

2022 STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

★ PER PUPIL FUNDING

In a multiyear approach, bring Florida's total per-pupil funding to at least the median in the U.S. Department of Education's Ranking of the States - \$11,732 - providing school districts adequate funding and the flexibility to implement programs, mitigate unfunded mandates and adopt spending plans that best meet their communities' needs.

★ CHARTER SCHOOLS

Advocate for the same safeguards and high standards of accountability, transparency and equity for both district-managed public schools and public charter schools.

Require charter schools to identify a location in order for the charter school application to be approved.

★ VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM (VPK)

Increase and expand funding sources for VPK programming to allow school districts the ability to attract highly qualified teachers, strengthen programming and extend the school day.

★ VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Amend legislation on the allocation of FEFP funding to allow school district virtual instruction programs to mirror the year-round funding model for Florida Virtual School. Currently, school districts can only generate FTE for part-time virtual students in survey 4 whereas Florida Virtual School can generate FTE in surveys 1,2,3 and 4. (F.S. 1011.61(1)(c))

★ CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDING

Resolve the inequity in capital improvement funding by restoring the millage rate from 1.5 to 2.0, and take into account the average taxable value throughout the state and fund the difference to the districts based upon student enrollment.

★ COLLABORATION OF EDUCATION-RELATED INITIATIVES

Ensure state education-related initiatives are collaboratively developed with local school boards, providing local control of school district operations and policy decisions.

★ ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS

Amend statute to extend eligibility for children with developmental delays from 5 years of age to 9. This would mirror the flexibility allowed at the federal level in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B. Extending the eligibility through age 9 would allow for uninterrupted early interventions and services for some of our most vulnerable students. (F.S. 1003.01(3)(a))

★ AMENDMENT TO STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Amend legislation for students who first enter the United States in the 9th grade and have met all requirements for the standard high school diploma, except for passage of any must-pass assessment, to demonstrate their ability to meet requirements for graduation using alternative formative district assessments. (F.S. 1003.433(3)(b))

★ OVERHAUL HAZARDOUS WALKING CONDITIONS LAW

Overhaul the 1973 Hazardous Walking Conditions law by requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to study what conditions constitute a hazardous walkway for children. (F.S. 1006.23)

