

Centennial Schools – 2026 Legislative Platform

Priorities to Strengthen Educational Quality, Fiscal Stability, and Student Success

Funding Priorities:

- 1. <u>Increase Inflationary Adjustments of the General Education Formula:</u> Increase the basic formula allowance beyond recent **2–3%** thresholds to reflect true inflationary pressures.
- 2. <u>Strengthen Local Optional Revenue (LOR):</u> Increase LOR from \$724 to \$979 per pupil a. and index it to inflation.
- 3. Enhance Long-Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) Funding: Increase LTFM revenue from \$380 to \$516 per pupil and expand allowable uses to include safety/security upgrades, remodeling, and additions to existing spaces.
- 4. <u>Improve Operating Capital Funding:</u> Increase operating capital revenue from \$188 to a. \$261 per pupil, and index it to inflation.
- 5. Enhance Safe Schools Funding: Increase Safe Schools revenue from \$36 to \$100 per pupil to better support school safety and student well-being.
- 6. <u>Special Education Cross-Subsidy:</u> Repeal the contingent \$250M reduction to cross-subsidy aid or fully fund the obligation.
- 7. <u>Address Compensatory Revenue Hold Harmless Provision:</u> Reinstating the hold harmless provision last session resulted in a **\$274,000 loss** to Centennial Schools.

Improve Property Tax Equalization:

- 1. Update equalization formulas to reduce taxpayer disparity and ensure fair State Aid support for:
 - o Operating referendums
 - o Local Optional Revenue
 - o Debt service

Implementation Support and Funding:

- 1. Centennial requests adequate time and resources to implement state mandates effectively, including:
 - o Read Act
 - o Paid Family & Medical Leave
 - Unemployment Insurance
 - Expanded data reporting and compliance requirements
- 2. The above mandates require additional staffing, training, and administrative capacity. Without dedicated funding and phased implementation, they increase operational burdens on school districts.