

# Massachusetts Association of School Committees Key Legislative Session Priorities

MASC is a member-driven association representing more than 2,200 school committee members. We support local leaders in their complex governance roles and advocate for the school committee perspective across all levels of government and education policy.



## Adjust Chapter 70 Aid for Past and Future Inflation

**H.678/S.388 - An Act to fix the Chapter 70 inflation adjustment**

**S.345 - An Act eliminating education funding inflation cap**

This package will collectively: revise the inflation formula to reflect true cost growth since 2019, and eliminate the outdated 4.5% cap on annual increases.



## Improve the Fiscal Health of Rural School Districts

**H.517/S.314 - An Act to provide a sustainable future for rural schools**

This bill aims to strengthen & stabilize rural school districts by increasing rural school aid, addressing enrollment declines, & improving access. It supports targeted funding & resources to help rural schools overcome challenges related to geography, staffing, & transportation.



## Expand Capacity in Vocational Technical Schools

**H.651/S.358 - An Act to improve access, opportunity, and capacity in Massachusetts vocational-technical education**

This bill includes a \$300M grant program for high-demand programs, boosts MSBA reimbursement rates for voc. school construction, adds vocational expertise to the MSBA Board & Advisory Board, & allows new Chapter 74 programs where demand exceeds capacity.



## Establish & Fund Financial Literacy Curriculum

**H.46/S.421 - An Act requiring financial education in schools**

Creates the Financial Literacy Trust Fund to support curriculum implementation & teacher training in financial education. Curriculum includes topics like budgeting, loans, taxes, investing, & crypto-currency.



## Support School Committees in the Superintendent Search Process

**H.3290/S.2195 - An Act relative to the executive session interview process**

This bill clarifies that preliminary screening committees, including those involved in superintendent hiring processes, may enter executive session when discussing candidates.

### MASC Fast Facts

**389** members attended Charting the Course new member training last year.

**1,076** members joined us at our professional development webinars in 2024.

**324** school committees maintain an MASC membership.

**2,200+** individual school committee members have access to MASC services and expertise.

**54** school districts utilized MASC to guide their superintendent search over the past 2 fiscal years

**877** school committee members, superintendents, and education leaders attended the 2024 MASC/MASS Joint Conference.

### MASC Public Policy Process

MASC's advocacy priorities are determined by a vote of the membership at the annual Delegate Assembly. MASC staff, with guidance from the Board of Directors and the Legislative Committee, collaborate to develop a strategic advocacy plan and engage with legislators, state agencies, and education stakeholders to advance these priorities.