



2008 Legislative Agenda

The Prince George's Business-Education Alliance has identified the following as its key priorities for the 2008 session of the Maryland General Assembly:

- Provide full funding for the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act
- Begin phasing in funding for the Geographic Cost of Education Index at a minimum of 60 percent of its authorized level
- Amend the Net Taxable Income provision of the Bridge to Excellence Act so that the funding formula reflects the true wealth of each jurisdiction
- Fully fund the scheduled increase in the state's contribution to community college operating budgets under the Cade formula
- Provide at least \$400 million in the state capital budget for school construction and renovation
- Provide funding in the capital budget for construction of the Center for Health Studies at Prince George's Community College
- Restore the full state contribution of \$11 million to the Aging School Program
- Take appropriate steps to mitigate the impact of the Maryland State Board of Education's decision to require students to pass the High School Assessments, or complete an equivalent project, to graduate in 2009, even if they have met all other graduation requirements
- Create programs and incentives to ensure that every Maryland student is taught by highly qualified teachers
- Oppose any attempt to shift current state obligations, such as teacher retirement contributions, to local governments