



Adopted as Amended by the GAE Representative Assembly May 1, 2022

THE GOAL OF GAE IS TO IMPROVE THE LEARNING CONDITIONS FOR OUR STUDENTS THROUGH THE ENACTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING LEGISLATIVE OPLICIPITIES



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IMPROVE SALARIES SIGNIFICANTLY

- Establish minimum beginning teacher salary of \$45,000
- Ensure that salary increases (including step increases) extend to 30 years of service
- Apply any salary increases to the state salary schedule
- Secure an 8 percent raise for all Education Support Professionals
- Secure a state pay scale for education support personnel that includes steps for years of service.
- Implement a multi-year plan to improve educators' salaries



ENHANCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Provide necessary and equitable funding to ensure quality education for all students in the state of Georgia
- Ensure a minimum of 180 days of instruction while maintaining the state-mandated academic contract
- Fully staff schools to provide for vital programs, e.g., drop-out prevention, art, music, P.E., mentoring, counseling services, and others
- Restore classes to class-size formula and prohibit use of class-size waivers

- Ensure public school facility and bus transportation safety by providing preventative programs and more authority to educators
- Ensure that all education funding is restricted to public school programs and services
- Prevent all voucher initiatives and privatization of public schools
- Fund Pre-K education at the same level as K-12
- Restore full funding to HOPE Scholarship
- Establish a needs-based HOPE Scholarship



SUPPORT EDUCATORS

- Provide Education Support Professionals a state salary schedule and improved benefits, including a living wage for all public school employees
- Provide a fully certified educator for every teaching position
- Protect the current state salary schedule, including increases for educational attainment and/or experience
- Include certified, public school Pre-K personnel on state salary schedule
- Provide quality, affordable, comprehensive healthcare benefits and services to active and retired public school employees
- Improve retirement benefits for all public school employees, and maintain the defined benefit plan
- Secure collective bargaining rights for all public school employees
- Ensure manageable and safe load sizes on school bus transportation
- Secure safe public schools by opposing any legislation allowing school personnel, other than trained resource officers, to be armed



PROTECT EDUCATORS

- Enact and enforce fair evaluation systems including the right to appeal to a mutually agreed upon neutral third party
- Secure an effective and enforceable grievance procedure for all public school employees
- Secure fair dismissal procedures for all public school employees
- Secure employment contracts for Education Support Professionals
- Eliminate Strategic Waivers School Systems usage of waivers for class size, fair dismissal, state salary schedule, and certification (except on a case-by-case basis to attract applicants for CTAE-like positions)
- Hold local boards of education accountable for all local waivers
- Prohibit pay-for-performance plans



- Provide public school employees a greater voice in decision-making to improve public education
- Improve working conditions for public school employees, including, but not limited to, the elimination of waivers
- Ensure that nationally certified professionals are compensated at the level commensurate with their certification
- Provide comprehensive induction/mentoring for all beginning public school employees and provide additional pay for their respective mentors
- Ensure instructional decisions about curriculum are made by certified education professionals in order to facilitate an honest and empathetic education for all students K-12