Adequate funding is critical to achieve the Irvine Unified School District’s (IUSD) goal to provide students with the best educational experience we can envision. However, a significant gap in both federal and state per pupil funding puts IUSD at a disadvantage and jeopardizes critical science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) programs, as well as language arts, humanities and world languages programs. To ensure IUSD remains one of the highest-performing districts in the nation and our students are college and career ready, our top legislative priority is to secure adequate funding at both the state and federal levels for our more than 35,000 students.
Currently there are 700,000 students with disabilities in the state. California’s special education funding formula AB 602 (Chapter 854, Statutes of 1997), does not equitably provide the necessary funding to pay for the cost of services needed for students with disabilities.

AB 428 Seeks to address Special Education preschool funding, equalization of funding and providing funding for students who need extra support.

**AB 428 WOULD:**

- Establish a funding mechanism to support special education preschool programs, by adding preschoolers to the AB 602 funding formula.
- Provide a supplemental grant to support students with greater needs, including students on the autism spectrum, and students who are blind, deaf or hard of hearing, and intellectually disabled.
- Address long-standing inequities by equalizing special education funding rates to the 95th percentile over time, making the rates fair throughout the state.
- Allow school districts the ability to calculate a declining enrollment adjustment based on district, rather than Special Education Local Plan Area (SEPA), Average Daily Attendance (ADA).

### NATIONAL AND STATE FUNDING GOALS

- **State K-12 School District Funding**
  Increase California’s K-12 school district funding to reach the national average.

- **Federal Funding**
  Increase federal funding by approximately $4,000 per pupil to provide federally-mandated services.

- **State Funding**
  Increase state funding by approximately $2,000 per pupil so Irvine reaches the state average in per pupil funding.

- **Compliance Funding**
  Provide funding to meet state-imposed education mandates and federally-imposed legislation.

- **Special Needs Funding**
  Provide full state funding for all students, age 3 to 22, who have special needs.

- **Bond Funding**
  Support state bond funding for technology and facilities needs, and promote the equitable distribution of these funds statewide.

### SUPPORT FOR THE WHOLE CHILD

- Provide equitable resources for improved learning across all subject areas.
- Designate student mental health as an educational priority with adequate funding.
- Facilitate Career Technical Education Opportunities.
- Invest in technical and facilities upgrades for all IUSD schools.

---

Paul Bokota • Lauren Brooks • Betty Carroll • Ira Glasky • Sharon Wallin
Terry Walker, Superintendent of Schools • John Fogarty, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services • Eamonn O’Donovan, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Cassie Parham, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services • Brianne Ford, Chief Technology Officer

IUSD.ORG/LEGISLATIVEPRIORITIES