

2025 Legislative Priorities



Montana Quality Education Coalition

Quality Public Education ... Montana's Constitutional Guarantee

- Fulfill the Montana Constitutional promise (Article X) of equality of educational opportunity for each person in Montana. As such, MQEC will oppose proposals that diverts state general fund revenues to privatized education while failing to provide the funding support of public education needed to preserve the constitutional/educational rights of each person.
- Promote adequate and equitable funding of Montana public schools to operate effectively amid inflationary pressures and provide the guarantees of Article X of the Montana Constitution to every child. We support high quality facilities, technology, transportation, and other required infrastructural needs that allow for the continued safety and security of our most valued treasure, our children.
- Promote efforts to recruit and retain highly qualified public-school educators and other staff who devote their lives to serving Montana's public school students and families - by valuing their efforts commensurate with the trust they have earned from those they serve, by providing them with livable wages, benefits, and resources, and inspiring them with the confidence of knowing that public policymakers support and appreciate their contributions.
- Promote efforts to protect and preserve the authority of elected school boards to supervise and control education in each community and give voice to the voters in each community. We believe that local governance initiated by popular election of leaders who are from the community in which they serve provides the best form of governance to ensure a strong public voice in Montana's public schools.
- Promote efforts to provide Montana's public school stakeholders flexibility in utilizing resources responsibly, without the overreach of the legislature, to allow for the ever-changing needs in public education.
- Defend and preserve the existing funding formula defined in 20-9-309 MCA, including potential Guaranteed Tax Base (GTB) expansion and continued funding for the school facilities program.

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