding of the SOQ's and rebenchmarking based on prevailing educational practices occurring in school divisions.
- Oppose any new unfunded mandates.
- Support flexibility within the SOQ's given to localities to allow them to use funding where there is the greatest need.
- Support state funding for raises in teacher salaries that are closer to the national average.
- Support the General Assembly's proposed 2018 deadline for restoring funds to VRS only if the state provides adequate funding to localities to cover this amount.
- Support legislation that would eliminate or reduce the local school division budgetary match currently required to receive VPI funding.
- Support the elimination of the support cap for instructional support positions and a return to funding methodologies used prior to 2009.

SCHOOL BOARD AUTHORITY

- Oppose legislation that would remove or limit local school board authority over any established schools within their division.
- Oppose further legislation that would remove or limit local school board authority over the formation and operation of charter schools within their division.
- Support giving local school boards the authority to establish their school calendar as long as SOQ and SOA requirements are met.
- Oppose legislation that would impose mandates for local school boards regarding disciplinary action against students for specific actions or behaviors.

STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT

- Support multiple, authentic assessments as measures of student academic progress and achievement.
- Support the Board of Education proposals for SOL reform, high school redesign, and the new Profile of a Graduate as long as financial support and professional staff development are provided for these changes to occur, as well as adequate transition time to implement.

Continuing Positions

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- Support career & technical education as a significant program choice for all students, and continue efforts to collaborate and partner with businesses in remaining current with industry and technical practices.

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

- Support the continued analysis of proposed revisions to the current ESEA/NCLB as long as no new mandates are passed along to localities without funding.

FUNDING

- Oppose changes in the current funding formula without a comprehensive JLARC study to thoroughly analyze the impact on localities and public school funding of federal and state programs.
- Support recent legislative efforts to protect K-12 funding for the state, while acknowledging Henrico's significant local effort that far exceeds state requirements.

GOVERNANCE & SCHOOL CHOICE

- Oppose any additional legislation that establishes tuition tax credits, tax deductions, or vouchers as a means of reimbursing parents for their children's K-12 educational expenses.
- Support the concept of charter schools if they help Henrico students to increase academic achievement, or they serve the unique needs of particular student populations more effectively than other local programs or schools, as long as these public charter schools are required to meet all the same standards as public schools.

INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL

- Support budget changes that will increase teacher salaries, provide incentives for the retention of highly qualified teachers, and expand funding of the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP)

- Support adequate state funding for appropriate instructional programs, services, and staffing designed to meet the needs of students with limited English proficiency, and for alternative assessments designed by DOE.

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS PLAYING SPORTS

- Oppose legislation that would require local school boards to allow non-public school students to try out for interscholastic activities, including but not limited to sports.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION

- Support continued legislative efforts to expand Pre-K education for all at-risk students with a comprehensive analysis as to the impact of these programs on staff, physical facilities, curriculum, and student achievement, and the possibilities provided through public/private partnerships.
- Support the elimination of the required local match for VPI funding to allow school divisions to expand preschool opportunities without negatively impacting funding for other programs and services.

STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY, ACHIEVEMENT & DISCIPLINE

- Support continuing efforts to move student achievement from competence to excellence.
- Oppose any legislation that would restrict the authority of local school boards in supervising and disciplining students or that would result in state-mandated consequences for various student infractions that are outlined in a locality's Student Code of Conduct.

STUDENT WELLNESS & FITNESS

- Support continued attention to childhood obesity in public schools through the study and dissemination of best practices for both nutrition and physical activity.

TECHNOLOGY

- Support the continued funding of instructional technology that includes infrastructure components, maintenance software, supplies, and connectivity costs.
- Support the expansion of virtual learning opportunities for students through Virginia Department of Education's existing Virtual Virginia programs using multi-division providers.

TRANSPORTATION

- Support measures that foster safe transportation for pupils, as well as the efficient operation of school division transportation systems.