



OVERVIEW

The Florida Legislature held its second Interim Committee Week, January 13-17, 2025, as part of the 2025 Legislative Session.

The Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education heard the presentations: Pre-K – 12 Education Budget Overview; Program Review: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) - Federal Funds; Program Review: Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Centers (FDLRS); and Program Review: University Autism Programs - Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD).

The Senate Education Pre-K - 12 heard the presentations on Supports for Families and Students with Autism: UF Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment; Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD); Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS); Palm Beach School for Autism; South Florida Autism Charter School.

The House PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee held a discussion regarding the PreK-12 Budget, hearing remarks from Commissioner Manny Diaz, Jr.; Senior Chancellor Paul Burns, Division of K-12 Public Schools; Chancellor Cari Miller, Division of Early Learning; Deputy Commissioner Suzanne Pridgeon, Division of Finance & Operations; Executive Director Adam Emerson, Office of School Choice; and Vice Chancellor Darren Norris, Office of Safe Schools.

The House Education Administration Subcommittee discussed early learning system and the administration of School Readiness.

The House Student Academic Success Subcommittee held a panel discussion on implementation of CS/HB 379 -- Technology in K-12 Public Schools. **In her introduction remarks, Representative Lisa Dunkley spoke highly of the Broward school system and highlighted BCPS priorities.**

The next Interim Committee Week will be held January 20-24, 2025.

Special Session: Governor Ron DeSantis called for a special session of the Florida legislature to be held from January 27-31, 2025, to implement immigration policies that are anticipated from executive orders during the first week of the incoming Trump Administration. The call includes the following issues:

- combating illegal immigration
- condominium regulation
- agricultural relief in response to natural disasters
- replenishing the My Safe Florida Home program
- citizens' initiative petition process

[Governor's Office Outline of Special Session 2025A Legislative Proposals](#)
[FLORIDA WILL LEAD -one pager](#)

2025 BROWARD LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

The Broward Legislative Delegation held its second public hearing January 7, 2025.



Representative Marie Paule Woodson (D)
 Broward Legislative Delegation Chair
 District 105, Term Limits Out in 2028



Senator Dr. Rosalind Osgood (D)
 Broward Legislative Delegation Vice Chair
 District 32, Term Limits Out in 2030

2025 Committee Assignments relative to BCPS:

- Budget Committee
- Education Administration Subcommittee
- Joint Legislative Budget Commission

2025 Committee Assignments relative to BCPS:

- Appropriations Committee on Pre-K – 12 Education



Senator Jason W. B. Pizzo (D)
 Minority Leader
 District 37, Term Limits Out in 2028



Representative Christine Hunschofsky (D)
 Minority Whip
 District 95, Term Limits Out in 2028

2025 Committee Assignments relative to BCPS:

- Joint Legislative Budget Commission
- Appropriations

2025 Committee Assignments relative to BCPS:

- Budget Committee



Senator Tina Scott Polsky (D)
District 30, Term Limits Out in 2030

2025 Committee Assignments relative to BCPS:

- Appropriations



Representative Dan Daley (D)
District 96, Term Limits Out in 2028

2025 Bill Sponsorship relative to BCPS:

- HB 0037 Educator Certifications and Training



Representative Mitch Rosenwald (D)
District 98, Term Limits Out in 2032



Representative Chip LaMarca (R)
District 100, Term Limits Out in 2026



Senator Barbara Sharief (D)
District 35, Term Limits Out in 2032

2025 Committee Assignments relative to BCPS:

- Appropriations



Representative Lisa Dunkley (D)
District 97, Term Limits Out in 2030

2025 Committee Assignments relative to BCPS:

- Education & Employment Committee
- Student Academic Success Subcommittee



Representative Daryl Campbell (D)
District 98, Term Limits Out in 2032



Representative Hillary Cassel (R)
District 101, Term Limits Out in 2030



Representative Michael "Mike" Gottlieb (D)

District 102, Term Limits Out in 2026



Representative Robin Bartleman (D)

District 103, Term Limits Out in 2028



Representative Felicia Simone Robinson (D)

District 104, Term Limits Out in 2028

2025 Bill Sponsorship relative to BCPS:

- Budget Committee

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [New Florida bill would undo school start time requirements for 2026](#) (WFLA)
- [Kristen Arrington and Rita Harris file bills mandating standardized tests be offered in multiple languages](#) (Florida Politics)
- [States are preparing to help or thwart Trump's second-term plans](#) (SunSentinel)
- [Judge Scraps Biden's LGBTQ Protections and Bans Requiring Teachers to Use Students' Chosen Pronouns](#) (FlaglerLive)
- ['Classical education' thrives in DeSantis' Florida](#) (POLITICO)
- [Bill would allow candidates to use campaign contributions for childcare expenses](#) (Florida Phoenix)
- [Florida lawmakers push for universal free school breakfast and lunch under new legislation](#) (Florida's Voice)
- [Bill Would Ban Display of Racial, LGBTQ Flags on Government, Public School Property](#) (The Floridian)
- [Florida Bill Removes State-Required Pay Raises for Teachers, Grants Schools New Salary Power](#) (Newsbreak)

Summary of the Senate Committee & Subcommittee hearings this past week.

Senate Appropriations

Did not meet; was scheduled on 1/16/25 at 1 PM

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

- Senator Jason W. B. Pizzo
- Senator Tina Polsky
- Senator Barbara Sharief

Upcoming Meeting: to be announced

Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

Met on 1/15/25 at 9 AM

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

- Senator Dr. Rosalind Osgood

The committee discussed budget allocations, introduced members, and reviewed programs supporting students with unique abilities.

[Presentation - Pre-K - 12 Education Budget Overview](#)

The overview focused on recurring base programs for students with unique abilities. Key programs and their services were outlined along with evaluation methods.

PreK-12 Education Funds – FY 2024-25

State Funds (56%)

- General Revenue
- Educational Enhancement Trust Fund (lottery and gaming)
- State School Trust Fund (abandoned property)
- Fee-supported trust funds

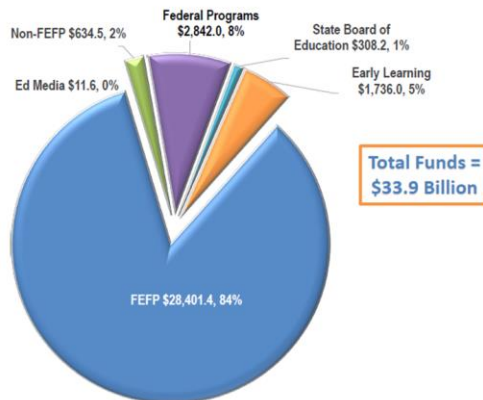
Local Funds (33%)

- FEFP local funds (Required and Discretionary Local Effort)

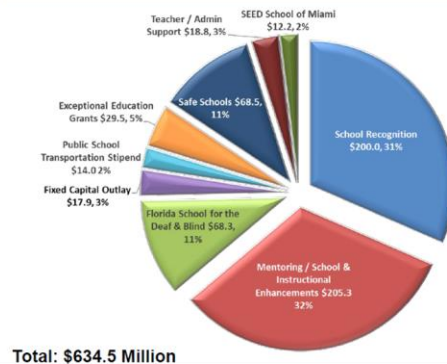
Federal Funds (11%)

- Title I (for Economically Disadvantaged)
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Child Care Development Fund (CCDF for School Readiness)
- Other federal funds (including funds for Principal and Teacher Training; English Language Acquisition; and Assessments)

Total PreK-12 Education Funds by Budget Entity
2024-25 Appropriations (\$ Millions)
Includes Local Funds – No FCO



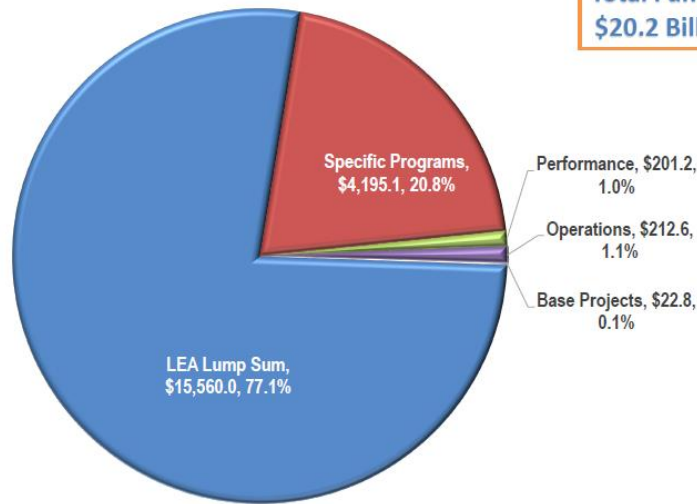
2024-25 Non-FEFP
Appropriations (\$ Millions)



PreK-12 Education Appropriations

FY 2025-26 Base Funds (\$ Millions)

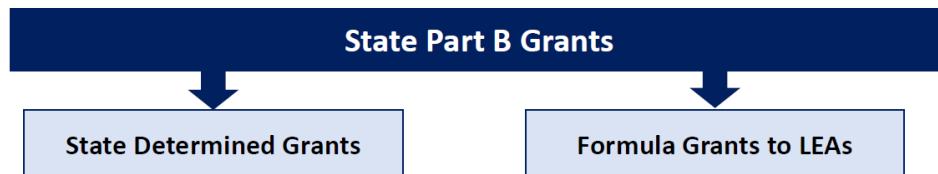
Total Funds =
\$20.2 Billion



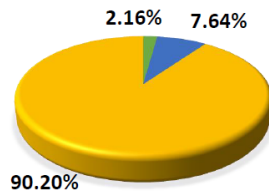
[Presentation - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\) - Federal Funds](#)

Dr. Peggy Yawny, Vice Chancellor of Strategic Improvement with DOE spoke about Florida's use of federal IDEA funding to support students with disabilities. Florida ranked highly on a national level with a 95% compliance score.

Florida's Federal IDEA Part B Grants



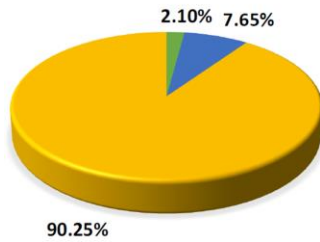
TOTAL 2024-25 ALLOCATION
\$808,403,042



- Administration Costs
\$17,466,882
- State Determined Grants
\$61,745,064
- Formula Grants to LEAs
\$729,191,096

Federal IDEA State Part B Funds (611)

TOTAL 611 ALLOCATION
\$787,872,110



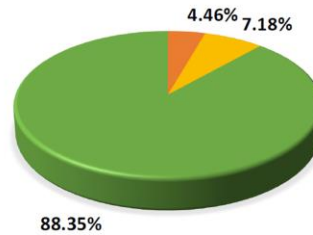
■ Administration
\$16,550,476

■ State Determined Grants
\$60,270,245

■ Formula Grants for LEAs
\$711,051,389

Federal IDEA State Preschool Funds (619)

TOTAL 619 ALLOCATION
\$20,530,932



■ Administration
\$916,406

■ State Determined Grants
\$1,474,819

■ Formula Grants for LEAs
\$18,139,707

Florida's Federal IDEA Part B Grants

2024 State Part B Grant to LEAs

Base Allocation
\$179,007,131

Population Allocation
\$452,237,619

Poverty Allocation
\$79,806,639

- States are awarded an allocation each new fiscal year. The majority is allocated to LEAs.
- The Office of Special Education Programs at the USED has established a formula that states must use to calculate allocations for local educational agencies.
- Each LEA completes an IDEA application annually that is reviewed and approved by the Department before funds are disbursed.
- Each LEA is monitored for eighteen IDEA indicators and Florida is monitored by USED for indicator performance and monitoring of the LEAs.

Exceptional Student Education Project Funding

Project	IDEA Part B Grant	State Appropriation
Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Administration	\$1,501,799	\$0
FDLRS-Associate Centers	\$21,797,745	\$577,758
FDLRS-Specialized Centers	\$3,057,864	\$0
FDLRS-Multidisciplinary Centers	\$0	\$8,700,000
Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)	\$0	\$12,000,000
Total	\$26,357,408	\$21,277,758

[Presentation - Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Centers \(FDLRS\)](#)

Presenters spoke about FDLR's functions that offer family support and professional development for educators. FDLRS South serves multiple districts, provides ASD and gifted endorsement classes, and emphasize family services.

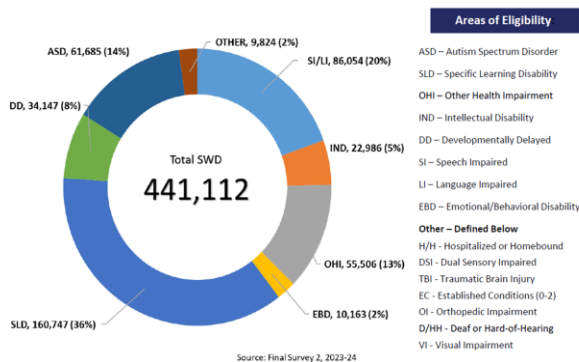
[Presentation - University Autism Programs - Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities \(CARD\)](#)

CARD provides consultations to caregivers and professionals on how best to work with an individual with a disability, in order to:

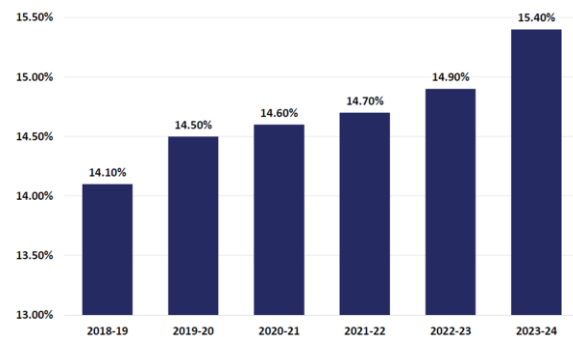
Teach new skills	Provide trainings and informational materials
Understand and resolve challenging behavior	Refer families to federal, state and local service agencies
Include individuals with autism spectrum disorder and related disabilities in typical school and community settings	Train on how to work effectively with individuals with ASD and related disabilities
Develop meaningful communication skills	Support families in planning for the future and help
Help families find support groups	

[Other Related Meeting Documents](#)

Florida's SWD



Florida's SWD as Percent of Total Students



[Committee Video](#) / [Committee Packet](#) / [Base Budget Overview](#)

Upcoming Meeting: 1/23/25

Senate Education Pre-K – 12

Met on 1/14/25 at 11 AM

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

- None

The committee discussed the importance of improving education and support for students with autism. Presentations highlighted diagnosis challenges, resource centers, and successful models like specialized charter schools.

Presentations on Supports for Families and Students with Autism:

UF Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment

Dr. Carey Peters highlighted efforts to reduce diagnosis delays, provide interdisciplinary support, and enhance vocational training to improve outcomes for students with autism.

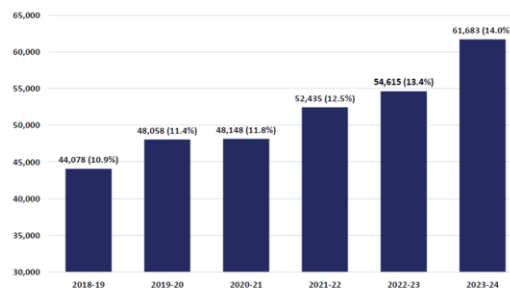
Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)

Dr. Anne Marie Orlando from the UF Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) discussed the challenges faced by students with autism, including the increase in diagnosis rates and factors contributing to autism, primarily focusing on genetic and environmental aspects. She emphasized the need for tailored educational resources and support.

Why the Increase in ASD Diagnosis?

- Increased awareness
- Broader diagnostic criteria
- Early intervention findings may prompt referral for to pediatricians for evaluation of ASD
- Better ASD awareness training for pediatricians
- More informed parents
- Diagnosis can lead to more services

Students Identified with ASD in Florida



Source: Final Survey 2, 2023-24
www.fldoe.org

Factors that Can Contribute to ASD

Genetic

- ASD-related genes
- Neurodevelopmental disorders

Environmental

Other risk factors

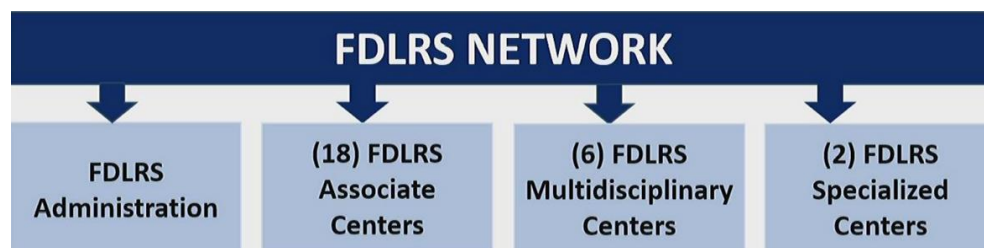
Technical Assistance

- Support to schools and school districts
- Classroom observations, recommendations, and follow-up
- Help with Individual Education Plans (IEP), 504s, and Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs)
- PEPSA partnerships
- <http://doepartnership.fmhi.usf.edu/partnership.html>



Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS)

PURPOSE: Assist in the provision of medical, physiological, psychological, and educational testing and other services designed to evaluate and diagnose exceptionalities, to make referrals for necessary instruction and services, and to facilitate the provision of instruction and services to exceptional students.



FDLRS Outcomes and Achievements

Outcomes and Achievements	FDLRS Administration and AC	Outcomes and Achievements	FDLRS Specialized Centers
Child Find Screenings	25,569	Students Served	8,115
Professional Learning Events	3,686	Professional Learning Events	120
		Outcomes and Achievements	FDLRS MDC
		Students Served	2,025
		Professional Learning Events	1,448

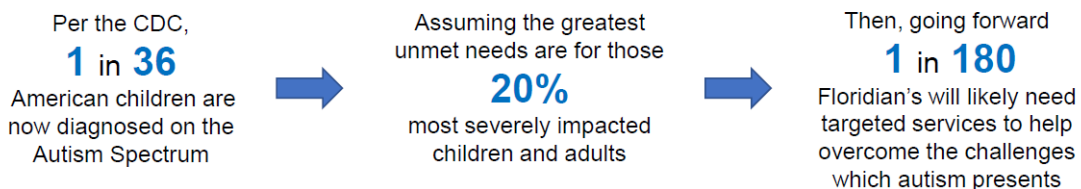
Palm Beach School for Autism

Anne Eisenberg and Allison Allen showcased their school's achievements in providing specialized education and supporting students' transition to adult life. Challenges include teacher recruitment and navigating changes in Medicaid support.

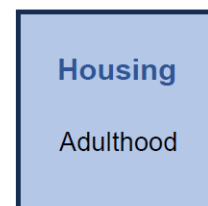
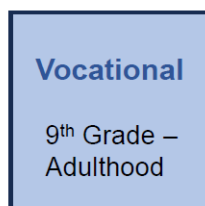
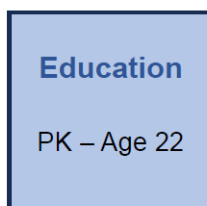
South Florida Autism Charter School

Glenn Pierce called for increased support for specialized charter schools, noting that operational funding in Florida is robust but startup resources are lacking. He emphasized the need for comprehensive services and proposed converting underutilized district assets into housing and vocational centers for adults with autism.

Goal – To Become the Nation’s Leader in the Provision of Comprehensive, High Quality of Autism Services



To become the national leader in the care of **individuals on the more impacted end of the autism spectrum**, these **125,000** Floridians will require the State to focus on three as-yet unmet needs:



Education – A Need for ASD Charter Schools



Again, per the CDC:

1 in 36

American children are diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum



Assuming autism charter schools target only the **20%** most severely impacted students



Then **1 in 180** children would benefit from such an autism-focused school



Florida's **15** largest districts need **38** such schools to serve their most impacted students:

District #	District	Total Enrollment	Required ASD Charters
00	FLORIDA	2,872,309	53
1. 13	MIAMI-DADE	337,719	6
2. 06	BROWARD	251,408	5
3. 29	HILLSBOROUGH	224,152	4
4. 48	ORANGE	207,695	4
5. 50	PALM BEACH	191,388	4
6. 16	DUVAL	129,094	2
7. 53	POLK	116,031	2
8. 36	LEE	100,064	2
9. 52	PINELLAS	91,021	2
10. 51	PASCO	85,840	2
11. 49	OSCEOLA	74,289	1
12. 05	BREVARD	73,810	1
13. 59	SEMINOLE	65,443	1
14. 64	VOLUSIA	62,742	1
15. 41	MANATEE	52,895	1
		38	

In total, Florida districts need **53** such schools



Therefore, any concentration of **54,000** students would greatly benefit by the introduction of an autism charter school solely focused on serving highly impacted students



Based on the comprehensive needs of these students, many with comorbidities, and the commensurate wraparound services required by their families, these schools should never enroll more than **300** students

Highlights:

- **Diagnosis Delays:** There is a significant delay (average 181 days) between initial referral and diagnosis, primarily due to a shortage of trained professionals.
- **School Models:** Charter schools like Palm Beach School for Autism and South Florida Autism Charter School have demonstrated successful models for autism education using operational funding. However, challenges remain in initial funding and recruitment of qualified staff.
- **Family and Community Support:** Autism affects entire families, necessitating comprehensive resources and community involvement. Schools are urged to provide robust family support and public awareness programs.

Action Items:

- **Expand Autism Charter Schools:** Encourage the establishment of more autism-specific charter schools to meet growing demand, focusing on initial funding and leveraging existing district facilities.
- **Improve Diagnostic Capacity:** Address shortages in diagnostic professionals through training and support, particularly in rural areas.
- **Support Transition to Adulthood:** Enhance programs that facilitate the transition from school to work for students with autism, and explore innovative housing solutions for autistic adults.

[Committee Video](#) / [Committee Packet](#)

Upcoming Meeting: 1/23/25

Summary of the House Committee & Subcommittee hearings this past week.

House Budget Committee

There was no scheduled meeting.

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

- Representative Christine Hunschofsky
- Representative Felicia Simone Robinson
- Representative Marie Paule Woodson

Upcoming Meeting: to be announced

House PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee

Met on 1/14/25 at 3:30 PM

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

- None

The committee discussed the Florida Pre K-12 education budget, highlighting \$21 billion in funding and various scholarship programs. They introduced committee members and focused on key areas such as early learning, school choice, and teacher salaries.

Main remarks by:

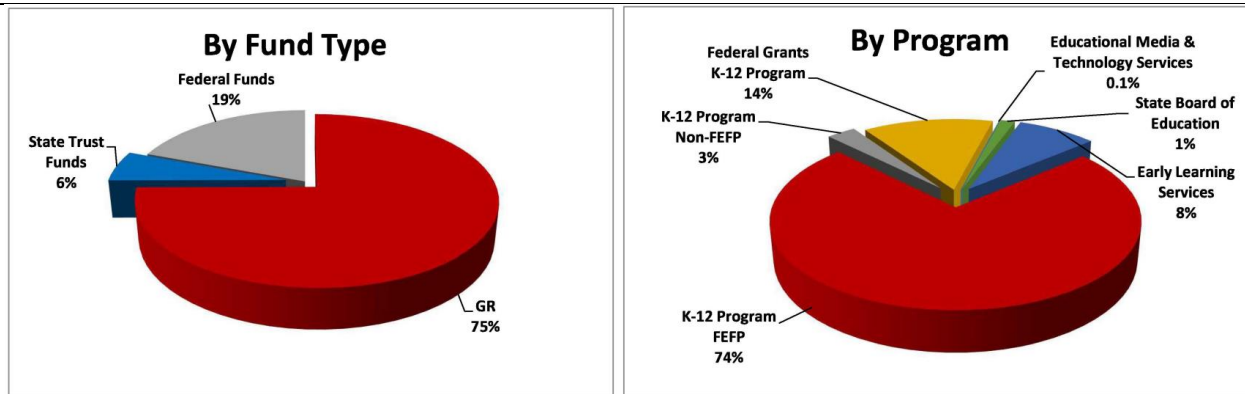
- Commissioner Manny Diaz, Jr.
- Senior Chancellor Paul Burns, Division of K-12 Public Schools
- Chancellor Cari Miller, Division of Early Learning
- Deputy Commissioner Suzanne Pridgeon, Division of Finance & Operations
- Executive Director Adam Emerson, Office of School Choice
- Vice Chancellor Darren Norris, Office of Safe Schools

Highlights:

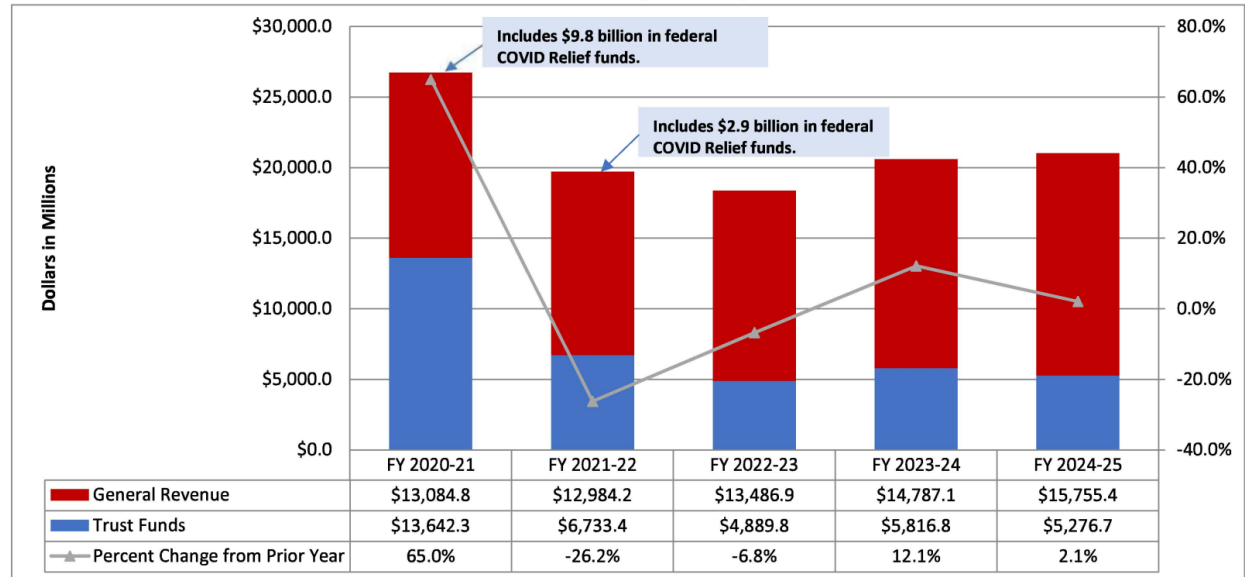
- **Early Learning:** Chancellor Miller emphasized kindergarten readiness and improvements in literacy. Highlighted the need for a coordinated education system for seamless learning from birth to grade 12.
- **School Choice:** Executive Director Emerson discussed the 524,000 students in choice programs, including scholarships and charter schools. He noted the significant participation and opportunities.
- **Teacher Salaries:** Discussions on teacher salary highlighted past investments and potential future increases.

**PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee
Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Review**

Agency Funding Overview		FY 2024-25				
#	Program	FTE	GR	State Trust Funds	Federal Funds	Total
1	Early Learning Services	98.0	631,746,860		1,104,799,138	1,736,545,998
2	K-12 Program FEFP		14,325,469,698	1,166,261,864		15,491,731,562
3	K-12 Program Non-FEFP		628,716,270	2,757,584	4,875,917	636,349,771
4	Federal Grants K-12 Program			3,999,420	2,838,029,142	2,842,028,562
5	Educational Media & Technology Services		11,591,537			11,591,537
6	State Board of Education	949.0	157,892,875	47,084,840	108,934,436	313,912,151
7	Total	1,047.0	15,755,417,240	1,220,103,708	4,056,638,633	21,032,159,581



Funding History



Major Cost Drivers:

- FEFP
- Voluntary Prekindergarten Program (VPK)
- School Readiness Program
- School Recognition Program

Recent Legislation:

- Expansion of Family Empowerment and Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Programs (Ch.2023-16, Laws of Florida)
- Modernization of the FEFP (Ch. 2023-245, Laws of Florida)
- Creation of Personalized Education Program Scholarship (Ch. 2023-16, Laws of Florida)

Action Items:

Further discussion in areas of:

1. Early learning
2. K-12 public schools
3. FEFP
4. School choice
5. Safe school

[Committee Video](#) / [Committee Packet](#) / [FY 24-25 Budget Overview](#)

Upcoming Meeting: 1/22/25

House Education & Employment Committee

There was no scheduled meeting.

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

- Representative Lisa Dunkley

Upcoming Meeting: to be announced

House Education Administration Subcommittee

Met on 1/15/25 at 3:30 PM

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

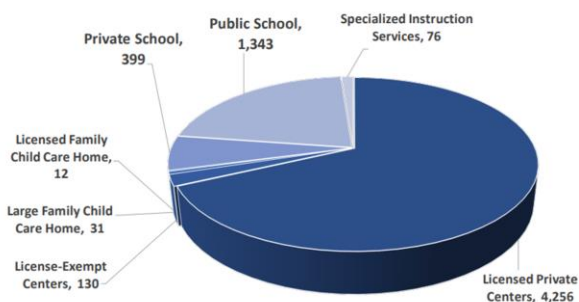
- Representative Marie Paule Woodson

The meeting focused on the challenges and initiatives related to education in Florida, discussing conflict resolution training in schools, early learning readiness, vocational education, and technology in education. Legislators addressed socioeconomic disparities, and shared insights on regional issues and innovative programs aimed at improving student outcomes.

Highlights:

- **Conflict Resolution in Schools:** Legislators emphasized the need for conflict resolution and de-escalation training for students, comparing it to past DARE programs aimed at drug education. A bill has been filed to promote this initiative.
- **Early Learning and Grade Preparedness:** Legislators highlighted the importance of early learning, advocating for extended VPK programs to prepare students from economically disadvantaged communities for school.
 - School Year Program: 540 hours between August and June.
 - Summer Program: 300 hours between May and August.
 - Specialized Instructional Services (SIS): Program for children with individual educational plans (IEP) who need additional support outside of a traditional VPK setting.

VPK Provider Participation FY 23-24



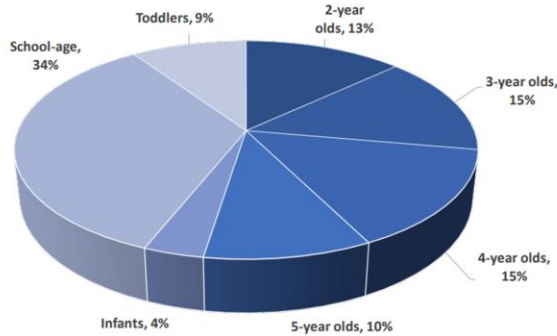
VPK Performance Metric & Designations

50% Quality + 30% Learning Gains + 20% Achievement		
CLASS Composite Score	FAST Star Early Literacy	
50% Quality	30% Learning Gains	20% Achievement

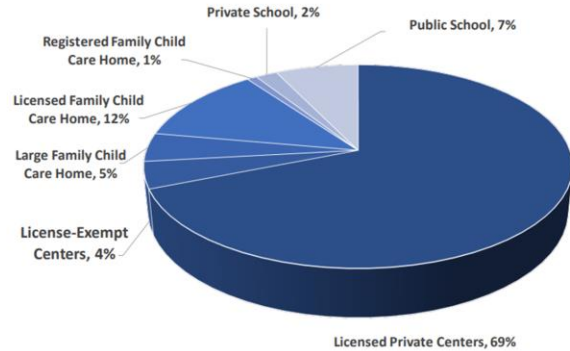
Designations	Range (0-100)
Excellent	61-100 points
Above Expectations	46-60 points
Meets Expectations	28-45 points
Below Expectations	16-27 points
Unsatisfactory	0-15 points

SR Student Participation (2023-2024)

6,889 childcare providers cared for 212,062 children in SR



SR Provider Participation (2023-2024)



- **Career and Technical Education:** Several speakers stressed the value of vocational education and the need for apprenticeship and dual enrollment programs.
- **Technology in Education:** Legislators discussed the role of AI and virtual reality in education, emphasizing the need for Florida to lead rather than follow in tech advancements.
- **Teacher Recruitment and Retention:** The panel recognized the critical shortage of qualified teachers, suggesting improvements in pay, professional development, and incentives to retain educators.

Regional Insights:

- Miami Dade's diverse socioeconomic landscape was discussed, with issues ranging from technological education to addressing the challenges faced by immigrant students.
- The rural challenges of Monroe County were highlighted, touching on teacher shortages and the need for vocational education.

Action Items:

- **Explore Conflict Resolution Programs:** Implement programs similar to DARE for conflict mediation in schools.
- **Enhance Early Learning Access:** Consider policies to support VPK extensions and dual enrollment for adult learners in technical fields.
- **Increase Teacher Support:** Invest in programs like TEACH to support teacher education and retention.
- **Utilize Technology:** Leverage AI and other technologies to enhance educational outcomes and engagement.
- **Address Socioeconomic Disparities:** Review real-time tracking systems for student enrollment to aid in resource allocation.
- **Future meetings:** The next topics of discussion will focus on K-12 attendance and school safety, featuring superintendents from both urban and rural areas to provide a comprehensive understanding of these issues across different communities.

[Committee Video](#) / [Committee Packet](#)

Upcoming Meeting: 1/23/25

House Student Academic Success Subcommittee

Met on 1/15/25 at 9 AM

Broward Legislative Delegation Members:

- Representative Lisa Dunkley

The meeting focused on discussing the implementation and effects of **CS/HB 379 -- Technology in K-12 Public Schools** aimed at enhancing student academic success by limiting cell phone usage in schools. The bill's goals include reducing distractions and educating students on social media literacy.

Highlights:

- **CS/HB 379:** Representative Yeager introduced the bill in 2023 to reduce classroom distractions by removing cell phones and educating students on social media risks.
- **Bill Implementation:** Different districts adopted varied approaches. Orange County implemented a strict 'bell to bell' no phone policy, while Pasco County allowed some flexibility.
- **Social Media Literacy:** Discussions involved incorporating lessons on social media danger into the curriculum to help students and parents understand the impact.
- **Mixed Feedback:** There was array of comments; some teachers have found it helpful, while others may not have fully implemented the policy.
- **Parental Concerns:** Concerns about communication during emergencies were addressed by allowing access to phones for emergencies, with clear policies in place.
- **Student and Teacher Engagement:** Positive feedback was reported due to enhanced student interaction and students focusing during class.

Action Items:

- **Data and Feedback:** Continued monitoring of the policy's effects on behavior and academic performance.
- **Improving Social Media Literacy:** Need for more comprehensive DOE-provided resources for teaching students about social media's impact.
- The committee planned to continue assessing the implementation of the bill and encourage feedback from districts to refine policies further.

[Committee Video](#) / [Committee Packet](#) / [Chapter 2024-236, Laws of Florida, relating to Public Records/Financial Information Regarding Competitive Bidding](#)

Upcoming Meeting: 1/23/25

Summary of Senate and House bills filed for the 2025 regular session.

Senate Bills Filed for the 2025 Regular Session – Relative to BCPS

SB 52: School Buses by Garcia

Revising the definition of the term "school bus" as it relates to state uniform traffic control; revising the definition of the term "school bus" as it relates to driver licenses to include a motor vehicle used to transport students to and from a charter school, in addition to a public or private school, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

11/20/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Transportation; Education Pre-K - 12; Rules

SB 70: Instructional Hours for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program by Berman

Revising the instructional hours required to be delivered in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for school-year and summer programs, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

12/02/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Education Pre-K - 12; Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education; Fiscal Policy

SB 72: Use of Campaign Funds for Child Care Expenses by Berman

Authorizing a candidate to use funds on deposit in his or her campaign account to pay for child care expenses under specified conditions; requiring candidates to maintain specified records for a specified timeframe and provide such records to the Division of Elections, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

12/02/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Ethics and Elections; Judiciary; Rules

SB 74: Universal Free School Breakfast and Lunch Program by Berman

Requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, subject to the appropriation of funds by the Legislature, to establish and operate a program to provide universal free school breakfast and lunch meals to all public school students; deleting provisions requiring school districts to implement and charge students for a breakfast program; deleting provisions requiring only certain school districts to implement a universal free school breakfast program and encouraging districts to provide free breakfast meals; authorizing school districts to operate free school meal programs using offsite food preparation locations, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

12/02/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Agriculture; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy

SB 76: Paid Parental Leave by Berman

Defining the term "paid parental leave"; requiring the state to provide paid parental leave to certain employees for a specified period of time; prohibiting the state from refusing to grant such leave, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

12/02/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Appropriations

SB 100: Display of Flags by Governmental Entities by Fine

Defining the term "governmental entity"; prohibiting governmental entities from erecting or displaying certain flags; requiring governmental entities to remain neutral in certain circumstances; authorizing a current or retired member of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard to use reasonable force to prevent the desecration, destruction, or removal of the United States flag or to replace such flag to a position of prominence, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

12/16/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Community Affairs; Rules

SB 102: Exceptional Student Education by Gaetz

Requiring the Department of Education to develop and implement, by a specified date, a workforce credential program for students with an autism spectrum disorder; requiring the department to produce an annual report during a specified timeframe, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

12/17/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Education Pre-K - 12; Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education; Fiscal Policy

SB 136: Public School Personnel Salary Schedules by Rodriguez

Deleting a requirement relating to cost-of-living salary adjustments; revising requirements for salary schedules for school employees; revising conditions under which a district school board must provide salary supplements; deleting a provision that prohibits a performance salary schedule from being reduced due to budget constraints, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

12/30/24 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Education Pre-K - 12; Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education; Appropriations

SB 140: Education by Gaetz

Revising which persons or entities may apply for a conversion charter school; authorizing a municipality to apply for a job engine charter under certain conditions; requiring a school board to submit a 5-year plan to the Department of Education before occupying purchased or acquired real property; prohibiting a school board from purchasing or acquiring real property if enrollment in the school district has declined in the preceding 5-year period, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

01/03/25 SENATE Filed

01/15/25 SENATE Referred to Education Pre-K - 12; Community Affairs; Rules

SB 204: Educator Certifications and Training by Jones

Revising the core curricula for certain teacher preparation programs to include training relating to mass casualty incidents; requiring certain postsecondary educator preparation institutes' programs to include training relating to mass casualty incidents; revising the certified educator eligibility criteria to require such persons to receive training in mass casualty incidents; requiring the Department of Education to develop a list of approved trainings relating to mass casualty incidents, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

01/13/25 SENATE Filed

SB 248: Private School Student Participation in Interscholastic and Intrasccholastic Extracurricular Sports

by Simon

Revising the criteria a private school student must meet to participate in a sport at a Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) member school; deleting a provision limiting which non-FHSAA member private school students are eligible to participate in FHSAA sports, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

01/14/25 SENATE Filed

SB 260: Statewide, Standardized Assessments by Arrington

Requiring the Department of Education to develop versions of statewide, standardized assessments and specified portions of the statewide, standardized coordinated screening and progress monitoring system in certain languages by a specified date; requiring the department to establish criteria for the use of such assessments and portions of the system; authorizing parents to prohibit the use of such assessments and portions of the system in certain languages, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

01/14/25 SENATE Filed

SB 270: Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program by Burgess

Revising eligibility requirements for a student who earns a high school diploma from a non-Florida school under certain circumstances, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

01/15/25 SENATE Filed

SB 296: Middle School and High School Start Times by Bradley

Deleting the duty of district school boards to adopt policies for middle school and high school start times; deleting a requirement that instructional days for middle schools and high schools begin no earlier than specified times; deleting a requirement that certain charter schools comply with middle school and high school start times, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2025

01/17/25 SENATE Filed

House Bills Filed for the 2025 Regular Session – Relative to BCPS

HB 17: Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program by Honson

Requires public middle schools to provide for administration of PSAT/NMSQT to students who meet specified criteria for specified purposes relating to Florida Bright Futures Program; requires specified test preparation resources & information be provided to certain students; provides for funding for such assessments & resources; & revises eligibility criteria for certain awards under Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

12/06/24 HOUSE Filed

01/06/25 HOUSE Referred to Student Academic Success Subcommittee; Budget Committee; Education & Employment Committee

01/06/25 HOUSE Now in Student Academic Success Subcommittee

HB 37: Educator Certifications and Training by Daley

Revises provisions relating to teacher & educator preparation programs, educator certification requirements, & educator inservice training requirements to require certified educators to receive training relating to mass casualty incidents.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

12/09/24 HOUSE Filed

01/06/25 HOUSE Referred to Education Administration Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee

01/06/25 HOUSE Now in Education Administration Subcommittee

HB 45: Resident Status for Tuition Purposes by Edmonds

Provides that person may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due solely to his or her incarceration in specified correctional facilities.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

12/10/24 HOUSE Filed

01/06/25 HOUSE Referred to Education Administration Subcommittee; Criminal Justice Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee

01/06/25 HOUSE Now in Education Administration Subcommittee

HB 47: Child Care and Early Learning Providers by McFarland

Revises licensing standards for child care facilities; child care personnel; minimum standards; child care regulation; & large family child care homes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

12/12/24 HOUSE Filed

01/06/25 HOUSE Referred to Human Services Subcommittee; Health Care Budget Subcommittee; Health & Human Services Committee

01/06/25 HOUSE Now in Human Services Subcommittee

HB 75: Display of Flags by Governmental Entities by Borrero

Prohibits governmental entities from erecting or displaying certain flags; requires governmental entities to remain neutral in certain circumstances; requires that United States flag displayed by governmental entities be in certain position relative to other flags; authorizes current or retired member of United States Armed Forces or National Guard to use reasonable force to prevent desecration, destruction, or removal of United States flag or to replace such flag to position of prominence.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

12/27/24 HOUSE Filed

01/15/25 HOUSE Referred to Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee; Judiciary Committee; State Affairs Committee

01/15/25 HOUSE Now in Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee

HB 99: Graduation Requirements for English for Speakers of Other Languages Program Students by López
Authorizes certain ESOL program students to meet Algebra I end-of-course assessment requirements in specified manner.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

01/03/25 HOUSE Filed

01/15/25 HOUSE Referred to Student Academic Success Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee

01/15/25 HOUSE Now in Student Academic Success Subcommittee

HB 119: Universal Free School Breakfast and Lunch Program by Edmonds

Requires DACS, subject to appropriation of certain funds, to establish & operate Universal Free School Breakfast & Lunch a Program in public schools; specifies requirements for school districts; authorizes school districts to operate program using offsite food preparation locations.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

01/08/25 HOUSE Filed

01/15/25 HOUSE Referred to Education Administration Subcommittee; Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee

01/15/25 HOUSE Now in Education Administration Subcommittee

HB 123: Education by Andrade

Revises provisions relating to conversion charter schools; authorizes municipality to apply for job engine charter under certain conditions; provides requirements for such schools; requires school board to submit 5-year plan to DOE before occupying purchased or acquired real property; provides requirements for school district real property.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

01/08/25 HOUSE Filed

01/15/25 HOUSE Referred to Education Administration Subcommittee; PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee

01/15/25 HOUSE Now in Education Administration Subcommittee

HB 127: Exceptional Student Education by Kendall

Requires DOE to develop & implement, by specified date, workforce credential program for students with autism spectrum disorder; provides purpose, program, & DOE requirements.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

01/09/25 HOUSE Filed

01/15/25 HOUSE Referred to Careers & Workforce Subcommittee; Human Services Subcommittee; PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee

01/15/25 HOUSE Now in Careers & Workforce Subcommittee

HB 135: Educational Dollars for Duty Program by Alvarez

Requires program to set aside certain amount of funds to provide tuition assistance to spouses & children of active members of Florida National Guard; requires Department of Military Affairs to oversee implementation & enforcement; requires department to establish certain procedures.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

01/09/25 HOUSE Filed

HB 151: Private School Student Participation In Interscholastic and Intrasccholastic Extracurricular Sports by Abbott

Revises criteria private school student must meet to participate in sport at FHSAA member school; & removes provision limiting which non-FHSAA member private school students are eligible to participate in FHSAA sports.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025
01/14/25 HOUSE Filed

HB 159: Statewide, Standardized Assessments by Harris

Requires development of statewide standardized assessments & portions of coordinated screening & monitoring system in specified languages by specified school year; provides requirements for DOE; authorizes parents to prohibit use of such assessments & system in languages other than English.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025
01/14/25 HOUSE Filed

HB 167: Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program by Bracy Davis

Requires public high schools to establish Bright Futures Scholarship mentorship program for students; & provides requirements for such program.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025
01/15/25 HOUSE Filed

HB 171: Youth Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Pilot Program by Bracy Davis

Establishes Youth Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Pilot Program within the Community School Grant Program; provides requirements for program.

Effective Date: upon becoming a law
01/15/25 HOUSE Filed

HB 191: Instructional Hours for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program by Edmonds

Revises instructional hours required to be delivered in Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for school-year & summer programs.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025
01/15/25 HOUSE Filed