



Florida School Boards Association

The voice of education in Florida.

PROPOSED FSBA 2019 Legislative Platform

[Items marked with an asterisk () are carried forward from the FSBA 2018 Legislative Platform]*

SCHOOL SAFETY

- 1 a. Increase recurring operational funds that provide school districts local flexibility to hire at least one law enforcement officer, school safety officer, guardian at each school and to implement local safe school initiatives.
- b. Increase funding to the FLDOE safe schools facility grant program in order for more schools in Florida to be hardened for safety, and expand the allowable uses of the grant program to include emergency shelter renovations.

(The Platform Priority Workgroup recommends this item as a priority)

MENTAL HEALTH

2. Build upon the investment made last year for mental health services by providing funding to hire additional school counselors, to expand and enhance mental health services available through school and community coordinated services, and to provide enhanced wraparound services.

(The Platform Priority Workgroup recommends this item as a priority)

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE

- 3.* Support greater school board contractual oversight of charter schools including the authority to negotiate up to five addendums to the standard charter that are agreed upon by the school board and the charter school.
4. Develop a multi-year contractual program to authorize school districts to become innovation school districts provided with flexibility and autonomy to best serve their students.
5. Ensure that public and private schools are treated equitably by the state by applying the same tuition and fee waivers to both public and private schools for dual enrollment course offerings.
6. Enhance the state investment in quality early learning and Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) programs by providing more robust funding, raising the qualifications of instructional personnel, improving the quality of the curriculum, and establishing uniform high quality early childhood indicators for public and private providers.

(The Platform Priority Workgroup recommends this item as a priority)

7. Create an incubator workforce education grant program, adjunct to Workforce Education categorical funding, for school districts to start new career academy and postsecondary vocational programs that includes funding for equipment and initial operations including instructor recruitment bonuses.

PERSONNEL

- 8.* Authorize school districts to re-employ, without FRS pension penalty, school-based administrators, teachers, substitute teachers, and other instructional support personnel after one month of retirement.
9. Repurpose the Best & Brightest Teachers and Principals Scholarship to provide for a locally controlled scholarship program that allows all teachers and principals to be eligible.
10. Create alternative options to achieve temporary and full certification for individuals who struggle with passage of the general knowledge test but who are rated as effective or highly effective.
11. Support district authority over teacher evaluations and pay for performance including removing VAM (Value-added modeling) from teacher evaluations, particularly for teachers of disadvantaged students.

FUNDING

- 12.* Reestablish the authority for school districts to levy up to 2.0 mills for capital purposes to meet the needs for facilities, maintenance, growth, and safety.
13. Exclude voter-approved capital outlay revenue sources from the statutory per student station costs to ensure that commitments to voters are fulfilled.
(The Platform Priority Workgroup recommends this item as a priority)
14. Support repeal of the mandatory redirection of local capital dollars away from district operated schools.
15. Restore the full value of the Required Local Effort millage rate, as was the historical practice prior to 2016, to capture increases in property value and revenue gained from new construction.
(The Platform Priority Workgroup recommends this item as a priority)
16. Increase the Base Student Allocation and support an overall increase in per-pupil funding to ensure all districts can provide high quality educators.
17. Authorize school boards to request voter approval of up to a 10 year effectiveness time frame for the voter approved millage authority provided in s. 1011.73, F.S., as is currently available to the voter approved ½ cent sales tax authority provided in s. 212.055(6), F.S.

ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

- 18*. Use additional student performance measures including, but not limited to, student portfolios, local assessment results, student course work, and similar documentation.
19. Continue to allow students to use a concordant score from the PERT to demonstrate mastery in Algebra I in lieu of the state assessment, with a concordant PERT score in alignment with ACT and SAT.

ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY *(continued)*

20. Provide a waiver from state assessment requirements so that students enrolled in ESE programs, except gifted, are exempt unless the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) provides for such assessment.
21. Support the learning and progress of English language learners, including recently settled students from Puerto Rico, by authorizing alternative methods for assessing these students including the availability of diagnostic assessments in the student's native language.
22. Provide at least one-year lead time for effective date and implementation of new programs or program changes.