2019 Legislative Positions

- **THE COMMONWEALTH SHOULD PAY ITS SHARE OF THE TRUE COST OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**
  Supports that the General Assembly determine the financial impacts of legislation on local school districts and fully compensate school districts for state directed mandates. When the Commonwealth considers a program important enough to mandate, it should consider the mandate important enough to fund.

- **COST OF COMPETING**
  Supports the continued use of the Cost of Competing factor in the reimbursement formula for Planning District Eight.

- **SUPPORTS DUAL ENROLLMENT**
  Opposes any legislation or regulatory actions that makes dual enrollment courses less accessible to students through the implementation of a statewide uniform tuition rate and any other tuition proposal that does not appropriately factor the significant indirect costs borne by school divisions (facilities, teachers, materials, professional development, etc.) to offer dual enrollment opportunities for their students.

- **SUPPORTS OVERHAULING THE STATE PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING MODEL**
  Supports overhauling the State Public Education Funding Model, including the removal of mental health positions from under the SOQ Support Position Cap.

**OUR MISSION**
Empowering all students to make meaningful contributions to the world

**CORE BELIEFS**
1. A culture of continuous improvement drives the fulfillment of our mission
2. Strong partnerships with families and our community enhance our excellence
3. An inclusive, safe, caring, and challenging learning environment serves as the foundation for student growth
4. Transparency and good stewardship of resources strengthen public trust and support

**STRATEGIC GOALS**
1. Develop knowledgeable critical thinkers, communicators, collaborators, creators, and contributors
2. Cultivate a high-performing team of professionals focused on our mission and goals
3. Deliver effective and efficient support for student success

**Enrollment by Ethnicity/Race**
- White: 39,281 (47.52%)
- Black/African-American: 5,559 (6.73%)
- Hispanic: 14,440 (17.47%)
- Multi-Racial: 4,545 (5.60%)
- Asian: 18,233 (22.15%)

Loudoun County Public Schools • 21000 Education Court • Ashburn, Virginia 20148 • Phone: 571-252-1000 • www.lcps.org
In June 2015, the Loudoun County School Board adopted a Strategic Framework for empowering students to make meaningful contributions to the world. Since then, Loudoun County Public Schools has taken strategic actions to develop graduates who are not only knowledgeable, but are also critical thinkers, communicators, collaborators, creators, and contributors.

Our students need the support of Virginia’s lawmakers. The School Board’s 2019 Legislative Program is aimed at precise sections of existing laws and at potential laws relating to instruction, funding, assessment and accountability, staffing, developing new schools, and governance that are vital to the success of its mission.

- **SCHOOL DIVISIONS OF INNOVATION – ENHANCED ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY**
  Supports new legislation directing the Virginia Board of Education to authorize School Divisions of Innovation (SDIs), with demonstrated capacity and interest, to enhance assessment and accountability of student learning by replacing select SOL exams at select schools (elementary and middle school science, Virginia Studies, and Civics and Economics) with locally scored and externally validated performance assessments.

- **LOCAL CONTROL OF ACADEMIC CALENDAR**
  Supports legislative changes granting local school boards control of their academic calendars, including the ability to set the date for the opening of the school year.

- **RETAIL UNSPENT APPROPRIATIONS**
  Supports legislative changes allowing local school boards to retain any unspent appropriations in a school board’s operating budget from one fiscal year to the operating budget of the following fiscal year.

- **EFFICIENCY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
  Supports legislative changes to specifically permit school board members to participate in transactions (e.g. budget, benefits, personnel policies and related discussions) when school board’s immediate family members are employed by the school board and are in a group of three or more persons to be affected by the transaction and the required public disclosures required by subsection H of Section 2.2-3115 shall be fully satisfied by listing school board immediate family members employment in the annual financial disclosure form in Section 2.2-3117.

- **SUPPORTS PERFORMANCE BASED ASSESSMENTS**
  Supports legislative changes to Item 130.D, Appropriation Act - Standards of Learning; Verified Credits in History and Social Science, so that a performance-based assessment MAY be the instrument through which divisions verify a History/Social Science credit for students in high school. The performance-based assessment for the single high school history/social science credit requiring verification should be allowed in ANY required course: World History I, World Geography, World History II, US/VA History, or US/VA Government.

- **SUPPORTS CHANGING VOTING ACTIVITIES FROM WEEKDAYS TO WEEKENDS**
  Supports legislative changes at the state and national level to shift voting activities from weekdays to weekends in order to minimize interaction between the voting general public and public-school students to enhance school safety and safeguard the operational effectiveness of public schools in Loudoun County and throughout the Commonwealth.

- **SUPPORTS GUN-FREE SCHOOL BOARD OWNED PROPERTY**
  Supports legislative changes to designate all school board owned property as gun-free.

- **SUPPORTS COMPULSORY EDUCATION FOR ALL VIRGINIA SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN**
  Supports legislative changes to the Virginia Code § 22.1-254(B)(1) related to religious exemption from compulsory public school attendance to require that a child be guaranteed the fundamental right to an education by his or her parent or legal guardian, in compliance with Article VIII of the Constitution of Virginia, through an alternative public, private, parochial and/or approved home instruction setting.

- **SUPPORTS NON-DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**
  Supports legislative changes to the Code of Virginia to prohibit discrimination in state and local public employment on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.