EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

In order to have a truly world-class system of education, we have to start early. Early childhood education helps children gain the necessary academic, emotional, and social skills to prosper in school and beyond. However, students in Maryland living below the poverty line have limited access to resources like early childhood education. The Blueprint ensures a strong start to achieving a World Class Education by investing in children, families, early education providers, and supportive services.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE:

HIGH QUALITY & DIVERSE TEACHERS AND SCHOOL LEADERS

High-quality teachers and school leaders are vital for world-class education, and a match between the diversity of staff members and students leads to better student outcomes. However, Maryland schools fail to provide high-quality and diverse educators that schools and children need to help them achieve success. The Blueprint elevates the teaching profession and creates different incentives that lay the foundation for the future World Class Education.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE:

NEW COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS PATHWAYS

Currently, Maryland schools do an inadequate job of preparing our students with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to be successful post-high school graduation as their peers in high-performing countries. The Blueprint creates a whole new approach to college and career readiness (CCR) in Maryland that ensures students will be ready to choose their pathways fully equipped.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE:

MORE RESOURCES FOR ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

The Blueprint aims to fund and support students’ families and services to create conditions students need to thrive. By giving students all the resources that they need to succeed, the Blueprint brings Maryland closer to a World Class Education.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE:

GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY

The Blueprint requires funding that is sufficient and distributed equitably to schools across Maryland. A strong system of accountability keeps all entities integral to the education system accountable during the implementation process.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE:
SINCE OUR INCEPTION IN 2017, STRONG SCHOOLS MARYLAND HAS BUILT A SPRAWLING NETWORK OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF INDIVIDUAL GRASSROOTS SUPPORTERS FOCUSED ON SECURING THE 2020 PASSAGE AND 2021 VETO OVERRIDE OF THE BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND’S FUTURE, A LAW DEDICATING FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND CRITICAL POLICIES TO CREATE A WORLD-CLASS SYSTEM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE STATE.

NOW THAT THE BLUEPRINT IS LAW, STRONG SCHOOLS MARYLAND HAS SHIFTED ITS MISSION TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH SUPPORTERS ACROSS THE STATE TO MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW; ADVOCATE FOR LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY POLICY CHANGES TO FURTHER EDUCATIONAL EQUITY; AND BUILD THE TECHNICAL CAPACITY OF EVERYDAY MARYLANDERS TO HOLD STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE TO THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES.

OUR VISION

WE ENVISION A MARYLAND THAT LEADS THE NATION IN ACHIEVING EQUITABLE STUDENT OUTCOMES, THE EQUITABLE FUNDING OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT.

OUR MISSION

WE ADVOCATE, BUILD POWER, AND SHARE RESOURCES WITH INVESTED MARYLAND RESIDENTS TO CO-CREATE STRONG PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT PRODUCE GRADUATES EQUIPPED TO THRIVE.

OUR CORE VALUES

JUSTICE: WE BELIEVE THE SYSTEMS IMPACTING OUR STATE’S STUDENTS MUST TREAT THEM JUSTLY SO THEY CAN THRIVE. ALL ENERGY SPENT PRESERVING INJUSTICE WITHIN THESE SYSTEMS IS WASTED, AT A DIRECT COST TO STUDENTS, THEIR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES, AND SOCIETY AT LARGE.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT: WE BELIEVE DIRECTLY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES CONTAIN THE POWER NEEDED TO CHECK POWERFUL, SEEMINGLY FACELESS SYSTEMS AND CREATE POSITIVE CHANGE. WE ALSO KNOW THAT GOALPOSTS SHIFT, AND WORK TO ENSURE THE POWER OF PEOPLE IS FELT AT APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF INFLUENCE.

LIFELONG LEARNING: WE BELIEVE THAT CURiosity DRIVES GROWTH, CREATES POSSIBILITIES, AND KEEPS US HUMBLY ACCOUNTABLE TO OUR OTHER CORE VALUES AS WE GAIN NEW EXPERIENCES AND PROFICIENCIES. WHEN PRESENTED WITH RECURRING OBSTACLES, WE DON’T DESPAIR; WE LOOK FOR WHAT WE CAN LEARN.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT: WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF CONNECTED PEOPLE. WHEN WE ARE TOGETHER, SHARING VALUES, GOALS, AND KNOWLEDGE, THERE IS NO MOMENTARY DEFEAT THAT CAN BLUR OUR VISION.

Strong Schools Maryland is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization formed for the purpose of advocating for Public Education and World Class Schools in Maryland. While we consider all Friends of Public Education to be allies, we are a non-partisan organization, and we do not, implicitly or explicitly endorse any candidates for political office. This page is intended to be a resource to potential voters, and is not meant to convey support for any candidate, political party, candidate committee, or PAC, regardless of whether said candidate, party, committee, or PAC are actively campaigning for elected office.

LEARN MORE AT STRONGSCHOOLSMARYLAND.ORG