



2007 Legislative Agenda

The Prince George's Business-Education Alliance has identified the following as its key priorities for the 2007 session of the Maryland General Assembly:

- Provide full funding for the final-year phase-in of the mandatory portions of the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act
- Fully fund the Geographic Cost of Education Index established under the terms of the Bridge to Excellence Act
- Amend the Net Taxable Income provision of the Bridge to Excellence Act so that the funding formula reflects the true wealth of each jurisdiction
- Fully fund the scheduled increase in the state's contribution to community colleges' operating budgets under the Cade funding formula
- Increase state funding for school construction and renovation to at least \$400 million
- Approve the Prince George's Community College capital budget request for \$6.4 million for work on four construction, renovation, and improvement projects
- Establish a legislative task force to recommend policy and funding options for consideration in the 2008 session of the General Assembly to meet the needs of students who fail the Maryland High School Assessments, and thus may not graduate in 2009, and to address issues of truancy, dropouts, and workforce preparation
- Create programs and incentives to ensure that every Maryland student is taught by highly qualified teachers
- Establish a legislative task force to develop "Thornton II" legislation for consideration in the 2008 or 2009 sessions of the General Assembly to address continuing achievement gaps and funding inequities in Maryland's public schools