



2022-23 Legislative Priorities

The Forsyth County Board of Education is committed to the vision of a safe, connected, and thriving community for all. To meet this vision, we ask lawmakers to consider the following recommendations:

Student Supports

- The current funding under QBE is inadequate to address the physical, social, and emotional needs of our students today. The QBE formula is one counselor per 450 students, one social worker per 2,475 students, one school psychologist per 2,475 students, one school nurse per 750 elementary students and one school nurse per 1,500 secondary students. We recommend the formulas be changed to 250 students per counselor as recommended by the American School Counseling Association, 250 students per school social worker as recommended by the School Social Work Association of America, and 500 students per school psychologist as recommended by National Association of School Psychologists. We also recommend that school nurses be fully funded under the QBE, and not at the current 50 percent funding of salaries and benefits.

School Safety

- To assist with the rising number of students in crisis, we request funding for school districts to hire Student Advocacy Specialists to work with our state's most at-risk students and their families.

Employee Recruitment and Retainment

- Georgia has been impacted by the nationwide teacher pipeline shortage and the great resignation movement following COVID. We request full funding of QBE and ask for consideration of a Cost of Living Adjustment for educators to keep pace with inflation.

Student Transportation

- State funding to transport students to and from school safely has not kept pace with school districts transportation costs, adding significant operational costs to local budgets. We recommend that funding be added to pupil transportation in the next state budget to ensure an equitable state and local partnership.