

# Preparing Georgia's Students *For Life*

Georgia Department of Education • Richard Woods, State School Superintendent

## *Strengthening Instruction and Support for All Students*

- PRIORITY:** Support early literacy by adding funding for Science of Reading-based coaching and professional learning.
- PRIORITY:** Expand the 'Return to Work' opportunity to include retired teachers with reading endorsements or dyslexia endorsements as a statewide high-need subject area.
- PRIORITY:** Increase funding for therapeutic services and supports for students with disabilities.
- PRIORITY:** Strengthen the viability of completion special schools that put at-risk students on a path to graduation and success.
- PRIORITY:** Place a paraprofessional in all kindergarten through second grade classrooms.

## *Expanding Opportunities for Students*

- PRIORITY:** Establish a pilot to fund high school Career Advisors to assist all students in securing postsecondary success.
- PRIORITY:** Extend Work-Based Learning Programs into the summer months with funding to increase opportunities for high-school students to gain valuable workplace experience.
- PRIORITY:** Strengthen kindergarten readiness by expanding access to Georgia Pre-K for families on the waiting list.

## *Protecting Students and Supporting Families*

- PRIORITY:** Establish line-item funding for school safety.
- PRIORITY:** Protect parental rights regarding students' use of social media and technology.
- PRIORITY:** Protect the rights of parental consent and notification for school health services.
- PRIORITY:** Support state funding for a one-time property tax credit for Georgia families.

## *Elevating the Teaching Profession and Strengthening the Teacher Pipeline*

- PRIORITY:** Support a \$3,000 pay raise for teachers to build on the raises secured by Governor Kemp and the General Assembly and bring the total teacher pay increase to \$10,000 within the next three years.
- PRIORITY:** Establish a study committee on the compensation of education support professionals.
- PRIORITY:** Secure a minimum number of personal days for teachers and classified staff.
- PRIORITY:** Restore funding to increase compensation for educators who earn a leadership degree.
- PRIORITY:** Strengthen mentoring and support for new teachers.

## *Funding Public Education*

- PRIORITY:** Fully fund the QBE formula.
- PRIORITY:** Increase funding for transportation costs and recognize poverty as part of a larger effort to modernize the K-12 funding formula.
- PRIORITY:** Offset the increase in state health insurance costs for non-certified school employees by increasing funding for insurance to school districts.
- PRIORITY:** Expand the allowable use of SPLOST funds to include software, subscriptions, and other digital instructional resources.

