



OVERVIEW

Special Announcement: The Commissioner of Education signed an Emergency Order on Accountability today, April 9, 2021. The order contains some of the flexibility in the accountability system that the School Board and Superintendent Runcie have been advocating for; providing flexibility in utilizing test results for graduations, promotions, teacher evaluations, Bright Futures, and school grades. BCPS will fully analyze the order and provide guidance in the coming days.

The Legislature held its sixth Week of Session, April 5-9, 2021.

Both the Senate and House passed their respective budgets this week (Senate \$95 billion/House \$97 billion) for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Budget differences will be negotiated during the budget conference scheduled to take place during the final weeks of Session. The Senate is maintaining the current per-student funding at \$7,786 (state-wide average), while the House is increasing the per-student funding by **\$181 for a total of \$7,967 (state-wide average), including a \$52 increase in the Base Student Allocation.

FEFP/Capital

FEFP	Senate	House
BCPS K-12 Total Funds	\$2,037,497,957 (-\$43 million)	\$2,086,990,935 (+\$6.4 million)
Total Funds per FTE (state-wide average)	\$7,786 (level funds)	\$7,967 (+\$181)/**\$7,850 (+\$63) w/out Student Reserve Allocation
Base Student Allocation	Level funding	\$52 dollars
Safe Schools Allocation	\$180 million (level funding)	\$180 million (level funding)
Mental Health	\$100 million (level funding)	\$120 million (+\$20 million)
Teacher Salary Increase	\$500 million (level funding)	\$500 million (level funding)
Class Size Allocation	\$2.97 billion (-\$166 million)	\$2.8 billion (-\$334 million)
Funding Compression	\$65 million (-\$2.9 million)	No funding

Guardian Funding	\$6.5 million	\$500K
Adults with Disabilities	\$800K	\$800K
Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders	\$400K	No funding
PECO	\$100 million-Charters/ \$0 for Public Schools	\$183 million- Charters/ \$0 for Public Schools
Alyssa's Law	\$6.4 million	\$6.4 million

Of note, the following education bills were presented to committee this week:

HB 7045 - School Choice passed its final committee: This is the House's companion to Senate Voucher Bill (SB 48) and is an expansion of vouchers in the state. This bill repeals the Gardiner Scholarship Program transitioning students to the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program, repeals the McKay Scholarship effective July 1, 2022 - transitioning students to the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program, and revises the scholarship amount for McKay.

HB 7035- School Safety passed its second committee. The bill includes many of the same provisions from last year's failed safety bill. The bill would grant the Education Commissioner the power to withhold pay from school leaders who fail to comply with safety laws.

SB 1028 - Charter Schools passed its second committee this week. The bill authorizes state universities and Florida College System institutions to solicit applications and sponsor charter schools under certain circumstances.

SB 192 - Students with Disabilities in Public Schools passed its second committee this week. The bill would establish a pilot program in Broward County that would require video cameras in certain classrooms at the request of a parent. The pilot program is not funded.

Please find below a summary of the Senate Committee & Subcommittee hearings this past week.

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

SB 192 – Students with Disabilities in Public Schools by Education and Book: Requiring school districts to prohibit the use of seclusion on students with disabilities in public schools; requiring school districts to adopt approved behavioral interventions and restraint training, pursuant to State Board of Education rules; creating the Video Cameras in Public School Classrooms Pilot Program; requiring continuing education and in-service training for instructional personnel teaching students with emotional or behavioral disabilities, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021.

Passed, now in Appropriations.

SB 366 – Educational Opportunities Leading to Employment by Education and Huston: Revising the general duties of the Department of Education with regard to apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs; revising the membership of the State Apprenticeship Advisory Council; providing that apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program sponsors are responsible for the selection and training of certain personnel, as approved by the department; encouraging specified entities to cooperate in developing and establishing

apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs that include career instruction, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 918 – Education by Bradley: Requiring school districts to allocate a certain amount of specified funds to certain programs that prepare prospective students to enroll in Advanced International Certificate of Education courses; requiring such funds to be spent on specified costs; requiring school districts to distribute specified bonuses to certain classroom teachers providing International General Certificate of Secondary Education instruction, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 934 – Education by Education and Wright: Requiring additional specified strategies to be included in rules establishing uniform core curricula for each state-approved teacher preparation program; expanding the instruction that an educator preparation institute may provide to include instruction and professional development for part-time and full-time non-degreed teachers of career programs; requiring the Department of Education to approve a certification program if an institute provides evidence of its capacity to implement a competency-based program that includes specified strategies; revising the minimum qualifications for part-time and full-time non-degreed teachers of career programs, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 1028 – Charter Schools by Education and Huston: Providing that a hope operator that has not been notified that a financial audit for a fiscal year will be performed by the Auditor General must retain an independent certified public accountant to complete, within 9 months after the end of its fiscal year, an annual financial audit of its accounts, which must be paid from its public funds; authorizing state universities and Florida College System institutions to solicit applications and sponsor charter schools under certain circumstances; revising the definition of the term “persistently low-performing school”, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 1282 – Early Learning by Harrell: Deleting the Office of Early Learning from within the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice of the Department of Education; establishing the Division of Early Learning within the department; revising approved child care or early education settings for the placement of certain children; requiring each parent who enrolls his or her child in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program to allow his or her child to participate in a specified screening and progress monitoring program; revising the performance standards for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program; authorizing certain students who enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program to receive intensive reading interventions using specified funds, etc. APPROPRIATION: \$3,865,759 Effective Date: Upon becoming a law. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 1336 – Gold Seal Quality Care Program by Gibson: Revising the requirements of the Gold Seal Quality Care program; requiring the Department of Education to establish a verification process for accrediting entities and providing requirements therefor; providing that an accrediting entity is liable for repayment of certain rate differentials if the accrediting entity granted accreditation to specified entities under fraudulent terms or failed to conduct onsite

verifications; providing an exemption from ad valorem taxation and rate differentials for certain child care facilities, etc. Effective Date: Upon becoming a law. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 1672 – State University Free Seat Program by Education and Diaz: Creating the State University Free Seat Program; providing an exemption from tuition and fees, including lab fees, for one online course at a state university for certain resident students; prohibiting a state university from charging such students more than a specified percentage of the tuition rate and the tuition differential under certain circumstances; providing a limitation on the application of such tuition discount, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Temporarily postponed.**

SB 1798 – Higher Education by Perry: Requiring a state university to waive the tuition and fees for certain courses in which certain resident students are enrolled; prohibiting the reporting of tuition and fees waived for state funding purposes; providing that a state university is ineligible for a specified performance-based incentive for failure to comply, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 1816 – Task Force for Closing the Achievement Gap for Boys by Rouson: Creating the Task Force on Closing the Achievement Gap for Boys within the Department of Education; providing for membership and meetings of the task force; requiring the department to provide staff, administrative support, and necessary data and other relevant information to assist the task force; requiring that the task force submit a report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

SB 1864 – Education by Perry: Requiring the Department of Education to maintain a disqualification list that includes the identities of certain persons; requiring district school boards to investigate certain complaints and report certain results of such investigations to the department; prohibiting an individual who is on the disqualification list from being employed by a charter school or serving as a member of a charter school governing board; requiring certain private schools to adopt policies establishing standards of ethical conduct for certain employees; expanding the list of entities that law enforcement agencies must notify of certain charges, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, now in Appropriations.**

[Committee Packet](#)
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Please find below a summary of the House Committee & Subcommittee hearings this past week.

House Education & Employment Committee

HB 845 – State University Free Seat Program by Post-Secondary Education and Lifelong Learning Subcommittee and D. Smith: Creates State University Free Seat Program; provides exemption from tuition and fees, including lab fees, for one online course at state university for certain resident students; prohibits state university from charging such students more than specified percentage of tuition rate and tuition differential; provides limitation on application

of such tuition discount; requires each state university to report information regarding waivers to BOG. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, added to Second Reading Calendar.**

HB 1475 – Sex-specific Student Athletic Teams or Sports by Secondary Education and Career Development Subcommittee and Tuck: Requires that certain athletic teams or sports sponsored by certain educational institutions be designated on basis of students' biological sex; prohibits athletic teams or sports designated for female students to be open to male students; requires that student's school or institution, as applicable, resolve disputes regarding student's sex; requires State Board of Education to adopt certain rules; provides for civil remedies & damages; provides statute of limitation. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, added to Second Reading Calendar.**

HB 1505 – Workforce Programs and Services by Post-Secondary Education and Lifelong Learning Subcommittee and Melo: Requires DOE & DCF, in consultation with DEO, to implement automated consumer-first workforce system; requires DEO to develop training for specified partners; requires certain DOE standards and policies to include specified requirement for training providers; provides criteria for work-based learning opportunity; requires that certain resources be used in career and education planning courses and character development curriculum; provides requirements for certain student career service centers and courses for digital credential. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, added to Second Reading Calendar.**

HB 1507 – Workforce Related Programs and Services by Appropriations Committee and Post-Secondary Education and Lifelong Learning Subcommittee and Yarborough: Creates Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help; creates and revises provisions relating to workforce services including the Labor Market Estimating Conference, workforce opportunity portal, state board composition, Credentials Review Committee, state plan requirements, waivers, local workforce development boards, Master Credentials List, CAPE Industry Certification Funding List, industry certifications, SEAS program, workforce development metrics, Florida Talent Development Council, Open Door Grant Program, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship program grants, and Money-back Guarantee Program. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, added to Special Order Calendar.**

HB 7035 – School Safety by Early Learning and Elementary Education Subcommittee and LaMarca and Hunschofsky: Requires DCF to analyze specified data; provides penalties relating to FortifyFL reporting tool; revises membership of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission; provides requirements for Commissioner of Education and Office of Safe Schools; provides requirements for codes of student conduct; requires district school boards to establish policies and provide timely notifications; provides training requirements for safe-school officers; revises requirements for mental health assistance allocation. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **Passed, first reading 4/7/21.**

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