



Broward County Public Schools

2022 State Legislative Priorities

The Legislature should boost funding and adopt policies that educate today's students to succeed in tomorrow's world. Broward County Public Schools will advocate for legislation consistent with School Board policies and programs.

School Board Authority:

- Preserve School Board constitutional and home rule authority and oppose legislation that would subvert, bypass, or undermine that authority.
- Allow school boards with at least 10 percent of its student enrollment in Charter Schools to determine the need for additional schools.
- Allow school boards to fulfill public notice requirements outlined in Florida State Statute through posting on the District's website.
- Extend a security exemption for IT security incidents to all public bodies and other political subdivisions of the state.

School Safety:

- Support the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission recommendation to allow districts to levy up to .5 mills for capital outlay or personnel for safety purposes.
- Enhance previous legislation and clarify the method and frequency of Active Assailant Drills/Trainings. Allow the Office of Safe Schools to work with District School Security Specialists to determine the proper balance and frequency of drills/trainings.
- Fully fund the requirements for Safe-School Officers at all public schools.
- Fully fund and expand training for Guardians. Allow neighboring Sheriff Departments or other entities to provide Guardian training to increase consistency and availability.
- To ensure compliance, require charter schools to provide an executed contract of a full-year plan for Safe School Officers at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of school. Allow Districts to regularly request compliance certifications and documents to adequately monitor charter schools' compliance with the SSO requirements.
- Fully fund school district's obligation to provide school safety oversight to charter schools as outlined in Rule 6A.
- Continue funding for school safety infrastructure enhancements to schools.
- Provide adequate funding for mental health.

Teacher (Instructional Personnel) Retention and Recruitment:

- Fully fund the teacher salary enhancement allocation within the FEFP.
- Include all certified instructional personnel, including preschool teachers, in the education statute for the purpose of allowing them inclusion in incentive programs such as retention bonuses and retirement options currently afforded to K-12 teachers.
- Allow districts to provide teachers the autonomy to teach to the State Standards.

Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP):

- Fully fund the Constitutional Class-size requirement.
- Fully fund FTE credit for innovative learning environment.
- Increase per-pupil funding through the FEFP, allowing Florida school districts to be competitive nationwide.
- Maintain the Required Local Effort rate to allow for growth to pay for FEFP enhancements such as Base Student Allocation, Safe Schools Allocation, Mental Health Assistance Allocation, and supplemental services for additional students.

- Make the FEFP formula more equitable by eliminating compression within the FEFP and account for costs such as average teacher salaries, health insurance for employees, property and transportation per FTE.
- Oppose any redirection of taxpayer funding to voucher programs.

Funding (Non-FEFP):

- Establish a Victim's Compensation Fund for victims of the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.
- Fund the Camera Pilot Program in Broward County Public Schools.
- Continue \$800,000 in funding for the BCPS Adults with Disability (AWD) program.
- Provide funding for Peer Mentoring programs such as Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders, Latinos in Action, 5000 Thousand Role Models of Excellence.
- Allocate non-millage funding for charter schools to minimize the impact of sharing capital millage.
- Expand funding for full-day Pre-Kindergarten programs for all eligible students.
- Increase funding for student health services such as school nurses at each campus.
- Continue funding the Matching Fund program for BCPS students.
- Provide funding to enhance hurricane shelters.

Accountability:

- Fully transition from Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) to a student progress monitoring system.
- All schools that receive taxpayer dollars should have the same accountability measures as public schools.

College, Career and Technical Education:

- Restore funding to cover the costs associated with the Dual Enrollment program.
- Continue funding for Post-Secondary Workforce Education programs per State DOE Funding Model.
- Maintain statewide funding for Industry Credentials earned through allocation of Performance-based Incentive Funds.
- Continue to support the Governor's initiative to make Florida the number one state in the nation for Workforce Education by 2030.