

EDUCATION

We support:

1. involvement from community, parents and public education professionals in matters of education problem solving and decision-making
2. fulfilling school administrators' requests for at least 6% SSA for K-12 education
3. restoring the independent allowable growth formula to determine public school funding
4. providing educational tools, resources for students needing additional assistance, including online classes and other technology
5. the right of students to access public education until age 21
6. access to post-secondary programs debt-free for at least 4 years, including:
 - a. vocational programs
 - b. regent state universities
 - c. community colleges
7. dyslexia screening for children in K-12 schools and the Iowa Juvenile Justice System
8. state mandates that require all public schools include instruction in physical health, mental health and sex positive/comprehensive/research-based sexual/health programs (including LGBTQIA+, non-binary)
9. training for all four literacy skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing
10. expansion of full-day kindergarten and universal preschool
11. full funding for:
 - a. fine and applied arts
 - b. ELL/ESL programs
 - c. career and vocational education
 - d. literacy education
 - e. math, science and technology
 - f. civic education
 - g. personal financial literacy
12. all public k-12/higher-education, non-administrative, salaries/benefits/pensions above national average
13. federally funding IDEA at 40% level
14. ADA compliance of all school facilities
15. restoring funds to AEAs
16. TLC program
17. driver's education programs provided by local public school districts
18. maintaining the highest standards for teacher certification
19. ECE (public preschool/Head Start services)
20. meeting Head Start or NAEYC performance standards

21. placement of special education student to be directly tied to determining class size and staffing need
22. restoring, increasing funding to regent universities and community colleges
23. living wages, benefit parity, unemployment benefit eligibility, and ongoing training for ESPs
24. increasing statewide minimum dropout age to 18
25. student-loan forgiveness
26. bankruptcy protections for borrowers
27. 100% tax-deductible interest on post-secondary loans
28. mental health professionals in all schools
29. reduction of class size
30. requiring credentialed supervision for home-schooled students
31. expanding access to public school alternative programs
32. radon testing for school buildings
33. modernizing the Fair Funding Formulas for rural schools
34. an option for a guaranteed rate of return for funds in 529 savings plans
35. District Voluntary Diversity Plans
36. eliminating racial disparities in discipline policies
37. increased tax credits for teaching materials educators purchase
38. strongly regulating accreditation, credit transferability and disclosure of costs for all for-profit schools
39. funding all TRIO programs
40. party balance of the Iowa Board of Regents
41. NEA, NEH, NSF, CPB

We oppose:

42. using tax dollars to fund PK-12 private schools through methods including:
 - a. vouchers
 - b. Education Savings Accounts
 - c. charter school pre-tax plans
43. merit pay
44. religious bias in publicly-funded education
45. arming school employees

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION

AEA – Area Education Agency
CPB – Corporation for Public Broadcasting
ECE – Early Childhood Education
ELL – English Language Learners
ESL – English as a Second Language
ESP – Education Support Professional

IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
LGBTQIA+ – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual
NAEYC – National Association for the Education of Young Children
NEA – National Endowment for the Arts
NEH – National Endowment for the Humanities
NSF – National Science Foundation
SSA – Supplemental State Aid to education
TLC – Teacher Leadership and Compensation System
TRIO – Educational Talent Search (ETS), Classic Upward Bound (CUB), Veterans
Upward Bound (VUB), Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS), Student Support
Services (SSS), Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC), Training Grant (for Special
Programs Staff and Leadership Personnel (TR)