

## Missouri NEA State Board Report

*Notes from February 11, 2020 meeting of the Missouri State Board of Education  
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Jefferson City, MO*

### **MNEA advocacy wins expanded teacher plan time in Missouri School Improvement Plan 6.**

After receiving 5,451 public comments from educators and stakeholders across the state, the MSIP 6 Teaching and Learning Standard (TL12) will read: *Adequate **self-directed** planning time, at least 250 minutes per week, is provided to certificated and licensed educators who provide instruction to students on a full-time basis (prorated as appropriate). Plan time is based on local context and is aligned to best practice guidelines.* The expanded language now includes counselors, librarians, and early childhood educators that previously were excluded and expressly states “self-directed” planning time, allowing teachers to more adequately prepare instruction and engage with students.

Other positive MSIP 6 changes from MSIP 5 include: counselor to student ratios that meet American School Counselors Association recommendations of 1:250 and smaller Pre-K class size. The Equity and Access Domain was restored after being removed through reorganization in the previous draft of MSIP 6. Find the final complete MSIP 6 document at: <https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/mo-school-improvement-program/msip-6>

Thank you to all the educators who participated in MNEA’s advocacy efforts by submitting comments, gathering signatures on petitions, and writing postcards to members of the state board. Board member Peter Herschend complemented MNEA on our advocacy efforts after the meeting.

### **Board hears Teacher Table recruitment and retention recommendations**

The Teacher Workforce Outreach Plan provides recommendations for addressing the teacher recruitment and retention challenge. Proposals include increasing teacher recruitment with a public relations plan and incentives for districts to develop Grow Your Own programs. Currently there are no funds for this work. Identifying barriers that limit the teacher pipeline without evidence of correlating with the teaching effectiveness are under consideration. These may include eliminating the cumulative GPA requirement for teacher candidates, revisions to the substitute certificate (an alternative to the 60 hours requirement) and development of an Innovation and Equity Fund of \$75 million for hard to fill positions.

Recommendations to improve retention include improving mentoring for new teachers and expanding the Missouri Leadership Development System to include more principals with a focus on school climate and supporting educators. Increased support for the Teacher of the Year program was suggested, along with the development of a master teacher certificate. Missouri NEA supports using the National Board Certified Teacher program as the master teacher certificate, along with a state-supported stipend. Students of NBCTs learn more with the biggest difference for high-needs students. NBCTs are more likely to remain in the

profession. NBC is available to librarians, school counselors, and 98% of teachers with at least three years of experience. NBC is available for teachers of Spanish and French, but is not currently available for teachers of other world languages. Learn more about NBC certification at [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org), or consider participating in MNEA's free online Exploring NBC. Details at [www.mnea.org/nbc](http://www.mnea.org/nbc).

### **Funding formula remains 'fully funded' in governor's proposed FY 2021 budget.**

Governor Parson's proposed budget recommends fully funding the current school foundation formula and adds an additional \$10 million to school transportation funds. An increase of \$194 million would be needed to fully fund 75% of transportation costs as state statute requires. Early childhood programs received an increase in \$4 million due to a 3-year federal grant. The A+ Scholarship Program and Virtual Education would see increases. Higher education funding remains flat under Governor Parson's proposed 2021 budget.

The Governor's budget proposal did not include funding or increases in funding requested by DESE for the following programs: Parents As Teachers, Dyslexia training, School Safety Program, MSIP 6 support, School Turnaround Act, Grow Your Own Grants, Scholars and Fine Arts Academies, Community in Schools Pilot Program, and Character Education Initiatives.

Governor Parson's \$30 billion budget proposal goes to the House and Senate. The budget includes two-percent raises for state employees and a new \$100 million rainy day fund.

### **In other business, the board:**

- Recommended one public high school and six non-public high schools for A+ designation.
- Added a skilled technical science certificate for water quality and wastewater treatment management and recycling technology/technician.
- Recognized Pamela Westbrook-Hodge, of St. Louis, who Governor Parsons appointed to the state board pending Senate confirmation. She is the immediate past vice president of the Normandy Schools Collaborative Joint Executive Governing Board and currently serves on the Beyond Housing Board of Directors.

*Missouri NEA needs your voice as we work to prevent destructive legislation and promote legislation and policy that help provide a great public school for every child. Please watch your email (be sure we have your current home email address) for Action Alerts or surveys and take a few minutes to respond. Your voice makes a difference.*

The next meeting of the Missouri State Board of Education will be on March 10, 2020. Missouri NEA will be there. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Rebecka McIntosh or Ann Jarrett at 800-392-0236. Details of state board agenda items can be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/state-board-education/agendas-minutes>.

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