

2026 Proposed Resolution

As Adopted by the Education Policy Committee

September 12, 2026

All additions are underlined and highlighted yellow:

Deletions are ~~struck-through and highlighted blue~~

A-7: School Report Card

MSTA opposes:

3. Use of assigned letter grades for accreditation, or any punitive measures

Rationale:

In 2026, Gov. Kehoe signed an executive order for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to create an A-F letter grade for all Local Education Agencies as well as all school buildings. This policy is being created outside of the normal legislative or rule making authority of the department. Missouri already has a school accountability system in place. The Department should be prohibited from using the scores from this misguided metric for accreditation or any possible punitive measures that would impact students.

A-12: Access to Communication

MSTA supports:

4. Local school districts adopting clear, consistently enforced technology policies that include information relating to acceptable technology use, student screen time, and data safety measures

Rationale:

Technology policies continue to evolve at a quicker pace, and districts should involve the entire education community when considering how the policy will meet all stakeholders needs. Expectations for technology use should be clearly outlined for all of those in the education community.

A-16: Safe Schools

MSTA supports:

12. Requiring timely access to all records of student discipline relating to acts of violence and possession of weapons be shared with for school employees directly involved in the instruction or supervision of the student, including transfer of such records to a receiving school

Rationale:

Education professionals responsible for students need timely and accurate information about disciplinary history to anticipate safety concerns, recognize patterns of behavior and maintain consistent expectations and supports. Without a complete picture of this information, educators may unknowingly place students, or themselves at risk and may be unable to prepare an effective classroom management plan.

Upon adoption, Resolution would read:

12. Requiring timely access to all records of student discipline for school employees directly involved in the instruction or supervision of the student, including transfer of such records to a receiving school

A-17: Discipline and Student Behavior

MSTA supports:

13. State support for districts to address chronic absenteeism through evidence-based, locally appropriate interventions

Rationale:

Chronic Absenteeism reduces student achievement, disrupts instruction, and increases the difficulty of helping students remain academically engaged. Its causes often extend well beyond the classroom. Placing primary responsibility for attendance intervention on classroom teachers increases their administrative workload, diverts time away from instruction, but also places them in a position to address issues where they lack the specialized training, resources, or authority necessary to resolve the underlying barriers that cause repeated absences. The state must create a comprehensive plan and provide districts with adequate data, training, and funding to support locally appropriate solutions to meet the needs of Missouri students.

A-21: Artificial Intelligence in Education

MSTA supports:

6. Enforcement of criminal penalties and establishment of civil remedies for creating, distributing, or threatening to distribute sexually explicit or defamatory AI-generated media depicting any identifiable student or school employee

Rationale:

AI-generated sexual or defamatory media can cause immediate and lasting harm to students and school employees. Missouri law and district policies should enforce a zero-tolerance threshold for this behavior and must hold offenders accountable and protect all individuals in the school community.

B-1: State Support of Education

MSTA opposes:

5. Revision of the school foundation formula that lowers the state's calculated funding obligation to create the appearance of full funding, reduces the state's overall commitment to public education, or diminishes services available to students

Rationale:

Full funding for the foundation formula is only meaningful if the formula reflects the actual cost of providing every student with an adequate and equitable education. Creating a formula based on the state's ability to comfortably afford it, would harm the very students the formula is intended to serve.

C-8: Teaching Assignments

MSTA supports:

12. Reducing administrative, documentation, reporting, data-entry and compliance requirements that take educators away from planning, student support, instruction and other professional responsibilities

Rationale:

Although many well-intentioned initiatives have been enacted into law over the past decade, their unfunded administrative and compliance requirements often fall on educators. These added responsibilities reduce the time available for lesson planning, instruction, collaboration, and direct student support.