



The Promise

“The General Assembly shall provide for a system of free public elementary and secondary schools for all children of school age throughout the Commonwealth, and shall seek to ensure that an educational program of high quality is established and continually maintained.” —*Constitution of Virginia, Article VIII, Sec. 1*

In Reality

The Commonwealth is retreating from its responsibility to provide each and every student with quality schools:

- Since the Great Recession, Virginia’s state funding of K-12 schools has declined 9% when adjusted for inflation. Meanwhile, student enrollments have risen.
- Virginia is the 12th wealthiest state, but we rank 42nd in per-pupil state funding.
- The gap between what Virginia teachers make and the national average is at an all-time high. Virginia teachers currently earn \$9,218 under the national average, ranking the state 34th in the country.
- Virginia school divisions, especially small and rural districts, lack the state support they need to offer programs that wealthier communities take for granted.

Fund Our Future is a campaign to provide Virginia students with the schools they deserve. The Virginia Education Association and its allies are committed to the following goals:

Funding to Support Quality Schools

The General Assembly must fund the Virginia Board of Education’s revisions to the Standards of Quality, which will support vital positions in our schools. And we must find solutions to the challenge that localities face funding their share of the SOQs.

Professional Pay for All Educators

Teachers and education support professionals are the backbone of successful schools. The future of Virginia public education depends on its ability to recruit and retain a highly-skilled and diverse workforce. Virginia teacher pay must, at minimum, be brought up to the national average, and all education support professionals must earn a living wage.

Pro-Public Education Majority

It’s time for members of the General Assembly to commit to funding our future or step out of the way. VEA, the VEA Fund for Children and Public Education, and our allies commit to building a pro-public education majority in the Virginia House and Senate and holding our elected officials accountable for supporting Virginia students.

For more information, go to www.FundOurFutureVa.org