



2012 Albemarle County School Board Legislative Priorities

State Issues

Funding for Public Education: *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** the request to the Governor to allocate a fair share of the \$544.8 million FY2011 budget surplus to K-12 education, to begin to restore funds cut from K-12 public education in Fiscal Years 2009, 2010, and 2011. (See attachment 1)*

Unfunded Mandates: *The Albemarle County School Board **opposes** revisions to the Standards of Quality (SOQ) that have additional cost implications for local school divisions.*

Rebenchmarking and the State Budget: *The Albemarle County School Board **opposes** changes in the SOQ funding formula which reduce funds to local school divisions.*

*The Albemarle County School Board **opposes** inclusion of AARA funds in the federal deduct calculations.*

*The Albemarle County School Board **supports** restoring State money for BASIC Aid and categorical funding.*

*The Albemarle County School Board **opposes** unfunded mandates.*

Composite Index: *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** local composite index to reflect "Taxable Value of Property" rather than current "Local True Value of Property".*

65% Solution: *The Albemarle County School Board **opposes** use of federal census and/or USDOE definition of instructional spending in the implementation of the 65% solution. The 65% solution sets an expectation that 65% of the budget be spent on classroom instruction. The federal/USDOE definition excludes many school-based positions and costs associated with instruction from the formula (i.e., special education and ESOL teachers, guidance staff and others) nor does it account for differences among divisions such as geographic size that create cost differentials in areas such as transportation.*

Virginia Retirement System: *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** restoring funds to the Virginia Retirement System.*

Carry-over Funds: *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** mandatory re-appropriation of carry-over funds by the governing body.*

Flexibility: *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** local school board flexibility in establishing their school calendar.*

Physical Education: *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** legislative recognition of increased costs associated with any mandate to increase physical education instruction in schools.*

Merit Pay: *The Albemarle County School Board **opposes** merit pay based on test scores. However, the Albemarle County School Board **supports** evidence-based, locally-developed differentiated compensation models in order to improve recruitment and retention of teachers, administrators, and classified staff.*



2012 Albemarle County School Board Legislative Priorities

Virginia Department of Education Issue

Measures of College and Career Readiness: *The Albemarle County School Board **opposes** use of a single test measure as indicative of college and career readiness and **supports** the use of multiple measures to support college and career readiness.*

Federal Issues

Reauthorization of ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Act “No Child Left Behind”): *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** the reauthorization of ESEA based upon the inclusion of changes recommended by the Virginia School Boards Association, the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, and the American Association of School Administrators. (See attachment 2)*

IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Act): *The Albemarle County School Board **supports** full funding of IDEA and supports allowing school divisions to seek a direct waiver from VDOE to reduce maintenance of effort for special education and related services due to “exceptional or uncontrollable circumstances”.*

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Draft Resolution in support of public education funding by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Attachment 2: Albemarle County Public Schools Resolution Concerning Regulatory Relief for America’s Schools (EESA), June 23, 2011

Attachment 3: Virginia Department of Education, Calendar of Reports for 2011-12

(http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/calendar_reports/calendar_reports.pdf)