

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2026 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Education Pre-K - 12

CS/HB 851 — Professional Learning for Instructional and School Administrative Personnel

by Student Academic Success Subcommittee and Rep. Long and others (CS/SB 206 by Education Pre-K - 12 Committee and Senators Harrell and Massullo)

The bill modifies district professional learning requirements to support students with autism spectrum disorder. The bill:

- Requires each school district’s professional learning system to provide at least one autism-specific professional learning opportunity each year for instructional personnel and school-based administrators.
- Requires the professional learning to be developed in consultation with the district’s assigned Center for Autism and Related Disabilities.
- Requires the professional learning to include evidence-based practices for supporting students with autism spectrum disorder across all levels of need, including academic instruction, behavioral supports, communication strategies, and inclusive practices.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor’s signature, these provisions take effect on July 1, 2026.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 108-0