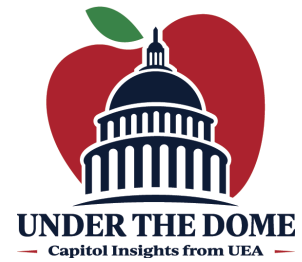# 2025 UEA Legislative Priorities

UNDER THE DOME
— Capitol Insights from UEA —

The following priorities are critical to supporting Utah's educator workforce and students.

Education Funding:

- **Provide at least a 3% increase on the WPU above the statutorily required inflation adjustment and enrollment growth.**
- Increase Paid Professional Hours for all licensed educators.
- Continue to fund the Stipends for Future Educators pilot program to provide financial support during the student teaching experience.
- Support a Healthy School Meals initiative that allows more families to qualify for access to no cost school meals.
- Establish sustainable and growing long-term revenue and ensure the distribution of sufficient funds to K-12 public education.

Quality Instruction and Student Equity:

- **Preserve freedom for public employees to participate in a labor union.**
- Value educators as trusted professionals to develop instructional materials that serve all students based on adopted Utah core standards and local district policies.
- Increases resources for school safety and student social and emotional well-being including physical facilities, school psychologists, social workers and counselors.
- Provide additional resources and support for educators, students and families to improve student attendance and engagement.
- Work with families and education partners to develop and promote programs which will increase respect, understanding, acceptance and sensitivity towards all members of Utah's diverse population in order to ensure a safe and equitable public school for every child.

Education Policy:

- **Ensure no additional funding for unaccountable private religious school vouchers.**
- Improve parity for educators by allowing all entities in the State and School System to pick up increased mandatory contributions costs for employees in the Tier II Utah Retirement System.
- Repeal 53G-7-224 which allows the Legislature to email school employees about an issue during the policy-making process and puts educators at risk of being sanctioned for engaging in prohibited political speech if they respond using a school computer or school email address.