

## **Legislative Guidelines 2016-2017**

Whereas the Lincoln Board of Education recognizes the impact of state and federal statutes on the governance of the school district; and

Whereas the Board has a responsibility to communicate with our representatives about the impact of legislative proposals upon the ability of the school district to provide a quality educational opportunity for all students;

Therefore the Lincoln Board of Education supports legislation that:

1. Affirm locally elected School Boards should have authority over local public schools.
2. Prohibit discrimination and affirms local control of decision concerning educational programs for all students and staff and fiscal processes that facilitate those decisions.
3. Require mandated state and/or federal programs have financial resources adequate to fund the requirement, or that they be optional for districts.
4. Allow complete local discretion to control access to school property and events by uninvited persons along with granting school districts additional authority as required.
5. Maintain the annexation policies of the City of Lincoln and Lincoln Public Schools.
6. Aligned with Lincoln Public Schools Board's philosophy and purpose as stated in Policies 8000 and 8001 and approved strategic goals.
7. Ensures those parents, guardians, agencies, or others having actual physical custody of a student have responsibilities under the Discipline Act, 79- 254 to 79-296.
8. Organize the state's elementary/secondary education system in a manner that enhances efficiency.
9. Promote equity, ensures that all taxpayers provide an appropriate share of the cost of public education, and adequately funds locally determined needs through the equalization of revenue sources for public school districts.
10. Provide for community redevelopment when it does not erode the local property tax base for all property tax supported governmental subdivisions.
11. Allow school districts to budget reserve funds in the same manner as other political subdivisions.
12. Increase opportunities for Nebraska school districts to fund their capital infrastructure, security, and technology needs.
13. Encourage ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the current Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System to ensure sustainable resources to fund future benefits, contributed equitably by employers and current employees who are future beneficiaries.
14. Clarify elements of the law that appear in conflict with other laws or whose intent is not understood.

Lincoln Public Schools may oppose legislation contrary to these positions.