



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### Guiding Principles

- ❑ IASPA believes in and supports positive/proactive leadership from the Illinois State Board of Education and State Superintendent of Education
- ❑ IASPA believes public education must provide all students with the opportunity to develop to their fullest potential
- ❑ IASPA believes public education must promote an appreciation for cultural diversity
- ❑ IASPA believes the State has the responsibility for ensuring adequate and equitable funding of public education
- ❑ IASPA believes the most important factor in improving public education is to attract, develop and retain highly effective, high impact educators

### Priority Areas

IASPA will actively support legislative initiatives that positively impact the following areas:

#### School Funding

- ❑ Funding the Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act (ESSA) and Mandated Categorical programs at levels sufficient to provide an adequate and equitable education for all students.
- ❑ Funding quality public education by making the education the State's primary budgetary program.

## Educator Preparation

- ❑ Create opportunities that encourage early exposure to the profession through programs in high school and partnerships with teacher training institutions
- ❑ Recruitment/development/retention of a diverse educator workforce reflective of the ethnic/racial makeup of the Illinois student population
- ❑ Addressing the teacher shortage
  - ❑ Streamline the path to eligibility for Professional Educator Licensure
    - ❑ Reciprocity agreements
    - ❑ Alternative licensure programs
    - ❑ Substitute teacher options
  - ❑ Appropriation of funds to expand student loan forgiveness to all individuals
- ❑ Professional Development
  - ❑ Financial support for required mentoring (new teachers, principals, superintendents)
  - ❑ Support comprehensive, fair, objective performance evaluations of teachers and principals.

## Student Learning

- ❑ Maintaining and strengthening of the Illinois Learning Standards
- ❑ Provision of a safe, clean, healthy learning environment, free from bullying, harassment, and any types of physical or emotional abuse.
- ❑ Adequately funded programs that provide students the opportunity to fully develop their skills and talents.