



Delaware State Board of Education

Vision Statement: All Delaware students are engaged in learning that provides a foundation for success, preparing them to transition into postsecondary education and careers, engage with their communities, and continue to learn throughout their lives.

Mission Statement: In collaboration with community stakeholders, the Delaware State Board of Education provides voice and leadership for Delaware citizens to ensure that the education system meets the needs of each Delaware student.

Guiding Principles: The State Board remains committed to approaching its work through the following guiding principles:

- **Equitable Opportunities:** Support high-quality educational opportunities for all students that reduce disproportionate student outcomes by race, ethnicity, socioeconomic conditions, and residence.
- **Student-Focused Education:** Advocate for the development of the whole child, including strong academic, social-emotional, and physical health and safety practices that provide a rigorous, relevant, and relationship-based education.
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Engage and collaborate with the community and partners to enrich education policymaking with diverse perspectives that represent Delaware's citizens.
- **Data-informed Decision-making:** Utilize national, state, and local research and data to inform decisions.

State Board of Education Priority Areas: (not listed in order of importance)

1) **Student Well Being:** Strengthen state policy and practice to foster learning environments that support health, safety, and well-being.

2) **Foundational Skills and Knowledge:** Leverage partnerships among early learning, K-12, and higher education to provide students with foundational skills and knowledge that contribute to long term academic success.

3) **College and Career Readiness and Success:** Build and strengthen state policy and practice to support students in gaining the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to pursue careers and continuing education.

4) **Educator Preparation and Development:** Strengthen state policy and practice to recruit, retain, and develop teachers and school leaders to ensure they have the knowledge, skills, and support needed to be successful.

5) **Partnerships and Innovation in Student Learning:** Engage stakeholders and members of the public, including students, to inform policy and practice. Promote school structures, systems, and initiatives that are innovative and can adapt to meet the evolving needs of the student population and community.

Roles and Responsibilities

The State Board of Education has a wide variety of roles and responsibilities, including:

- **Advancing Education Policies and Systems**
 - Approving regulations governing 100+ topics, including approval of state content standards, assessments, graduation requirements, educator evaluation, licensure and certification, and many others;
 - Serving as the CTE Eligible Agency for the State Perkins Plan;
 - Approving charter school authorizations—new, major modifications, renewals, and formal review.
- **Providing Strategic Oversight and Advocacy**
 - Providing the breadth and viewpoint of a citizen's board;
 - Providing the Secretary of Education with advice in the development of policy, new initiatives, budget requests, etc.
- **Resolving Disputes and Controversies**
 - Resolving certain disputes and controversies of the state education system, including school district boundaries, rules/regulations of local boards and student suspensions/expulsions for disciplinary reasons.