Education Priorities for the 2020 Legislature

**EDUCATION FUNDING**

$900 Million Student Investment
(About $1,234 per student)
- Teacher Compensation*
- 6% WPU Increase
- Teacher Induction Programs
- Teacher Scholarships
- Enrollment Growth

- $500-600 MM
- $32.5 MM
- $545 MM
- $30.2 MM
- $208 MM

**Other Funding Issues:**
- **Tax Policy:** Ensure sustainable, long-term, equitable and GROWING education revenue sources.
- **Constitution:** Safeguard public education revenue as provided by the Utah constitutional guarantee directing income tax to education.
- **Privatization:** Oppose schemes to funnel public ed money to personal student accounts or private entities where taxpayer accountability is lost.

*As recommended in the Envision Utah A Vision For Teacher Excellence report and adopted by the Governor’s Education Excellence Commission.

**TEACHER PIPELINE**

**EARLY CAREER SUPPORT**
- High-Quality Induction Programs
- Comprehensive Mentoring Programs
- Teacher Residencies
- Professional Learning

**EDUCATOR RETENTION**
- Workload Considerations
- Class Sizes
- Competitive Compensation
- Retirement & Benefits
- School Supports (social workers, nurses, para-professionals, etc.)

**QUALITY TEACHING**

**EDUCATION POLICY**

- Strengthen accountability standards for charter and online schools consistent with neighborhood schools, including student performance, governance, educator evaluation and financial accountability.
- Support direct, non-partisan election of school board members.
- Eliminate the misuse of student test scores to grade schools and impose consequences on schools.
- Ease the overwhelming workload heaped on Utah teachers by reducing the number of education bills and limiting the number of mandated initiatives.

**EDUCATION FUNDING**

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A **LONG-TERM** Vision for Public Education

**More Resources = Improved Results**
Public education requires a sustainable and **GROWING** revenue source. The UEA proposes a long-term funding focus on four major areas:

(Example potential investments included below for illustrative purposes)

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### INDIVIDUALIZED STUDENT ATTENTION
Ensure students' individual learning needs are met.
Reduce the number of students per classroom to research-based optimums.

- **Optimum** 15
- **Nat'l Avg.** 24
- **Utah Avg.** 29

Estimated annual cost: $1.1 billion ($612 million K-6 only)

Expand paraeducators to all Utah elementary classrooms.

Estimated annual cost: $312 million

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### ADDRESS THE TEACHER SHORTAGE
Increase salaries to start at $60K and grow to $110K over a career. *
Provide more scholarships for prospective teachers. *

- **Starting**
  - $43,000
- **Top**
  - $110,000

Estimated annual cost: $535 million

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### STUDENT EQUITY
Ensure equitable education access for all Utah students.

Ensure access to high-quality pre-school and extended kindergarten programs. †
Increase school counselors per student to national standard optimum of 1:250. †

- **Utah Average** 1:648
- **Nat'l Average** 1:455

Research Based
Optimum 1:250

Estimated annual cost: $150 million
Estimated annual cost: $130 million

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### STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY
Ensure student health and school safety for students and staff.

Create trauma-informed schools through evidenced-based curriculum and training.

- **Current Target**
  - PSYCHOLOGISTS 1:1950 1:500
  - SOCIAL WORKERS 1:3000 1:250
  - SPECIAL ED TEACHERS 1:35 1:25

Increase student access to school psychologists, social workers and special ed teachers. †

Estimated annual cost: $285 million

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* A Vision for Teacher Compensation, Envision Utah 2019
* Governor’s Utah Education Roadmap, 2018–2027