



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Legislative Update

FAMIS Summer Conference 2021

Presenter: Stephen Bowen

June 28, 2021

AGENDA

1. Legislative Updates



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

2021 Legislative Updates

Disclaimers

- Some bills are awaiting the Governor's signature.
- FDOE is still reviewing and analyzing bills.
- Some provisions take effect upon becoming law (e.g. ... signed when); most take effect on July 1, 2021.
- This presentation does not include all provisions of all education-related bills.
- Refer to bill summaries for complete bill content.

2021 Legislative Session Highlights

Education bills were 52 percent of legislation introduced/passed.

- Strategic Investments in Education
- Reimagining Workforce Education
- Improving Learning Environments
 - School Safety
 - Mental Health

FDOE Priority Bills Passed

(red = signed)

- HB-3 – Home Book Delivery for Elementary Students
- HB-149 – Students with Disabilities in Public Schools
- HB-1507 – Workforce Related Programs and Services
- **HB-7045 – School Choice**
- SB-590 – School Safety

Bills Passed for Public Schools

- HB-5 – Civic Education Curriculum
- HB-131 – Educator Conduct
- **HB 419 – Early Learning and Early Grade Success**
- **HB 429 – Purple Star Campus**
- HB 827 – School District Funding
- HB 1159 – Educator Preparation and Certification
- **HB-5101 – Education Funding**
- **HB-7011 – Student Literacy**
- SB-590 – School Safety
- SB 1028 – Education
- SB 1108 – Education – Innovative Blended Learning

Other Education Bills

- HB 157 -- First Aid Training in Public Schools
- HB 173 -- IEP transition to high school, career
- HB 241 – Parents’ Bill of Rights
- **HB 529 – Moments of Silence in Public Schools**
- **HB 519 – Required Health Education Instruction**
- **HB 545 – Reproductive Health and Disease Education**
- **HB 723, HB 885 – DJJ programs and detention**
- **HB 847 – Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network**
- HB 1261, **HB 5601** – Higher Education – COVID liability, academic dashboard
- **HB 1349 – Assistance Programs (OEL)**
- HB 7033 -- Task Force on Closing the Achievement Gap for Boys
- SB 52 – Postsecondary Education – Dual enrollment reporting
- SB 96 -- Child Welfare
- SB 146 -- Civic Literacy Education
- SB 366 – Educational Opportunities Leading to Employment -- Ready to Work credential

Home Book Delivery – HB 3

To improve literacy outcomes by providing free books to K-5 below-grade-level readers.

- New Worlds Reading Initiative.
- FDOE Just Read, Florida! and a contracted administrator to develop and manage program.
- Books delivered to homes.
- Funded through tax credits.
- School districts notify parents, coordinate book selection and delivery – must start by Dec. 31.
- Reporting required annually on participation, learning gains, costs.

Civic Education Curriculum – HB 5

Expands social studies high school graduation credit requirements.

- **FDOE develops civic education program.**
- **FDOE develops Portraits in Patriotism oral history resource.**
- **SBOE develops civic-minded expectations.**

Educator Conduct – HB 131

Creates accountability for school employees and operators by requiring list of individuals barred from employment at public schools and private schools participating in scholarship programs.

- **Extends disqualification list to:**
 - **School support personnel.**
 - **Private school personnel in cases where school receives state scholarship funds.**
 - **Owners or operators of private schools whose authority was permanently denied or revoked.**
- **School districts report misconduct investigations whether individual is terminated or resigns while under investigation.**

Students with Disabilities – HB 149

Prohibits the use of seclusion on students with disabilities.

- **Monthly de-identified restraint incident data reporting begins Oct. 1, 2021. (FDOE website).**
- **FDOE develops standards for use of seclusion and restraint.**
- **Use of manual restraint and seclusion must be monitored at all levels from classroom to state.**
- **School districts/schools to adopt positive behavior interventions, post on website, ID personnel authorized.**
- **Restraint data required for reporting:**
 - **Date person using restraint last trained.**
 - **Date crisis intervention plan was reviewed.**
 - **Whether changes were recommended at review.**
- **Pilot district (Broward) can place video cameras in self-contained classrooms. www.FLDOE.org**

First Aid Training – HB 157

Expands grade levels in which school districts are encouraged to provide First Aid training.

- **Requires instructions in CPR for grades 9 and 11.**
- **Recommends first aid training for grades 6 and 8.**

IEP Requirements for Students with Disabilities – HB 173

Provides access prior to high school graduation to planning for transitioning to postsecondary education and career.

- Requires school districts to begin transition for students with disabilities during grade 7 or age 12.**
- Requires IEP teams to identify need for transition services for student with disabilities prior to high school or age 14.**
- Requires FDOE to review existing transition services to establish uniform best practices and post by July 1, 2022.**

Parents' Bill of Rights – HB 241

Creates Parents' Bill of Rights (Chapter 1014, F.S.), including mechanism for parents to be notified of information relating to health and well-being of their children.

- **Requires school district to develop and adopt policy to promote parental involvement.**
- **Requires school district to post on website or deliver information electronically on:**
 - **Plan for parental participation.**
 - **Procedure to learn about child's course of study.**
 - **Procedures for parent to object to instruction materials, opt-out of health ed, learn about activities.**

Early Learning and Early Grade Success – HB-419

- **Office of Early Learning (OEL) becomes Division of Early Learning within FDOE.**
- **Requires Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring Program (CSPMP) for VPK-grade 3.**
 - **2020-2021 VPK provider kindergarten readiness rates to be calculated with current kindergarten screening (administered in Fall 2021) and 2020-21 VPK assessment results.**
 - **2021-2022 kindergarten screening results will not be used to calculate VPK providers' readiness rates.**
- **Interventions post-VPK for students showing deficiency.**
 - **Funded from district research-based reading allocation.**
 - **Expands evidence-based reading allocation requirements.**

Purple Star Campuses – HB 429

Creates Purple Star Campus program within FDOE to support military families in Florida schools.

School-designated Purple Star Campuses:

- **Designate staff members as military liaison.**
- **Maintain webpage for military families' resources.**
- **Maintain student-led transition program.**
- **Offer professional development for staff.**
- **Reserve 5 percent of open enrollment seats for military students.**

Health Education – HB 519, HB 545

Required Health Ed Instruction – HB 519

- Expands required comprehensive health education instruction for public schools to include age-appropriate instruction on prevention of child sexual abuse, exploitation and human trafficking.

Reproductive Health and Disease Instruction – HB 545

- Requires district school boards to approve reproductive health and disease instructional materials at public meeting, and also to provide parents information on exemptions from instruction.

Juvenile Justice Ed Programs – HB 723

Revises how juvenile justice education programs may be operated and funded.

- **Increases the percentage of FEFP funds generated by students in juvenile justice education programs that must be spent on instruction.**
- **Requires contracts between district school boards and juvenile justice education programs to be in writing.**

School District Funding – HB 827

- **Requires school districts to allocate at least 80 percent of funding generated by the additional AICE FTE to school programs that generated the funds and programs administered by University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.**
- **Increases bonuses for AICE teachers.**

Educator Preparation and Certification – HB 1159

- **Expands the uniform core curricula for teacher preparation programs to include practical mental health support strategies and technology training.**
- **Expands pathways to demonstrate mastery of general knowledge, professional education competency exams through teacher preparation programs.**
- **Expands the William Cecil Golden Professional Development Program to include all educational leaders.**

Workforce Related Programs and Services – HB 1507

- **FDOE provides a report on performance results by school district, FCS institution and program by November 1 of each year.**
- **Reporting for industry-certified career education programs and career-themed courses for student achievement, performance data.**
- **Middle grades career and professional academy courses and career-themed courses to be aligned with the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List.**
- **School district partners with the apprenticeship program must report funding and costs.**

Education Funding – HB 5101

- **Provides for teacher pay increases to move toward a \$47,500 base salary and creates a minimum expectation of salary adjustment for educators rated as highly effective.**
- **Requires school districts to use a portion of the non-enrollment allocation from the federal Elementary and Second School Emergency Relief Fund to be used to locate unaccounted students.**
- **Requires school districts to report by Sept. 1, 2021, the total number of unaccounted students and their status.**

Education Funding – HB 5101 (cont'd)

- **Requires school districts to use a portion of the non-enrollment allocation from the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund to remediate K-12 learning loss during the 2020-21 school year.**
- **Requires school districts to use pre- and post-assessments approved by FDOE to assess students' academic progress and implement evidence-based interventions.**
- **Removed funding calculations for school districts with a decline in full-time equivalent students (1011.62(8), F.S.) and the virtual education contribution (1001.62(11), F.S.).**

Education Funding – HB 5101 (cont'd)

- **Requires school districts by Sept. 1 annually to provide an itemized list and costs of computers and device hardware and associated operating system software acquired under Digital Classrooms Plan funds (1001.20(4), F.S.).**
- **Changes requirements for providing virtual instruction so that all school districts must provide at least one part-time and full-time virtual instruction option for students in the district (1002.45, F.S.).**
- **For school districts that enter new contracts or franchise with Florida Virtual School as of July 1, limits enrollment of virtual full-time students residing outside the district to 50 percent of district-residing enrolled full-time virtual students; for existing programs, the limit is 100 percent (1002.45, F.S.).**

Student Literacy – HB 7011

Revises existing literacy policy and practices and creates new systems of support for educators, parents and students to improve student literacy outcomes.

- **Report progress monitoring data of number of students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia to be maintained in the FDOE EDW.**
- **Authorizes school districts to pay for PreK-grade 8 reading interventions out of FEFP reading allocation.**

School Choice – HB 7045

Consolidates Florida’s K-12 scholarship programs by repealing the Gardiner and McKay scholarships for students with disabilities by 2022 and transitioning those students into the Family Empowerment Scholarship (FES). In addition, the bill expands eligibility for the FES and Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC).

- **School districts to report all students who receive a scholarship under the FES Program; must be reported separately from other students reported for purposes of the FEFP.**
- **Repeals prior public school attendance requirement for scholarship eligibility.**

Postsecondary Education – SB 52

Renames the collegiate high school program as the early college program and modifies requirements. Creates the Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program and establishes a bonus scheme for state university system employees.

- **Provides for reporting for dual enrollment (college/university responsible).**

Child Welfare – SB 96

Reorganizes and clarifies reporting requirements for instructional personnel, district school boards and public/private college and university administrators regarding child abuse, abandonment, neglect, sexual abuse of a child and related criminal charges.

- **Authorizes and encourages district school boards to create educational programs for K-12 students relating to identifying and reporting abuse.**
- **Requires the EPC to suspend for at least one year the certificate of an educator who knowingly failed to report known or suspected child abuse.**

Civic Literacy Education – SB 146

Requires the Commissioner of Education to develop minimum criteria for a nonpartisan civic literacy practicum and creates the Citizen Scholar Program.

- **Provides students in the YMCA Youth in Government Program the opportunity to be designated Citizen Scholars and earn undergraduate credit.**
- **Mandates that high school students completing the Citizen Scholar Program receive up to six undergraduate credit hours and be designated as a Citizen Scholar.**

Education Opportunities Leading to Employment – SB 366

Provides support for students in work-based learning programs to be covered by their employer's workers' compensation insurance. Increases access to postsecondary education by standardizing a state-wide articulation agreement.

- **Considers a school district or FCS institution as the employer of a student 18 or younger in an unpaid work-based learning opportunity provided by the district or institution.**
- **Renames and revises the purpose of the Florida Ready to Work Credential Program.**

School Safety – SB 590

- **Strengthens oversight and compliance on school safety and aligns resources to better address student mental health issues.**
- **Requires the principal or designee to attempt to contact the student’s parent, guardian or emergency contact after involuntary removal and document communication attempts.**
- **Requires the principal or designee to notify the parent before a student is removed from school, school transportation or a school-sponsored activity to be taken to a receiving facility for an involuntary examination.**

School Safety – SB 590 (continued)

- **Requires districts to report involuntary examinations at school, on school transportation or at school-sponsored activity.**
- **Requires districts to include the telephone numbers for national or statewide crisis and suicide hotlines and text lines on student identification cards issued to students in grades 6-12.**
- **Expands district school board emergency procedures to include emergency preparedness policies and procedures.**

Education – SB 1028

Modifies several statutes:

- Requires hired or contracted charter school and school of hope instructional and non-instructional personnel as well as members of the governing board to undergo background screening.
- Requires public schools to provide water safety and swimming lesson information at child enrollment; defines water safety as age-appropriate education (1003.225, F.S.).
- Prohibits male students as identified by birth certificate from participating on female athletic teams (1006.205, F.S.).
- Allows special committee and advisory board members to attend meetings through telephone or video conferencing as well as in person (1001.42, F.S.).
- Lowers school district's administrative fee for an exceptional student education center from 5 to 2 percent (1002.33, F.S.).

Education – SB 1028 (continued)

Virtual schooling:

- Expands virtual instruction programs to provide part-time virtual instruction (1002.45, F.S.).
- Allows academically high-performing school districts to provide up to two days of virtual instruction within the 180 teaching days of a school year if approved by FDOE and indicated on the board-approved calendar.
- Allows virtual charter school to offer full-time or part-time virtual instruction for K-12 students (1002.321, F.S.).

Workforce and career education

- For dual enrollment, specifies that school district career centers will be reimbursed at in-state resident tuition rate (1009.30, F.S.).

Education – SB 1028 (continued)

Charter schools:

- Requires hired or contracted charter school instructional and non-instructional personnel as well as members of the governing board to undergo background screening (1012.32, F.S.).
- Permits charter schools to offer career and professional academies (1003.493, F.S.).
- Authorizes state universities and colleges with FDOE approval to sponsor charter schools and solicit applications to meet regional education or workforce demands to serve students in multiple school districts (1002.33, F.S.).

Schools of Hope:

- Permits a nonprofit that runs more than one school with a performance-based agreement with a school board to be designated a local education agency and report to the FDOE (1002.333, F.S.).
- Requires hired and contracted school of hope instructional and non-instructional personnel as well as members of the governing board to file a complete set of fingerprints taken by a trained person (1012.32, F.S.).

Education – SB 1108

- **Requires public school districts to offer SAT or ACT to public school students in 11th grade.**
- **Innovative Blending Learning program available to high-performing school districts, charter schools.**
- **Limits percentage of online learners and requires an available in-person seat for all registered.**
- **Adds civic literacy to U.S. Govt. course beginning 21-22 school year; provides for college exemption.**
- **Requires ELA and math assessments in grades 3-6 to be delivered in paper format.**

Legislative Update Resources

A detailed summary of each of these bills is posted at
www.fldoe.org/*****

QUESTIONS?

CONTACTS

Stephen Bowen

Assistant Deputy Commissioner of Data Systems
Florida Department of Education

Stephen.Bowen@fldoe.org