



## OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

### 2025 Regular Session, Week 3 Summary Report

*March 21, 2025*

## Florida Legislature





## Legislative Affairs Department Broward County Public Schools

Florida Legislature  
**2025 Regular Session, Week 3 Report**  
March 17 – March 21, 2025

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### OVERVIEW

The Legislature held its third week of session, March 17-21, 2025.

#### **Educational bill topics on the move related to BCPS:**

- |                  |                                 |                            |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Academics      | • Athletics                     | • Attendance               |
| • CTACE          | • Curriculum                    | • Diversity and Observance |
| • ESE            | • Facility Planning/Real Estate | • Information Systems      |
| • Mental Health  | • Prevention                    | • Safety and Security      |
| • Student Health | • Student Transportation        |                            |

### TRENDING- IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [Trump to sign order calling for end of U.S. Department of Education](#) (*Tampa Bay Times*)
- [Can't meet start time rule? Florida lawmakers want schools to prove it](#) (*Tampa Bay Times*)
- [Florida's graduation rates are up. That doesn't tell the whole story](#) (*Tampa Bay Times*)
- [Schools could decide own start times again as bill moves through Senate](#) (*Florida Politics*)
- [Florida high school students would learn 'life skills' if student-led bill passes](#) (*Florida Phoenix*)



## FLORIDA HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

Please find below a summary of the House Committee & Subcommittee hearings and sessions this past week.

### **House Human Services Subcommittee**

*Met on Tuesday, 3/18/2025, at 9:00 a.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- [\*\*HB 127 - Exceptional Student Education\*\*](#) by Representative Kim Kendall

By January 31, 2026, the Florida Department of Education must establish a program to help students with disabilities earn job-related micro-credentials, including workplace safety. Teachers and IEP teams must confirm the student's skills before awarding the credentials. Annual reports from 2026 to 2030 will track the program's progress. (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

**Status:** Passed; now in PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee

- **[SB 102 - Exceptional Student Education](#)** by **Senator Don Gaetz** (*Comparable Bill*)

**Status:** Passed Fiscal Policy; now placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

### **House Government Operations Subcommittee**

*Met on Tuesday, 3/18/2025, at 3:00 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **[HB 251 - Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)** by **Representatives Debra Tendrich and Jennifer Harris**  
Requires Governor to proclaim specified day annually as "Holocaust Remembrance Day"; authorizes "Holocaust Remembrance Day" to be observed in this state's public schools & be observed by public exercise as Governor may designate; authorizes specified instruction. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) **Status:** Passed; now in Education & Employment Committee

- **[SB 356 - Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)** by **Senator Lori Berman** (*Comparable Bill*)

**Status:** Placed on Calendar; on 2nd reading

### **House Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee**

*Met on Wednesday 3/19/2025, at 1:00 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **[HB 665 - Local Government Impact Fees and Development Permits and Orders](#)** by **Representative Kevin Steele**  
Counties and municipalities cannot require art-related conditions, such as paying for or installing art, when processing development permits. "Extraordinary circumstances" based on population growth may affect impact fee increases, which must be justified by a study showing the need and which projects will benefit. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) **Status:** Passed; now in Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee

- **[SB 482 - Local Government](#)** by **Senator Nick DiCeglie** (*Comparable Bill*)

**Status:** On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 03/25/25, 11:00 am

### **House Student Academic Success Subcommittee**

*Met on Tuesday 3/18/2025, at 3:00 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **[HB 1113 - Mathematics Education Requirements](#)** by **Representative Susan L. Valdés**

The law is updated to improve math education in teacher training and certification. Teacher preparation programs must include lessons and assessments on key math topics such as numbers, operations, fractions, algebra, measurement, geometry, and data analysis at the elementary level. These programs must dedicate at least 6 credit hours to math content. Postsecondary educator preparation programs must also include similar math content in their certification programs. Professional learning certification programs must include comprehensive math content that meets teaching standards and practices. (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

**Status:** Passed; now in Careers & Workforce Subcommittee





- **HB 1135 - Electrocardiograms for Student Athletes** by Representative Jason Shoaf  
High school students in Florida must get a medical evaluation and, if needed, an electrocardiogram before participating in sports, unless they have a religious exemption. Students must pass this yearly medical check-up and electrocardiogram, if applicable, before joining athletics. Out-of-state licensed doctors with equivalent credentials can conduct these evaluations. All students in grades 9 through 12 who are part of or trying out for a sports team must have an electrocardiogram. If a student has a religious objection, the law protects against liability for injuries or deaths linked to medical conditions that could have been found in the evaluations or electrocardiograms. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Education & Employment Committee
  - **SB 1070 - Electrocardiograms for Student Athletes** by Senator Corey Simon (*Comparable Bill*)  
**Status:** Passed Health Policy; now in Fiscal Policy
- **HB 1223 - Student Online Personal Information Protection** by Representative Kiyan Michael  
The bill prohibits collecting or sharing student information without written consent from a parent or guardian. It requires contracts and agreements to include a specific statement and for school districts to publish parts of these documents. Penalties are imposed on operators and services that don't meet the requirements. The DOE must publish related information on its website within a set timeframe. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Education Administration Subcommittee
- **HB 1255 – Education** by Representative Dana Trubulsky  
Revises provisions relating to critical teacher shortage areas, Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, Florida School for Competitive Academics, use of certain educational funds, emergency opioid antagonists, corporal punishment, background screening requirements for private schools, prekindergarten programs, students of military families, K-12 courses, instruction, standards, & benchmarks, New Worlds Tutoring Program, & educator certifications. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed
- **HB 1309 - Reading Interventions and Instruction** by Representative John Snyder  
The bill requires school districts to implement comprehensive reading instruction systems, including evidence-based interventions and strategies tailored to students' reading needs. It also mandates professional training for teachers on reading instruction, covering both foundational skills and interventions for older students. Districts must create annual professional learning plans, approved by school boards, to address reading difficulties. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Budget Committee
  - **SB 1618 - Prekindergarten - Grade 12 Education** by Senator Alexis Calatayud (*Comparable Bill*)  
**Status:** On Committee agenda - Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education, 03/24/25, 1:30 pm

### **Education Administration Subcommittee**

*Met on Wednesday, 3/19/25 10:30 a.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **HB 571 - Career Planning Opportunities for Students** by Representative Kim Kendall  
The bill supports career planning and includes apprenticeships for student credits. It requires work-based learning opportunities to be available for students. High schools must host career fairs where students can meet employers offering apprenticeship programs. Students' career plans must be reviewed and updated every year, with signatures from the student, guardian, and counselor. (Effective July 1, 2025)  
**Status:** Passed; now in Education & Employment Committee
- **HB 1079 - Students Enrolled in Dropout Retrieval Programs** by Representative Adam Botana  
Revises assessment & accountability requirements for virtual instruction program provider; provides that virtual instruction program provider operating exclusively as dropout retrieval program is exempt from specified requirements; provides that dropout retrieval programs serve specified group of students; & provides that specified accountability requirements apply to dropout retrieval programs. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed
  - **SB 1402 - Students Enrolled in Dropout Retrieval Programs** by Senator Clay Yarborough (*Comparable Bill*) **Status:** Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education
- **HB 1367 - School Attendance** by Representative Erika Booth

The bill prohibits out-of-school suspensions based on attendance, requires schools to treat in-school suspensions and certain extracurricular activities as attendance, and mandates a statewide attendance policy to address absenteeism, including guidelines for excused absences and family involvement in remediation. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed; now in PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee

- **HB 1483 - School Grades** by Representative Susan L. Valdés

Requires school grades to be included on student report cards; revises percentage of points used to designate school grades for specified school years; revises requirements for school report cards; & requires certain school grade designation to be included on school report cards for information purposes. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Student Academic Success Subcommittee

- **HB 261 - Middle School / High School Start Times** by Representative Anne Gerwig

Provides that school districts & charter schools follow certain provisions relating to middle school & high school start times upon submission of specified report to DOE. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Education & Employment Committee

- **SB 296 - Middle / High School Start Times** by Senator Jennifer Bradley (*Comparable Bill*) **Status:** Passed  
Fiscal Policy; placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

- **HB 969 - Reporting of Student Mental Health Outcomes** by Representative Hillary Cassel

Each school district must provide certain information to DCF for reporting and evaluation, submit approved plans and reports to DCF and DOE, and have the mental health coordinator work with DCF on evaluations. Threat management teams and coordinators must report specific data to DCF, and districts must notify school personnel about available mental health providers. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Human Services Subcommittee



- **SB 1310 - Reporting of Student Mental Health Outcomes** by Senator Jennifer Bradley (*Comparable Bill*) **Status:** On Committee agenda - Children, Families, and Elder Affairs, 03/25/25, 4:00 pm

### **Criminal Justice Subcommittee**

Met on Wednesday, 3/19/2025, at 1:00 p.m.

[Committee Packet](#)

- **HB 1403 - Safety of Students** by Representatives Bradford Troy Yeager and Christine Hunschofsky

Revises provisions relating to Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program, school safety requirements, & safe-school officer requirements. (Effective July 1, 2025)

**Status:** Passed; now in PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee

- **SB 1470 - School Safety** by Senator Danny Burgess (*Comparable Bill*)  
**Status:** Committee agenda - Appropriations Committee Pre-K - 12 Education, 03/24/25, 1:30 pm

### **House Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee**

Met on Wednesday, 3/19/2025, at 1:00 p.m.

[Committee Packet](#)

- **HB 981 - Athlete Representation and Compensation** by Representative Yvette Benarroch

The bill limits how much athlete agents can earn from student athletes' name, image, or likeness, and creates a public database of athlete agents. It allows high school athletes to earn money from their name, image, or likeness with parental consent if under a certain age. It also lets them consult with approved advisors and sets rules for these advisors and schools. (Effective July 1, 2025) **Status:** Passed

## House Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee

*Met on Wednesday, 3/19/2025, at 1:00 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **[HB 679 - Term Limits for Members of County Commissions and District School Boards](#)** by Representative Michelle Salzman

Term Limits for Members of County Commissions and District School Boards: Proposes amendment to the Constitution to provide term limits for members of boards of county commissioners and district school boards.

**Status:** Passed; now in Education Administration Subcommittee

- **[SB 802 - Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners and District School Boards](#)** by Senator Blaise Ingoglia (*Comparable Bill*) **Status:** Passed Ethics and Elections; now in Community Affairs

## House Careers & Workforce Subcommittee

*Met on Wednesday, 3/19/2025, at 4:30 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **[HB 809 - School Social Workers](#)** by Representatives Christine Hunschofsky and Vicki L. Lopez, V. Provides that persons employed as school social workers are exempt from specified educator certification requirements. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) **Status:** Passed; now Education Administration Subcommittee

## Education & Employment Committee

*Met Thursday, 3/20/2025, at 8:00 a.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)



- **[HB 921 - Required Instruction in Cursive Writing](#)** by Representative Tobin Rogers 'Toby' Overdorf

Requires students in specified grades to receive instruction in cursive writing; provides requirements for such instruction; & requires students to demonstrate proficiency in cursive writing by end of specified grade. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) **Status:** Passed; Placed on Special Order Calendar, 03/26/25

## State Affairs Committee

*Met on Thursday, 3/20/2025, at 8:30 a.m.*

[Committee Report](#)

- **[HB 549 - Gulf of America](#)** by Representative Juan Carlos Porras  
Requires instructional materials & library media center collections adopted or acquired after specified date to reflect new federal designation of "Gulf of Mexico" as "Gulf of America". (*Effective July 1, 2025*)  
**Status:** Passed; Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading



# The Florida Senate

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

## Community Affairs

*Met on Monday, 3/17/2025, at 4:00 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **[SB 1188 - Local Governing Authorities](#) by Senator Stan McClain**

Providing that certain construction projects are exempt from concurrency; authorizing a local government to grant a construction project at a charter school an exemption from concurrency; providing a method for a developer to provide a certain contribution in lieu of paying an education impact fee; restricting building requirements that may be imposed by a local governing authority against a startup charter school, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025)

**Status:** Passed; Now in Transportation

- **[HB 569 - Construction and Facilities](#) by Representative Kim Kendall (Comparable Bill)**

**Status:** Passed Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee; now in Education Administration Subcommittee

## Education Pre-K – 12

*Met on Monday, 3/17/2025 at 4:00 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **[SB 140 - Charter Schools](#) by Senator Don Gaetz**

Revising which persons or entities may apply for a conversion charter school; revising entities that are included in the Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program to include charter schools; requiring a district school board to approve a 5-year plan before occupying purchased or acquired real property, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Community Affairs

- **[SB 430 - Cardiac Emergencies](#) by Senator Corey Simon**

Revising requirements for instruction on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator; requiring each public school to develop a cardiac emergency response plan (CERP); requiring public schools, including charter schools, to have at least one operational automated external defibrillator on school grounds by a specified date, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

- **[SB 772 - Diabetes Management in Schools](#) by Senator Alexis Calatayud**

Authorizing a school district or public school to acquire and maintain a supply of undesignated glucagon; authorizing a school district or public school to obtain monetary donations or apply for grants to purchase glucagon; authorizing a school district or public school to request a prescription for glucagon from a county health department; requiring an employee to call for emergency assistance and provide parental notification after the administration of glucagon, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025)

**Status:** Passed; now in Health Policy

- **[HB 597 - Diabetes Management In Schools](#) by Representative David Smith (Comparable Bill)** **Status:** Passed Health Professions & Programs Subcommittee; now in Education & Employment Committee





- **SB 1102 - School Readiness Program** by Senator Alexis Calatayud

Revising the criteria for a child to receive priority for participation in the school readiness program; providing requirements for a school readiness program provider to be eligible for specified funding beginning on a specified date, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

- **SB 1374 - School District Reporting Requirements** by Senator Clay Yarborough

Requiring district school boards to adopt a policy temporarily removing instructional personnel under specified circumstances; revising requirements for law enforcement to notify specified entities when an employee is arrested for certain offenses; requiring instructional personnel and administrative personnel to self-report certain arrests or judgments within specified timeframes, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Criminal Justice

- **SB 1382 - School Readiness for Economically Disadvantaged Households** by Senator Alexis Calatayud



Revising the Department of Education's duties for adopting specific program support services to coordinate a comprehensive early learning program; revising duties of early learning coalitions relating to the creation of a uniform waiting list; revising requirements for the school readiness program plan, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

### **Appropriations Committee on Higher Education**

*Met on Tuesday, 3/18/2025, at 1:00 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **SB 270 - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program** by Senator Danny Burgess

Revising eligibility requirements for a student who earns a high school diploma from a non-Florida school under certain circumstances; revising student eligibility requirements for the Florida Academic Scholars award to include earning an Advanced Placement Capstone designation from the College Board, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025)

**Status:** Passed; now in Appropriations

### **Health Policy**

*Met on Tuesday, 3/18/2025, at 3:30 p.m.*

[Committee Packet](#)

- **SB 1546 - Background Screening of Athletic Coaches** by Senator Erin Grall

Revising the date upon which certain background screenings of athletic coaches must be conducted, etc. (Effective 7/1/2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Criminal Justice

- **HB 431 - Background Screening Athletic Coaches** by Representative Dana Trabulsy (*Comparable Bill*)

**Status:** On Committee agenda - Health & Human Services Committee, 03/24/25, 4:00 pm

- **SB 958 - Type 1 Diabetes Early Detection Program** by Senator Mack Bernard

Mandates the Department of Health to collaborate with school districts to create and distribute materials that help detect Type 1 diabetes early among students. (Effective 7/1/2025) **Status:** Passed; now in Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services

- **HB 723 - Type 1 Diabetes Early Detection Program** by Representative Allison Tant (*Comparable Bill*)

**Status:** On Committee agenda - Health & Human Services Committee, 03/24/25, 4:00 pm



## **Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security**

*Met on Tuesday, 3/18/2025, at 3:30 p.m.*

### **Committee Report**

- **SB 1528 - Educational Opportunities for Military Children** by Senator Jay Collins

The bill requires the Department of Education to create an agreement between school districts and military installations to develop a training module. This module will help speed up the transfer of K-12 student education records from out-of-state schools. The Department of Education will provide the module to each district school board, which must then share it with all public and charter K-12 schools. School boards must ensure that employees working with military students and families have access to the training. (*Effective 7/1/2025*) **Status:** Passed; now in Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

## **Judiciary Committee**

*Met on Wednesday, 3/19/2025, at 9:00 am*

### **Committee Packet**

- **SB 248 - Student Participation in Interscholastic/Interscholastic Extracurricular Sports** by Senator Corey Simon

Providing that an activity or a sport must meet specified requirements; specifying conditions for a home education student to participate in interscholastic athletics; revising the criteria a private school student must meet to participate in a sport at a Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) member school, etc. (*Effective 7/1/2025*) **Status:** Passed; now in Rules

- **HB 151 - Interscholastic Activities** by Representative Shane G. Abbott (*Comparable Bill*)  
**Status:** Passed Education & Employment Committee, now placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

