



Florida School Boards Association

*The voice of education in Florida.*

### **PROPOSED FSBA 2020 Legislative Platform**

*[Items marked with an asterisk (\*) are carried forward from the FSBA 2019 Legislative Platform with some modifications]*

#### **SAFETY & HEALTH**

1. Provide sufficient and flexible funding in the Safe Schools Allocation to hire and retain the type of safe schools officers that meet the needs of each school and the desires of each community.
2. Increase school safety operating and capital funding to provide safety infrastructure enhancements, to encourage qualified personnel to serve as safe schools officers, and to provide safety instruction to students and professional development training to personnel.
3. Increase the Mental Health Assistance Allocation to hire additional school mental health professionals, enhance collaborative community partnerships, expand wrap-around services to schools, and provide student instruction and staff professional development in mental health.

#### **INVESTING IN STUDENTS & SCHOOLS**

4. Increase in the Base Student Allocation by a minimum of 3% and provide sufficient total operating funding per-student to allow school districts to recruit and retain highly effective educators and address other recurring operating expenses.
5. Extend the duration of a locally voted operating millage levy from 4 to 10 years.

#### **PERSONNEL**

- 6.\* Authorizing school districts to re-employ school-based administrators and instructional and support personnel after one month of retirement, without FRS pension penalty, rather than the current requirements that can delay re-employment for 12 months.
7. Support innovative and meaningful approaches to recruit and retain highly qualified educational professionals including teacher fellowships and loan forgiveness programs, streamlined certification requirements, national recruitment fairs, and local authority over teacher evaluations and pay for performance.

### **ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY**

8. Reduce the number of required statewide assessments and permit native-language assessment accommodations for English language learners to align with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.
9. Eliminate the requirement that an end-of-course exam count as 30% of a student's final course grade.
10. Include industry certification and skill training in the school and district grade calculations.

### **CURRICULAR PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

11. Enhance the state investment in Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) programs by providing more robust funding, raising the qualifications of instructional personnel, improving the quality of the curriculum, and employing a developmentally appropriate assessment tool that provides a better measure of a child's progress and the program's effectiveness.

### **LOCAL AUTHORITY & GOVERNANCE**

12. Amend s.1003.621, F.S., to enable any school district – rather than only an academically high-performing school district – to be eligible for flexibility in meeting certain requirements in Florida Statutes and in rules of the State Board of Education.