



2018 Community Priorities



Well-Rounded Education

- A rich and versatile curriculum including fine arts, physical education, digital and financial literacy, and play
- Parent and family engagement supported through programs that accommodate family needs
- Middle school with a holistic focus that allows children to learn and feel safe
- Support for the social emotional well-being, physical and mental health of students
- Positive learning environments including culturally relevant instruction



Pathways to Student Success and Graduation

- Closing the Achievement Gap
- Multiple pathways to a diploma
- Discipline policies that are fair and allow for maximum instruction time for all
- Raising high school graduation rates
- Support for college and/or career planning



Teachers and Teaching

- Competitive salaries and benefits for all education employees to attract and retain high quality professionals
- A system for teacher evaluation that is fair, valid and eliminates the use of VAM
- Teachers as leaders in education policy decisions
- Teacher independence and autonomy in the classroom



Testing

- Elimination of all high-stakes tied to testing
- Alternatives to standardized tests to demonstrate proficiency
- Reduction of time spent and disruptions caused by testing



Funding

- Per student allocation at the national average
- Increase funding for students and schools identified as struggling
- Funding for quality facilities, maintenance and capital improvements
- Funding for school transportation



High Quality Early Childhood Education

- Increase access to high quality early learning programs for all children
- Supports for successful transitions from early learning to elementary school
- Increase professional learning opportunities for early learning providers
- Institute a quality rating system for early learning programs
- Transparency and accountability for federal dollars spent locally



Education Governance

- Locally elected school boards responsible for all students educated with public dollars
- Public education programs governed by local school boards as required by the Constitution
- Return the position of Education Commissioner to an elected position