

---

*For over a century CABE has been the collective voice of more than 1,300 board of education members across the State. As CABE has grown, so has our prominence as a leader in shaping public education programs — helping Connecticut prepare for the increasingly competitive 21st century.*

*CABE's positions reflect the commitment of board of education members to promote public participation through local lay control of public education, to promote equal opportunity and a high quality education for all Connecticut's public school children, and increase public awareness of education issues.*

*Student picture is courtesy of the Plymouth School District. The students are listening to the teacher as they review for an upcoming test.*

---

---

Save the Date and  
Plan on Attending

**CABE's**  
**Day on the Hill**  
**March 3, 2010**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**The Bushnell, Hartford**

Briefings  
Legislative Leaders  
Education Rally  
Lobbying  
Reception

For more information,  
contact Gail Heath at  
860-571-7446;  
email [gheath@cabe.org](mailto:gheath@cabe.org)



**Connecticut Association of  
Boards of Education**  
81 Wolcott Hill Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
Phone: 860-571-7446  
800-317-0033  
Fax: 860-571-7452  
Email: [admin@cabe.org](mailto:admin@cabe.org)  
[www.cabe.org](http://www.cabe.org)

January 7, 2010

---

---

## **2010 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**



**CONNECTICUT  
ASSOCIATION OF  
BOARDS OF  
EDUCATION**

---

---

# 2010

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

*All levels of government in Connecticut currently face serious fiscal challenges. This is particularly true for K-12 public education, since it has no power to levy taxes to fund its operations. Each of the 166 Connecticut districts relies upon the State to achieve its shared goal to continue to improve student achievement.*

*Strong urban school districts are critical to Connecticut's economic future. Each child must have equal access to effective free public education.*

*CABE urges Legislators to analyze each piece of legislation by asking "How will this legislation promote student achievement?" and "What is the fiscal and administrative impact on local communities?"*

### FUNDING

- Provide an equitable share of local education expenses
- Develop a comprehensive, fair funding formula for Open Choice, Magnet and Charter Schools
- Fully fund the special education excess cost sharing grant at four-and-a-half times the average per pupil cost
- Develop a strategy to address the expiration of federal stimulus funding for education

### MANDATES

- Phase in secondary school reform only when federal, state and local resources become available

### MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

- Raise the dollar threshold for construction projects subject to prevailing wage
  - Shift the burden of proof in special education due process hearings to the party challenging the placement
  - Include performance based pay in the Teachers Retirement Board calculation for purposes of retirement
  - Allow two or more boards of education or municipalities to jointly purchase employee health insurance
  - Enhance local capacity to manage labor expense through modification of collective bargaining statutes
-