

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Conference Committee on CS/HB 7069 offered the following:

**Conference Committee Amendment (with title amendment)**

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Upon the expiration and reversion of the amendment to section 11.45, Florida Statutes, pursuant to section 36 of chapter 2016-62, Laws of Florida, paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 11.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.—

(2) DUTIES.—The Auditor General shall:

(d) Annually conduct financial audits of the accounts and records of all district school boards in counties with

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14 populations of fewer than 150,000, according to the most recent  
15 federal decennial statewide census, and the Florida School for  
16 the Deaf and the Blind.

17  
18 The Auditor General shall perform his or her duties  
19 independently but under the general policies established by the  
20 Legislative Auditing Committee. This subsection does not limit  
21 the Auditor General's discretionary authority to conduct other  
22 audits or engagements of governmental entities as authorized in  
23 subsection (3).

24 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section  
25 1002.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

26 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.-

27 (3)

28 (c) The initial allocation shall be based on estimated  
29 student enrollment in each coalition service area. The Office of  
30 Early Learning shall reallocate funds among the coalitions based  
31 on actual full-time equivalent student enrollment in each  
32 coalition service area. Each coalition shall report student  
33 enrollment pursuant to subsection (2) on a monthly basis. A  
34 student enrollment count for the prior fiscal year may not be  
35 amended after September 30 ~~December 31~~ of the subsequent fiscal  
36 year.

37 Section 3. Subsection (21) of section 1003.52, Florida  
38 Statutes, is amended to read:

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39 1003.52 Educational services in Department of Juvenile  
40 Justice programs.—

41 ~~(21) The education programs at the Florida School for Boys~~  
42 ~~in Okeechobee shall be operated by the Department of Education,~~  
43 ~~either directly or through grants or contractual agreements with~~  
44 ~~other public or duly accredited education agencies approved by~~  
45 ~~the Department of Education.~~

46 Section 4. Upon the expiration and reversion of the  
47 amendments to section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, pursuant to  
48 section 23 of chapter 2016-62, Laws of Florida, subsections (15)  
49 and (16) are renumbered as subsections (16) and (17),  
50 respectively, paragraphs (e), (f), (h), and (i) and paragraphs  
51 (1) through (o) of subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection  
52 (4), paragraph (b) of subsection (7), paragraphs (a), (c), and  
53 (d) of subsection (9), subsections (11), (12), (13), and (14),  
54 and paragraph (b) of present subsection (15) of section 1011.62,  
55 Florida Statutes, are amended, and a new subsection (13) is  
56 added to that section, to read:

57 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual  
58 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each  
59 district for operation of schools is not determined in the  
60 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing  
61 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as  
62 follows:

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63 (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR  
64 OPERATION.—The following procedure shall be followed in  
65 determining the annual allocation to each district for  
66 operation:

67 (e) *Funding model for exceptional student education*  
68 *programs.—*

69 1.a. The funding model uses basic, at-risk, support levels  
70 IV and V for exceptional students and career Florida Education  
71 Finance Program cost factors, and a guaranteed allocation for  
72 exceptional student education programs. Exceptional education  
73 cost factors are determined by using a matrix of services to  
74 document the services that each exceptional student will  
75 receive. The nature and intensity of the services indicated on  
76 the matrix shall be consistent with the services described in  
77 each exceptional student's individual educational plan. The  
78 Department of Education shall review and revise the descriptions  
79 of the services and supports included in the matrix of services  
80 for exceptional students and shall implement those revisions  
81 before the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year.

82 b. In order to generate funds using one of the two  
83 weighted cost factors, a matrix of services must be completed at  
84 the time of the student's initial placement into an exceptional  
85 student education program and at least once every 3 years by  
86 personnel who have received approved training. Nothing listed in  
87 the matrix shall be construed as limiting the services a school

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88 district must provide in order to ensure that exceptional  
89 students are provided a free, appropriate public education.

90 c. Students identified as exceptional, in accordance with  
91 chapter 6A-6, Florida Administrative Code, who do not have a  
92 matrix of services as specified in sub-subparagraph b. shall  
93 generate funds on the basis of full-time-equivalent student  
94 membership in the Florida Education Finance Program at the same  
95 funding level per student as provided for basic students.  
96 Additional funds for these exceptional students will be provided  
97 through the guaranteed allocation designated in subparagraph 2.

98 2. For students identified as exceptional who do not have  
99 a matrix of services and students who are gifted in grades K  
100 through 8, there is created a guaranteed allocation to provide  
101 these students with a free appropriate public education, in  
102 accordance with s. 1001.42(4)(1) and rules of the State Board of  
103 Education, which shall be allocated initially to each school  
104 district in the amount provided in the General Appropriations  
105 Act. These funds shall be supplemental to the funds appropriated  
106 for the basic funding level, and the amount allocated for each  
107 school district shall be recalculated ~~once~~ during the year,  
108 based on actual student membership from ~~the October~~ FTE surveys  
109 survey. Upon recalculation, if the generated allocation is  
110 greater than the amount provided in the General Appropriations  
111 Act, the total shall be prorated to the level of the  
112 appropriation based on each district's share of the total

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113 recalculated amount. These funds shall be used to provide  
114 special education and related services for exceptional students  
115 and students who are gifted in grades K through 8. A district's  
116 expenditure of funds from the guaranteed allocation for students  
117 in grades 9 through 12 who are gifted may not be greater than  
118 the amount expended during the 2006-2007 fiscal year for gifted  
119 students in grades 9 through 12.

120 (f) *Supplemental academic instruction; categorical fund.*-

121 1. There is created a categorical fund to provide  
122 supplemental academic instruction to students in kindergarten  
123 through grade 12. This paragraph may be cited as the  
124 "Supplemental Academic Instruction Categorical Fund."

125 2. The categorical fund is ~~funds for supplemental academic~~  
126 ~~instruction shall be allocated annually to each school district~~  
127 ~~in the amount provided in the General Appropriations Act. These~~  
128 ~~funds shall be~~ in addition to the funds appropriated on the  
129 basis of FTE student membership in the Florida Education Finance  
130 Program and shall be included in the total potential funds of  
131 each district. These funds shall be used to provide supplemental  
132 academic instruction to students enrolled in the K-12 program.  
133 ~~For the 2014-2015 fiscal year,~~ Each school district that has one  
134 or more of the 300 lowest-performing elementary schools based on  
135 the state reading assessment for the prior year shall use these  
136 funds, together with the funds provided in the district's  
137 research-based reading instruction allocation and other

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138 available funds, to provide an additional hour of instruction  
139 beyond the normal school day for each day of the entire school  
140 year for intensive reading instruction for the students in each  
141 of these schools. This additional hour of instruction must be  
142 provided by teachers or reading specialists who have  
143 demonstrated effectiveness ~~are effective~~ in teaching reading or  
144 by a K-5 mentoring reading program that is supervised by a  
145 teacher who is effective at teaching reading. Students enrolled  
146 in these schools who have level 5 assessment scores may  
147 participate in the additional hour of instruction on an optional  
148 basis. Exceptional student education centers shall not be  
149 included in the 300 schools. The designation of the 300 lowest-  
150 performing elementary schools must be based on the state reading  
151 assessment for the prior year. After this requirement has been  
152 met, supplemental instruction strategies may include, but are  
153 not limited to: use of a modified curriculum, reading  
154 instruction, after-school instruction, tutoring, mentoring, a  
155 reduction in class size ~~reduction~~, extended school year,  
156 intensive skills development in summer school, and other methods  
157 of ~~for~~ improving student achievement. Supplemental instruction  
158 may be provided to a student in any manner and at any time  
159 during or beyond the regular 180-day term identified by the  
160 school as being the most effective and efficient way to best  
161 help that student progress from grade to grade and to graduate.

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162       3. Categorical funds for supplemental academic instruction  
163 shall be provided annually in the Florida Education Finance  
164 Program as specified in the General Appropriations Act. These  
165 funds shall be provided as a supplement to the funds  
166 appropriated for the basic funding level and shall be included  
167 in the total funds of each district. The allocation shall  
168 consist of a base amount that has a workload adjustment based on  
169 changes in unweighted FTE. In addition, districts that have  
170 elementary schools included in the 300 lowest-performing schools  
171 designation shall be allocated additional funds to assist those  
172 districts in providing intensive reading instruction to students  
173 in those schools. The amount provided shall be based on each  
174 district's level of per-student funding in the reading  
175 instruction allocation and the supplemental academic instruction  
176 categorical fund and on the total FTE for each of the schools.  
177 The categorical funding shall be recalculated during the fiscal  
178 year following an updated designation of the 300 lowest-  
179 performing elementary schools and shall be based on actual  
180 student membership from the FTE surveys. Upon recalculation of  
181 funding for the supplemental academic instruction categorical  
182 fund, if the total allocation is greater than the amount  
183 provided in the General Appropriations Act, the allocation shall  
184 be prorated to the level provided to support the appropriation,  
185 based on each district's share of the total.

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186        ~~4.3.~~ Effective with the 1999-2000 fiscal year, funding on  
187 the basis of FTE membership beyond the 180-day regular term  
188 shall be provided in the FEFP only for students enrolled in  
189 juvenile justice education programs or in education programs for  
190 juveniles placed in secure facilities or programs under s.  
191 985.19. Funding for instruction beyond the regular 180-day  
192 school year for all other K-12 students shall be provided  
193 through the supplemental academic instruction allocation  
194 ~~category fund~~ and other state, federal, and local fund  
195 sources with ample flexibility for schools to provide  
196 supplemental instruction to assist students in progressing from  
197 grade to grade and graduating.

198        ~~5.4.~~ The Florida State University School, as a lab school,  
199 is authorized to expend from its FEFP or Lottery Enhancement  
200 Trust Fund allocation the cost to the student of remediation in  
201 reading, writing, or mathematics for any graduate who requires  
202 remediation at a postsecondary educational institution.

203        ~~6.5.~~ Beginning in the 1999-2000 school year, dropout  
204 prevention programs as defined in ss. 1003.52, 1003.53(1)(a),  
205 (b), and (c), and 1003.54 shall be included in group 1 programs  
206 under subparagraph (d)3.

207        (h) *Small, isolated ~~high~~ schools.*—Districts that ~~which~~  
208 levy the maximum nonvoted discretionary millage, exclusive of  
209 millage for capital outlay purposes levied pursuant to s.  
210 1011.71(2), may calculate full-time equivalent students for

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211 small, isolated district-operated high schools by multiplying  
212 the number of unweighted full-time equivalent students times  
213 2.75; ~~provided the school has attained a grade of "C" or better,~~  
214 ~~pursuant to s. 1008.34, for the previous school year. The~~  
215 following schools may be considered small, isolated schools  
216 under this paragraph:

217 1. A ~~For the purpose of this section, the term "small,~~  
218 ~~isolated high school" means Any high school that which is~~  
219 located at least ~~no less than~~ 28 miles by the shortest route  
220 from another high school; ~~which~~ has been serving students  
221 primarily in basic studies provided by sub-subparagraphs (c)1.b.  
222 and c. and may include subparagraph (c)4.; and ~~which~~ has a  
223 membership of at least 28, but no more than 100, students, ~~but~~  
224 ~~no fewer than 28 students,~~ in grades 9 through 12; or-

225 2. A district elementary school with a grade configuration  
226 of kindergarten through grade 5, but which may also include  
227 prekindergarten, grade 6, grade 7, or grade 8, that is located  
228 at least 35 miles by the shortest route from another elementary  
229 school within the district; has been serving students primarily  
230 in basic studies provided by sub-subparagraphs (c)1.a. and b.  
231 and may include subparagraph (c)4.; has a student population in  
232 which 75 percent or greater of students are eligible for free  
233 and reduced-price school lunch; and has a membership of at least  
234 28, but no more than 100, students.

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235 (i) *Calculation of full-time equivalent membership with*  
236 *respect to dual enrollment instruction.*—Students enrolled in  
237 dual enrollment instruction pursuant to s. 1007.271 may be  
238 included in calculations of full-time equivalent student  
239 memberships for basic programs for grades 9 through 12 by a  
240 district school board. Instructional time for dual enrollment  
241 may vary from 900 hours; however, the full-time equivalent  
242 student membership value shall be subject to the provisions in  
243 s. 1011.61(4). Dual enrollment full-time equivalent student  
244 membership shall be calculated in an amount equal to the hours  
245 of instruction that would be necessary to earn the full-time  
246 equivalent student membership for an equivalent course if it  
247 were taught in the school district. Students in dual enrollment  
248 courses may also be calculated as the proportional shares of  
249 full-time equivalent enrollments they generate for a Florida  
250 College System institution or university conducting the dual  
251 enrollment instruction. Early admission students shall be  
252 considered dual enrollments for funding purposes. Students may  
253 be enrolled in dual enrollment instruction provided by an  
254 eligible independent college or university and may be included  
255 in calculations of full-time equivalent student memberships for  
256 basic programs for grades 9 through 12 by a district school  
257 board. However, those provisions of law which exempt dual  
258 enrolled and early admission students from payment of  
259 instructional materials and tuition and fees, including

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260 laboratory fees, shall not apply to students who select the  
261 option of enrolling in an eligible independent institution. An  
262 independent college or university, ~~which is located and~~  
263 ~~chartered in Florida,~~ is not for profit, is accredited by a  
264 regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the United  
265 States Department of Education ~~the Commission on Colleges of the~~  
266 ~~Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or the Accrediting~~  
267 ~~Council for Independent Colleges and Schools,~~ and confers  
268 degrees as defined in s. 1005.02 shall be eligible for inclusion  
269 in the dual enrollment or early admission program. Students  
270 enrolled in dual enrollment instruction shall be exempt from the  
271 payment of tuition and fees, including laboratory fees. No  
272 student enrolled in college credit mathematics or English dual  
273 enrollment instruction shall be funded as a dual enrollment  
274 unless the student has successfully completed the relevant  
275 section of the entry-level examination required pursuant to s.  
276 1008.30.

277 (1) *Calculation of additional full-time equivalent*  
278 *membership based on International Baccalaureate examination*  
279 *scores of students.*—A value of 0.16 full-time equivalent student  
280 membership shall be calculated for each student enrolled in an  
281 International Baccalaureate course who receives a score of 4 or  
282 higher on a subject examination. A value of 0.3 full-time  
283 equivalent student membership shall be calculated for each  
284 student who receives an International Baccalaureate diploma.

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285 Such value shall be added to the total full-time equivalent  
286 student membership in basic programs for grades 9 through 12 in  
287 the subsequent fiscal year. Each school district shall allocate  
288 80 percent of the funds received from International  
289 Baccalaureate bonus FTE funding to the school program whose  
290 students generate the funds and to school programs that prepare  
291 prospective students to enroll in International Baccalaureate  
292 courses. Funds shall be expended solely for the payment of  
293 allowable costs associated with the International Baccalaureate  
294 program. Allowable costs include International Baccalaureate  
295 annual school fees; International Baccalaureate examination  
296 fees; salary, benefits, and bonuses for teachers and program  
297 coordinators for the International Baccalaureate program and  
298 teachers and coordinators who prepare prospective students for  
299 the International Baccalaureate program; supplemental books;  
300 instructional supplies; instructional equipment or instructional  
301 materials for International Baccalaureate courses; other  
302 activities that identify prospective International Baccalaureate  
303 students or prepare prospective students to enroll in  
304 International Baccalaureate courses; and training or  
305 professional development for International Baccalaureate  
306 teachers. School districts shall allocate the remaining 20  
307 percent of the funds received from International Baccalaureate  
308 bonus FTE funding for programs that assist academically  
309 disadvantaged students to prepare for more rigorous courses. The

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310 school district shall distribute to each classroom teacher who  
311 provided International Baccalaureate instruction:

312 1. A bonus in the amount of \$50 for each student taught by  
313 the International Baccalaureate teacher in each International  
314 Baccalaureate course who receives a score of 4 or higher on the  
315 International Baccalaureate examination.

316 2. An additional bonus of \$500 to each International  
317 Baccalaureate teacher in a school designated with a grade of "D"  
318 or "F" who has at least one student scoring 4 or higher on the  
319 International Baccalaureate examination, regardless of the  
320 number of classes taught or of the number of students scoring a  
321 4 or higher on the International Baccalaureate examination.

322  
323 ~~Bonuses awarded to a teacher according to this paragraph may not~~  
324 ~~exceed \$2,000 in any given school year. However, the maximum~~  
325 ~~bonus shall be \$3,000 if at least 50 percent of the students~~  
326 ~~enrolled in a teacher's course earn a score of 4 or higher on~~  
327 ~~the examination in a school designated with a grade of "A," "B,"~~  
328 ~~or "C"; or if at least 25 percent of the students enrolled in a~~  
329 ~~teacher's course earn a score of 4 or higher on the examination~~  
330 ~~in a school designated with a grade of "D" or "F."~~ Bonuses  
331 awarded under this paragraph shall be in addition to any regular  
332 wage or other bonus the teacher received or is scheduled to  
333 receive. For such courses, the teacher shall earn an additional

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334 bonus of \$50 for each student who has a qualifying score ~~up to~~  
335 ~~the maximum of \$3,000 in any given school year.~~

336 (m) *Calculation of additional full-time equivalent*  
337 *membership based on Advanced International Certificate of*  
338 *Education examination scores of students.*—A value of 0.16 full-  
339 time equivalent student membership shall be calculated for each  
340 student enrolled in a full-credit Advanced International  
341 Certificate of Education course who receives a score of E or  
342 higher on a subject examination. A value of 0.08 full-time  
343 equivalent student membership shall be calculated for each  
344 student enrolled in a half-credit Advanced International  
345 Certificate of Education course who receives a score of E or  
346 higher on a subject examination. A value of 0.3 full-time  
347 equivalent student membership shall be calculated for each  
348 student who receives an Advanced International Certificate of  
349 Education diploma. Such value shall be added to the total full-  
350 time equivalent student membership in basic programs for grades  
351 9 through 12 in the subsequent fiscal year. Each school district  
352 shall allocate at least 80 percent of the funds received from  
353 the Advanced International Certificate of Education bonus FTE  
354 funding, in accordance with this paragraph, to the school  
355 program that generated the funds. The school district shall  
356 distribute to each classroom teacher who provided Advanced  
357 International Certificate of Education instruction:

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358 1. A bonus in the amount of \$50 for each student taught by  
359 the Advanced International Certificate of Education teacher in  
360 each full-credit Advanced International Certificate of Education  
361 course who receives a score of E or higher on the Advanced  
362 International Certificate of Education examination. A bonus in  
363 the amount of \$25 for each student taught by the Advanced  
364 International Certificate of Education teacher in each half-  
365 credit Advanced International Certificate of Education course  
366 who receives a score of E or higher on the Advanced  
367 International Certificate of Education examination.

368 2. An additional bonus of \$500 to each Advanced  
369 International Certificate of Education teacher in a school  
370 designated with a grade of "D" or "F" who has at least one  
371 student scoring E or higher on the full-credit Advanced  
372 International Certificate of Education examination, regardless  
373 of the number of classes taught or of the number of students  
374 scoring an E or higher on the full-credit Advanced International  
375 Certificate of Education examination.

376 3. Additional bonuses of \$250 each to teachers of half-  
377 credit Advanced International Certificate of Education classes  
378 in a school designated with a grade of "D" or "F" which has at  
379 least one student scoring an E or higher on the half-credit  
380 Advanced International Certificate of Education examination in  
381 that class. ~~The maximum additional bonus for a teacher awarded~~  
382 ~~in accordance with this subparagraph shall not exceed \$500 in~~

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383 ~~any given school year.~~ Teachers receiving an award under  
384 subparagraph 2. are not eligible for a bonus under this  
385 subparagraph.

386  
387 Bonuses awarded to a teacher according to this paragraph ~~shall~~  
388 ~~not exceed \$2,000 in any given school year and~~ shall be in  
389 addition to any regular wage or other bonus the teacher received  
390 or is scheduled to receive.

391 (n) *Calculation of additional full-time equivalent*  
392 *membership based on college board advanced placement scores of*  
393 *students.*—A value of 0.16 full-time equivalent student  
394 membership shall be calculated for each student in each advanced  
395 placement course who receives a score of 3 or higher on the  
396 College Board Advanced Placement Examination for the prior year  
397 and added to the total full-time equivalent student membership  
398 in basic programs for grades 9 through 12 in the subsequent  
399 fiscal year. Each district must allocate at least 80 percent of  
400 the funds provided to the district for advanced placement  
401 instruction, in accordance with this paragraph, to the high  
402 school that generates the funds. The school district shall  
403 distribute to each classroom teacher who provided advanced  
404 placement instruction:

405 1. A bonus in the amount of \$50 for each student taught by  
406 the Advanced Placement teacher in each advanced placement course

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407 who receives a score of 3 or higher on the College Board  
408 Advanced Placement Examination.

409 2. An additional bonus of \$500 to each Advanced Placement  
410 teacher in a school designated with a grade of "D" or "F" who  
411 has at least one student scoring 3 or higher on the College  
412 Board Advanced Placement Examination, regardless of the number  
413 of classes taught or of the number of students scoring a 3 or  
414 higher on the College Board Advanced Placement Examination.

415

416 ~~Bonuses awarded to a teacher according to this paragraph shall~~  
417 ~~not exceed \$2,000 in any given school year. However, the maximum~~  
418 ~~bonus shall be \$3,000 if at least 50 percent of the students~~  
419 ~~enrolled in a teacher's course earn a score of 3 or higher on~~  
420 ~~the examination in a school with a grade of "A," "B," or "C" or~~  
421 ~~if at least 25 percent of the students enrolled in a teacher's~~  
422 ~~course earn a score of 3 or higher on the examination in a~~  
423 ~~school with a grade of "D" or "F."~~ Bonuses awarded under this  
424 paragraph shall be in addition to any regular wage or other  
425 bonus the teacher received or is scheduled to receive. For such  
426 courses, the teacher shall earn an additional bonus of \$50 for  
427 each student who has a qualifying score ~~up to the maximum of~~  
428 ~~\$3,000 in any given school year.~~

429 (o) *Calculation of additional full-time equivalent*  
430 *membership based on successful completion of a career-themed*  
431 *course pursuant to ss. 1003.491, 1003.492, and 1003.493, or*

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432 *courses with embedded CAPE industry certifications or CAPE*  
433 *Digital Tool certificates, and issuance of industry*  
434 *certification identified on the CAPE Industry Certification*  
435 *Funding List pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of*  
436 *Education or CAPE Digital Tool certificates pursuant to s.*  
437 *1003.4203.—*

438 1.a. A value of 0.025 full-time equivalent student  
439 membership shall be calculated for CAPE Digital Tool  
440 certificates earned by students in elementary and middle school  
441 grades.

442 b. A value of 0.1 or 0.2 full-time equivalent student  
443 membership shall be calculated for each student who completes a  
444 course as defined in s. 1003.493(1)(b) or courses with embedded  
445 CAPE industry certifications and who is issued an industry  
446 certification identified annually on the CAPE Industry  
447 Certification Funding List approved under rules adopted by the  
448 State Board of Education. A value of 0.2 full-time equivalent  
449 membership shall be calculated for each student who is issued a  
450 CAPE industry certification that has a statewide articulation  
451 agreement for college credit approved by the State Board of  
452 Education. For CAPE industry certifications that do not  
453 articulate for college credit, the Department of Education shall  
454 assign a full-time equivalent value of 0.1 for each  
455 certification. Middle grades students who earn additional FTE  
456 membership for a CAPE Digital Tool certificate pursuant to sub-

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457 subparagraph a. may not use the previously funded examination to  
458 satisfy the requirements for earning an industry certification  
459 under this sub-subparagraph. Additional FTE membership for an  
460 elementary or middle grades student may not exceed 0.1 for  
461 certificates or certifications earned within the same fiscal  
462 year. The State Board of Education shall include the assigned  
463 values on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List under  
464 rules adopted by the state board. Such value shall be added to  
465 the total full-time equivalent student membership for grades 6  
466 through 12 in the subsequent year. CAPE industry certifications  
467 earned through dual enrollment must be reported and funded  
468 pursuant to s. 1011.80. However, if a student earns a  
469 certification through a dual enrollment course and the  
470 certification is not a fundable certification on the  
471 postsecondary certification funding list, or the dual enrollment  
472 certification is earned as a result of an agreement between a  
473 school district and a nonpublic postsecondary institution, the  
474 bonus value shall be funded in the same manner as other nondual  
475 enrollment course industry certifications. In such cases, the  
476 school district may provide for an agreement between the high  
477 school and the technical center, or the school district and the  
478 postsecondary institution may enter into an agreement for  
479 equitable distribution of the bonus funds.

480 c. A value of 0.3 full-time equivalent student membership  
481 shall be calculated for student completion of the courses and

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482 the embedded certifications identified on the CAPE Industry  
483 Certification Funding List and approved by the commissioner  
484 pursuant to ss. 1003.4203(5) (a) and 1008.44.

485 d. A value of 0.5 full-time equivalent student membership  
486 shall be calculated for CAPE Acceleration Industry  
487 Certifications that articulate for 15 to 29 college credit  
488 hours, and 1.0 full-time equivalent student membership shall be  
489 calculated for CAPE Acceleration Industry Certifications that  
490 articulate for 30 or more college credit hours pursuant to CAPE  
491 Acceleration Industry Certifications approved by the  
492 commissioner pursuant to ss. 1003.4203(5) (b) and 1008.44.

493 2. Each district must allocate at least 80 percent of the  
494 funds provided for CAPE industry certification, in accordance  
495 with this paragraph, to the program that generated the funds.  
496 This allocation may not be used to supplant funds provided for  
497 basic operation of the program.

498 3. For CAPE industry certifications earned in the 2013-  
499 2014 school year and in subsequent years, the school district  
500 shall distribute to each classroom teacher who provided direct  
501 instruction toward the attainment of a CAPE industry  
502 certification that qualified for additional full-time equivalent  
503 membership under subparagraph 1.:

504 a. A bonus of \$25 for each student taught by a teacher who  
505 provided instruction in a course that led to the attainment of a

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506 CAPE industry certification on the CAPE Industry Certification  
507 Funding List with a weight of 0.1.

508 b. A bonus of \$50 for each student taught by a teacher who  
509 provided instruction in a course that led to the attainment of a  
510 CAPE industry certification on the CAPE Industry Certification  
511 Funding List with a weight of 0.2.

512 c. A bonus of \$75 for each student taught by a teacher who  
513 provided instruction in a course that led to the attainment of a  
514 CAPE industry certification on the CAPE Industry Certification  
515 Funding List with a weight of 0.3.

516 d. A bonus of \$100 for each student taught by a teacher  
517 who provided instruction in a course that led to the attainment  
518 of a CAPE industry certification on the CAPE Industry  
519 Certification Funding List with a weight of 0.5 or 1.0.

520  
521 Bonuses awarded pursuant to this paragraph shall be provided to  
522 teachers who are employed by the district in the year in which  
523 the additional FTE membership calculation is included in the  
524 calculation. Bonuses shall be calculated based upon the  
525 associated weight of a CAPE industry certification on the CAPE  
526 Industry Certification Funding List for the year in which the  
527 certification is earned by the student. Any bonus awarded to a  
528 teacher under this paragraph ~~may not exceed \$3,000 in any given~~  
529 ~~school year and~~ is in addition to any regular wage or other  
530 bonus the teacher received or is scheduled to receive.

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531 (4) COMPUTATION OF DISTRICT REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT.—The  
532 Legislature shall prescribe the aggregate required local effort  
533 for all school districts collectively as an item in the General  
534 Appropriations Act for each fiscal year. The amount that each  
535 district shall provide annually toward the cost of the Florida  
536 Education Finance Program for kindergarten through grade 12  
537 programs shall be calculated as follows:

538 (a) *Estimated taxable value calculations.*—

539 1.a. Not later than 2 working days before July 19, the  
540 Department of Revenue shall certify to the Commissioner of  
541 Education its most recent estimate of the taxable value for  
542 school purposes in each school district and the total for all  
543 school districts in the state for the current calendar year  
544 based on the latest available data obtained from the local  
545 property appraisers. The value certified shall be the taxable  
546 value for school purposes for that year, and no further  
547 adjustments shall be made, except those made pursuant to  
548 paragraphs (c) and (d), or an assessment roll change required by  
549 final judicial decisions as specified in paragraph (16) (b)  
550 ~~(15) (b)~~. Not later than July 19, the Commissioner of Education  
551 shall compute a millage rate, rounded to the next highest one  
552 one-thousandth of a mill, which, when applied to 96 percent of  
553 the estimated state total taxable value for school purposes,  
554 would generate the prescribed aggregate required local effort  
555 for that year for all districts. The Commissioner of Education

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556 shall certify to each district school board the millage rate,  
557 computed as prescribed in this subparagraph, as the minimum  
558 millage rate necessary to provide the district required local  
559 effort for that year.

560       b. The General Appropriations Act shall direct the  
561 computation of the statewide adjusted aggregate amount for  
562 required local effort for all school districts collectively from  
563 ad valorem taxes to ensure that no school district's revenue  
564 from required local effort millage will produce more than 90  
565 percent of the district's total Florida Education Finance  
566 Program calculation as calculated and adopted by the  
567 Legislature, and the adjustment of the required local effort  
568 millage rate of each district that produces more than 90 percent  
569 of its total Florida Education Finance Program entitlement to a  
570 level that will produce only 90 percent of its total Florida  
571 Education Finance Program entitlement in the July calculation.

572       2. On the same date as the certification in sub-  
573 subparagraph 1.a., the Department of Revenue shall certify to  
574 the Commissioner of Education for each district:

575       a. Each year for which the property appraiser has  
576 certified the taxable value pursuant to s. 193.122(2) or (3), if  
577 applicable, since the prior certification under sub-subparagraph  
578 1.a.

579       b. For each year identified in sub-subparagraph a., the  
580 taxable value certified by the appraiser pursuant to s.

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581 193.122(2) or (3), if applicable, since the prior certification  
582 under sub-subparagraph 1.a. This is the certification that  
583 reflects all final administrative actions of the value  
584 adjustment board.

585 (7) DETERMINATION OF SPARSITY SUPPLEMENT.—

586 (b) The district sparsity index shall be computed by  
587 dividing the total number of full-time equivalent students in  
588 all programs in the district by the number of senior high school  
589 centers in the district, not in excess of three, which centers  
590 are approved as permanent centers by a survey made by the  
591 Department of Education. For districts with a full-time  
592 equivalent student membership of at least 20,000, but no more  
593 than 24,000, the index shall be computed by dividing the total  
594 number of full-time equivalent students in all programs by the  
595 number of permanent senior high school centers in the district,  
596 not in excess of four.

597 (9) RESEARCH-BASED READING INSTRUCTION ALLOCATION.—

598 (a) The research-based reading instruction allocation is  
599 created to provide comprehensive reading instruction to students  
600 in kindergarten through grade 12. ~~For the 2014-2015 fiscal year,~~  
601 ~~in~~ Each school district that has one or more of the 300 lowest-  
602 performing elementary schools based on the state reading  
603 assessment, ~~priority~~ shall give priority ~~be given~~ to providing  
604 an additional hour per day of intensive reading instruction  
605 beyond the normal school day for each day of the entire school

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606 year for the students in each school. The designation of the 300  
607 lowest-performing elementary schools must be based on the state  
608 reading assessment for the prior year. Students enrolled in  
609 these schools who have level 5 assessment scores may participate  
610 in the additional hour of instruction on an optional basis.  
611 Exceptional student education centers may ~~shall~~ not be included  
612 in the 300 schools. The intensive reading instruction delivered  
613 in this additional hour and for other students shall include:  
614 research-based reading instruction that has been proven to  
615 accelerate progress of students exhibiting a reading deficiency;  
616 differentiated instruction based on screening, diagnostic,  
617 progress monitoring, or student assessment data to meet  
618 students' specific reading needs; explicit and systematic  
619 reading strategies to develop ~~development in~~ phonemic awareness,  
620 phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension, with more  
621 extensive opportunities for guided practice, error correction,  
622 and feedback; and the integration of social studies, science,  
623 and mathematics-text reading, text discussion, and writing in  
624 response to reading. ~~For the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 fiscal~~  
625 ~~years, a school district may not hire more reading coaches than~~  
626 ~~were hired during the 2011-2012 fiscal year unless all students~~  
627 ~~in kindergarten through grade 5 who demonstrate a reading~~  
628 ~~deficiency, as determined by district and state assessments,~~  
629 ~~including students scoring Level 1 or Level 2 on the statewide,~~  
630 ~~standardized reading assessment or, upon implementation, the~~

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631 ~~English Language Arts assessment, are provided an additional~~  
632 ~~hour per day of intensive reading instruction beyond the normal~~  
633 ~~school day for each day of the entire school year.~~

634 (c) Funds allocated under this subsection must be used to  
635 provide a system of comprehensive reading instruction to  
636 students enrolled in the K-12 programs, which may include the  
637 following:

638 1. The provision of an additional hour per day of  
639 intensive reading instruction to students in the 300 lowest-  
640 performing elementary schools by teachers and reading  
641 specialists who have demonstrated effectiveness ~~are effective~~ in  
642 teaching reading.

643 2. Kindergarten through grade 5 reading intervention  
644 teachers to provide intensive intervention during the school day  
645 and in the required extra hour for students identified as having  
646 a reading deficiency.

647 3. The provision of highly qualified reading coaches to  
648 specifically support teachers in making instructional decisions  
649 based on student data, and improve teacher delivery of effective  
650 reading instruction, intervention, and reading in the content  
651 areas based on student need.

652 4. Professional development for school district teachers  
653 in scientifically based reading instruction, including  
654 strategies to teach reading in content areas and with an  
655 emphasis on technical and informational text, to help school

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656 district teachers earn a certification or an endorsement in  
657 reading.

658 5. The provision of summer reading camps for all students  
659 in kindergarten through grade 2 who demonstrate a reading  
660 deficiency as determined by district and state assessments, and  
661 students in grades 3 through 5 who score at Level 1 on the  
662 statewide, standardized reading assessment or, upon  
663 implementation, the English Language Arts assessment.

664 6. The provision of supplemental instructional materials  
665 that are grounded in scientifically based reading research.

666 7. The provision of intensive interventions for students  
667 in kindergarten through grade 12 who have been identified as  
668 having a reading deficiency or who are reading below grade level  
669 as determined by the statewide, standardized assessment.

670 (d)1. Annually, by a date determined by the Department of  
671 Education but before May 1, school districts shall submit a K-12  
672 comprehensive reading plan for the specific use of the research-  
673 based reading instruction allocation in the format prescribed by  
674 the department for review and approval by the Just Read,  
675 Florida! Office created pursuant to s. 1001.215. The plan  
676 annually submitted by school districts shall be deemed approved  
677 unless the department rejects the plan on or before June 1. If a  
678 school district and the Just Read, Florida! Office cannot reach  
679 agreement on the contents of the plan, the school district may  
680 appeal to the State Board of Education for resolution. School

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681 districts shall be allowed reasonable flexibility in designing  
682 their plans and shall be encouraged to offer reading  
683 intervention through innovative methods, including career  
684 academies. The plan format shall be developed with input from  
685 school district personnel, including teachers and principals,  
686 and shall allow courses in core, career, and alternative  
687 programs that deliver intensive reading remediation through  
688 integrated curricula, provided that the teacher is deemed highly  
689 qualified to teach reading or working toward that status. No  
690 later than July 1 annually, the department shall release the  
691 school district's allocation of appropriated funds to those  
692 districts having approved plans. A school district that spends  
693 100 percent of this allocation on its approved plan shall be  
694 deemed to have been in compliance with the plan. The department  
695 may withhold funds upon a determination that reading instruction  
696 allocation funds are not being used to implement the approved  
697 plan. The department shall monitor and track the implementation  
698 of each district plan, including conducting site visits and  
699 collecting specific data on expenditures and reading improvement  
700 results. By February 1 of each year, the department shall report  
701 its findings to the Legislature.

702 2. Each school district that has a school designated as  
703 one of the 300 lowest-performing elementary schools as specified  
704 in paragraph (a) shall specifically delineate in the  
705 comprehensive reading plan, or in an addendum to the

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706 comprehensive reading plan, the implementation design and  
707 reading intervention strategies that will be used for the  
708 required additional hour of reading instruction. The term  
709 "reading intervention" includes evidence-based strategies  
710 frequently used to remediate reading deficiencies and also  
711 includes individual instruction, tutoring, mentoring, or the use  
712 of technology that targets specific reading skills and  
713 abilities.

714 (11) VIRTUAL EDUCATION CONTRIBUTION.—The Legislature may  
715 annually provide in the Florida Education Finance Program a  
716 virtual education contribution. The amount of the virtual  
717 education contribution shall be the difference between the  
718 amount per FTE established in the General Appropriations Act for  
719 virtual education and the amount per FTE for each district and  
720 the Florida Virtual School, which may be calculated by taking  
721 the sum of the base FEFP allocation, the discretionary local  
722 effort, the state-funded discretionary contribution, the  
723 discretionary millage compression supplement, the research-based  
724 reading instruction allocation, and the instructional materials  
725 allocation, and then dividing by the total unweighted FTE. This  
726 difference shall be multiplied by the virtual education  
727 unweighted FTE for programs and options identified in s.  
728 1002.455 ~~s. 1002.455(3)~~ and the Florida Virtual School and its  
729 franchises to equal the virtual education contribution and shall  
730 be included as a separate allocation in the funding formula.

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731 (12) FLORIDA DIGITAL CLASSROOMS ALLOCATION.—

732 (a) The Florida digital classrooms allocation is created  
733 to support the efforts of school districts ~~district~~ and schools,  
734 including charter schools, ~~school efforts and strategies~~ to  
735 integrate ~~improve outcomes related to student performance by~~  
736 ~~integrating~~ technology in classroom teaching and learning to  
737 ensure students have access to high-quality electronic and  
738 digital instructional materials and resources, and empower  
739 classroom teachers to help their students succeed. Each school  
740 district shall receive a minimum digital classrooms allocation  
741 in the amount provided in the General Appropriations Act. The  
742 remaining balance of the digital classrooms allocation shall be  
743 allocated based on each school district's proportionate share of  
744 the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student  
745 enrollment.

746 (b) Funds allocated under this subsection must be used for  
747 costs associated with:

748 1. Acquiring and maintaining the items on the eligible  
749 services list authorized by the Universal Service Administrative  
750 Company for the Schools and Libraries Program, more commonly  
751 referred to as the federal E-rate program.

752 2. Acquiring computer and device hardware and associated  
753 operating system software that complies with the requirements of  
754 s. 1001.20(4)(a)1.b.

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755 3. Providing professional development, including in-state  
756 conference attendance or online coursework, to enhance the use  
757 of technology for digital instructional strategies ~~The outcomes~~  
758 ~~must be measurable and may also be unique to the needs of~~  
759 ~~individual schools and school districts within the general~~  
760 ~~parameters established by the Department of Education.~~

761 ~~(b) Each district school board shall adopt a district~~  
762 ~~digital classrooms plan that meets the unique needs of students,~~  
763 ~~schools, and personnel and submit the plan for approval to the~~  
764 ~~Department of Education. In addition, each district school board~~  
765 ~~must, at a minimum, seek input from the district's~~  
766 ~~instructional, curriculum, and information technology staff to~~  
767 ~~develop the district digital classrooms plan. The district's~~  
768 ~~plan must be within the general parameters established in the~~  
769 ~~Florida digital classrooms plan pursuant to s. 1001.20. In~~  
770 ~~addition, if the district participates in federal technology~~  
771 ~~initiatives and grant programs, the district digital classrooms~~  
772 ~~plan must include a plan for meeting requirements of such~~  
773 ~~initiatives and grant programs. Funds allocated under this~~  
774 ~~subsection must be used to support implementation of district~~  
775 ~~digital classrooms plans. By October 1, 2014, and by March 1 of~~  
776 ~~each year thereafter, on a date determined by the department,~~  
777 ~~each district school board shall submit to the department, in a~~  
778 ~~format prescribed by the department, a digital classrooms plan.~~

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779 ~~At a minimum, such plan must include, and be annually updated to~~  
780 ~~reflect, the following:~~

781 ~~1. Measurable student performance outcomes. Outcomes~~  
782 ~~related to student performance, including outcomes for students~~  
783 ~~with disabilities, must be tied to the efforts and strategies to~~  
784 ~~improve outcomes related to student performance by integrating~~  
785 ~~technology in classroom teaching and learning. Results of the~~  
786 ~~outcomes shall be reported at least annually for the current~~  
787 ~~school year and subsequent 3 years and be accompanied by an~~  
788 ~~independent evaluation and validation of the reported results.~~

789 ~~2. Digital learning and technology infrastructure~~  
790 ~~purchases and operational activities. Such purchases and~~  
791 ~~activities must be tied to the measurable outcomes under~~  
792 ~~subparagraph 1., including, but not limited to, connectivity,~~  
793 ~~broadband access, wireless capacity, Internet speed, and data~~  
794 ~~security, all of which must meet or exceed minimum requirements~~  
795 ~~and protocols established by the department. For each year that~~  
796 ~~the district uses funds for infrastructure, a third party,~~  
797 ~~independent evaluation of the district's technology inventory~~  
798 ~~and infrastructure needs must accompany the district's plan.~~

799 ~~3. Professional development purchases and operational~~  
800 ~~activities. Such purchases and activities must be tied to the~~  
801 ~~measurable outcomes under subparagraph 1., including, but not~~  
802 ~~limited to, using technology in the classroom and improving~~  
803 ~~digital literacy and competency.~~

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804 ~~4. Digital tool purchases and operational activities. Such~~  
805 ~~purchases and activities must be tied to the measurable outcomes~~  
806 ~~under subparagraph 1., including, but not limited to,~~  
807 ~~competency-based credentials that measure and demonstrate~~  
808 ~~digital competency and certifications; third party assessments~~  
809 ~~that demonstrate acquired knowledge and use of digital~~  
810 ~~applications; and devices that meet or exceed minimum~~  
811 ~~requirements and protocols established by the department.~~

812 ~~5. Online assessment-related purchases and operational~~  
813 ~~activities. Such purchases and activities must be tied to the~~  
814 ~~measurable outcomes under subparagraph 1., including, but not~~  
815 ~~limited to, expanding the capacity to administer assessments and~~  
816 ~~compatibility with minimum assessment protocols and requirements~~  
817 ~~established by the department.~~

818 ~~(c) The Legislature shall annually provide in the General~~  
819 ~~Appropriations Act the FEFP allocation for implementation of the~~  
820 ~~Florida digital classrooms plan to be calculated in an amount up~~  
821 ~~to 1 percent of the base student allocation multiplied by the~~  
822 ~~total K-12 full-time equivalent student enrollment included in~~  
823 ~~the FEFP calculations for the legislative appropriation or as~~  
824 ~~provided in the General Appropriations Act. Each school district~~  
825 ~~shall be provided a minimum of \$250,000, with the remaining~~  
826 ~~balance of the allocation to be distributed based on each~~  
827 ~~district's proportion of the total K-12 full-time equivalent~~  
828 ~~student enrollment. Distribution of funds for the Florida~~

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829 ~~digital classrooms allocation shall begin following submittal of~~  
830 ~~each district's digital classrooms plan, which must include~~  
831 ~~formal verification of the superintendent's approval of the~~  
832 ~~digital classrooms plan of each charter school in the district,~~  
833 ~~and approval of the plan by the department. Prior to the~~  
834 ~~distribution of the Florida digital classrooms allocation funds,~~  
835 ~~each district school superintendent shall certify to the~~  
836 ~~Commissioner of Education that the district school board has~~  
837 ~~approved a comprehensive district digital classrooms plan that~~  
838 ~~supports the fidelity of implementation of the Florida digital~~  
839 ~~classrooms allocation. District allocations shall be~~  
840 ~~recalculated during the fiscal year consistent with the periodic~~  
841 ~~recalculation of the FEFP. School districts shall provide a~~  
842 ~~proportionate share of the digital classrooms allocation to each~~  
843 ~~charter school in the district, as required for categorical~~  
844 ~~programs in s. 1002.33(17)(b). A school district may use a~~  
845 ~~competitive process to distribute funds for the Florida digital~~  
846 ~~classrooms allocation to the schools within the school district.~~

847 ~~(d) To facilitate the implementation of the district~~  
848 ~~digital classrooms plans and charter school digital classrooms~~  
849 ~~plans, the commissioner shall support statewide, coordinated~~  
850 ~~partnerships and efforts of this state's education practitioners~~  
851 ~~in the field, including, but not limited to, superintendents,~~  
852 ~~principals, and teachers, to identify and share best practices,~~  
853 ~~corrective actions, and other identified needs.~~

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854 ~~(e) Beginning in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and each year~~  
855 ~~thereafter, each district school board shall report to the~~  
856 ~~department its use of funds provided through the Florida digital~~  
857 ~~classrooms allocation and student performance outcomes in~~  
858 ~~accordance with the district's digital classrooms plan. The~~  
859 ~~department may contract with an independent third-party entity~~  
860 ~~to conduct an annual independent verification of the district's~~  
861 ~~use of Florida digital classrooms allocation funds in accordance~~  
862 ~~with the district's digital classrooms plan. In the event an~~  
863 ~~independent third-party verification is not conducted, the~~  
864 ~~Auditor General shall, during scheduled operational audits of~~  
865 ~~the school districts, verify compliance of the use of Florida~~  
866 ~~digital classrooms allocation funds in accordance with the~~  
867 ~~district's digital classrooms plan. No later than October 1 of~~  
868 ~~each year, beginning in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the~~  
869 ~~commissioner shall provide to the Governor, the President of the~~  
870 ~~Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a~~  
871 ~~summary of each district's use of funds, student performance~~  
872 ~~outcomes, and progress toward meeting statutory requirements and~~  
873 ~~timelines.~~

874 ~~(f) Each school district shall provide teachers,~~  
875 ~~administrators, students, and parents with access to:~~

876 ~~1. Instructional materials in digital or electronic~~  
877 ~~format, as defined in s. 1006.29.~~

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878 ~~2. Digital materials, including those digital materials~~  
879 ~~that enable students to earn certificates and industry~~  
880 ~~certifications pursuant to ss. 1003.4203 and 1008.44.~~

881 ~~3. Teaching and learning tools and resources, including~~  
882 ~~the ability for teachers and administrators to manage, assess,~~  
883 ~~and monitor student performance data.~~

884 ~~(g) For the 2016-2017 fiscal year, notwithstanding~~  
885 ~~paragraph (c), each school district shall be provided a minimum~~  
886 ~~of \$500,000, with the remaining balance of the allocation to be~~  
887 ~~distributed based on each district's proportion of the total K-~~  
888 ~~12 full-time equivalent enrollment. Each district's digital~~  
889 ~~classrooms allocation plan must give preference to funding the~~  
890 ~~number of devices that comply with the requirements of s.~~  
891 ~~1001.20(4)(a)1.b. and that are needed to allow each school to~~  
892 ~~administer the Florida Standards Assessments to an entire grade~~  
893 ~~at the same time. If the district's digital classrooms~~  
894 ~~allocation plan does not include the purchase of devices, the~~  
895 ~~district must certify in the plan that the district currently~~  
896 ~~has sufficient devices to allow each school to administer the~~  
897 ~~Florida Standards Assessments in the manner described in this~~  
898 ~~paragraph. This paragraph expires July 1, 2017.~~

899 (13) FEDERALLY CONNECTED STUDENT SUPPLEMENT.—The federally  
900 connected student supplement is created to provide supplemental  
901 funding for school districts to support the education of  
902 students connected with federally owned military installations,

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903 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) real  
904 property, and Indian lands. To be eligible for this supplement,  
905 the district must be eligible for federal Impact Aid Program  
906 funds under s. 8003 of Title VIII of the Elementary and  
907 Secondary Education Act of 1965. The supplement shall be  
908 allocated annually to each eligible school district in the  
909 ~~amount provided in the~~ General Appropriations Act. The  
910 supplement shall be the sum of the student allocation and an  
911 exempt property allocation.

912 (a) The student allocation shall be calculated based on  
913 the number of students reported for federal Impact Aid Program  
914 funds, including students with disabilities, who meet one of the  
915 following criteria:

916 1. The student has a parent who is on active duty in the  
917 uniformed services or is an accredited foreign government  
918 official and military officer. Students with disabilities shall  
919 also be reported separately for this category.

920 2. The student resides on eligible federally owned Indian  
921 land. Students with disabilities shall also be reported  
922 separately for this category.

923 3. The student resides with a civilian parent who lives or  
924 works on eligible federal property connected with a military  
925 installation or NASA. The number of these students shall be  
926 multiplied by a factor of 0.5.

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927 (b) The total number of federally connected students  
928 calculated under paragraph (a) shall be multiplied by a  
929 percentage of the base student allocation as provided in the  
930 General Appropriations Act. The total of the number of students  
931 with disabilities as reported separately under subparagraphs  
932 (a)1. and 2. shall be multiplied by an additional percentage of  
933 the base student allocation as provided in the General  
934 Appropriations Act. The base amount and the amount for students  
935 with disabilities shall be summed to provide the student  
936 allocation.

937 (c) The exempt property allocation shall be equal to the  
938 tax-exempt value of federal impact aid lands reserved as  
939 military installations, real property owned by NASA, or eligible  
940 federally owned Indian lands located in the district, ~~as of~~  
941 ~~January 1 of the previous year,~~ multiplied by the millage  
942 authorized and levied under s. 1011.71(2).

943 (d) The amount allocated for each eligible school district  
944 shall be recalculated during the year using actual student  
945 membership, as amended, from the most recent February survey and  
946 the tax-exempt valuation from the most recent assessment roll.  
947 Upon recalculation, if the total allocation is greater than the  
948 amount provided in the General Appropriations Act, it must be  
949 prorated to the level of the appropriation based on each  
950 district's share of the total recalculated amount.

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951 (14) QUALITY ASSURANCE GUARANTEE.—The Legislature may  
952 annually in the General Appropriations Act determine a  
953 percentage increase in funds per K-12 unweighted FTE as a  
954 minimum guarantee to each school district. The guarantee shall  
955 be calculated from prior year base funding per unweighted FTE  
956 student which shall include the adjusted FTE dollars as provided  
957 in subsection (16) ~~(15)~~, quality guarantee funds, and actual  
958 nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. From the base  
959 funding per unweighted FTE, the increase shall be calculated for  
960 the current year. The current year funds from which the  
961 guarantee shall be determined shall include the adjusted FTE  
962 dollars as provided in subsection (16) ~~(15)~~ and potential  
963 nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. A comparison of  
964 current year funds per unweighted FTE to prior year funds per  
965 unweighted FTE shall be computed. For those school districts  
966 which have less than the legislatively assigned percentage  
967 increase, funds shall be provided to guarantee the assigned  
968 percentage increase in funds per unweighted FTE student. Should  
969 appropriated funds be less than the sum of this calculated  
970 amount for all districts, the commissioner shall prorate each  
971 district's allocation. This provision shall be implemented to  
972 the extent specifically funded.

973 (15) SAFE SCHOOLS ALLOCATION.—A safe schools allocation is  
974 created to provide funding to assist school districts in their  
975 compliance with ss. 1006.07-1006.148, with priority given to

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976 establishing a school resource officer program pursuant to s.  
977 1006.12. Each school district shall receive a minimum safe  
978 schools allocation in an amount provided in the General  
979 Appropriations Act. Of the remaining balance of the safe schools  
980 allocation, two-thirds shall be allocated to school districts  
981 based on the most recent official Florida Crime Index provided  
982 by the Department of Law Enforcement and one-third shall be  
983 allocated based on each school district's proportionate share of  
984 the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student  
985 enrollment.

986 ~~(16)~~(15) TOTAL ALLOCATION OF STATE FUNDS TO EACH DISTRICT  
987 FOR CURRENT OPERATION.—The total annual state allocation to each  
988 district for current operation for the FEFP shall be distributed  
989 periodically in the manner prescribed in the General  
990 Appropriations Act.

991 (b) The amount thus obtained shall be the net annual  
992 allocation to each school district. However, if it is determined  
993 that any school district received an under allocation or over  
994 allocation ~~underallocation or overallocation~~ for any prior year  
995 because of an arithmetical error, assessment roll change  
996 required by final judicial decision, full-time equivalent  
997 student membership error, or any allocation error revealed in an  
998 audit report, the allocation to that district shall be  
999 appropriately adjusted. An under allocation in a prior year  
1000 caused by a school district's error may not be the basis for a

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1001 positive allocation adjustment for the current year. Beginning  
1002 with the 2011-2012 fiscal year, if a special program cost factor  
1003 is less than the basic program cost factor, an audit adjustment  
1004 may not result in the reclassification of the special program  
1005 FTE to the basic program FTE. If the Department of Education  
1006 audit adjustment recommendation is based upon controverted  
1007 findings of fact, the Commissioner of Education is authorized to  
1008 establish the amount of the adjustment based on the best  
1009 interests of the state.

1010 Section 5. Section 1013.738, Florida Statutes, is amended  
1011 to read:

1012 1013.738 High Growth District Capital Outlay Assistance  
1013 Grant Program.—

1014 (1) Subject to funds provided in the General  
1015 Appropriations Act, the High Growth District Capital Outlay  
1016 Assistance Grant Program is hereby established. Funds provided  
1017 pursuant to this section may only be used for the purposes  
1018 identified in s. 1011.71(2) ~~to construct new student stations.~~

1019 (2) In order to qualify for a grant, a school district  
1020 must meet the following criteria:

1021 (a) The district must have levied the maximum ~~full 1.5~~  
1022 mills of nonvoted discretionary capital outlay millage  
1023 authorized in s. 1011.71(2) for each of the prior 5 ~~past 4~~  
1024 fiscal years.

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1025 (b) The district must receive revenue from a current voted  
1026 school capital outlay sales surtax or a portion of the local  
1027 government infrastructure surtax as authorized in s. 212.055.

1028 ~~(c)(b) Fifty percent of~~ The revenue derived from the ~~2-~~  
1029 ~~mill nonvoted discretionary capital outlay millage for the past~~  
1030 ~~4 fiscal years~~, when divided by the district's ~~growth in~~ capital  
1031 outlay FTE students ~~over this period~~, produces a value that is  
1032 less than the statewide average maximum potential funds cost per  
1033 capital outlay FTE student station ~~calculated pursuant to s.~~  
1034 ~~1013.64(6)(b)1., and weighted by statewide growth in capital~~  
1035 ~~outlay FTE students in elementary, middle, and high schools for~~  
1036 the most recent past 4 fiscal year years.

1037 ~~(d)(e)~~ The district must have equaled or exceeded the  
1038 greater of 1 percent average growth or twice the statewide  
1039 average of growth in capital outlay FTE students over the prior  
1040 5-year this same 4-year period.

1041 ~~(d) The Commissioner of Education must have released all~~  
1042 ~~funds allocated to the district from the Classrooms First~~  
1043 ~~Program authorized in s. 1013.68, and these funds were fully~~  
1044 ~~expended by the district as of February 1 of the current fiscal~~  
1045 ~~year.~~

1046 (e) The total capital outlay FTE students of the district  
1047 is greater than 24,000 ~~15,000~~ students.

1048 (3) The funds provided in the General Appropriations Act  
1049 shall be allocated pursuant to the following methodology:

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1050 (a) For each eligible district, the Department of  
1051 Education shall ~~sum~~ calculate the calculated ~~value of 50 percent~~  
1052 ~~of the revenue derived from the~~ maximum potential 2-mill  
1053 nonvoted discretionary capital outlay millage and the revenue  
1054 received from the voted sales surtax as provided in paragraph  
1055 (2) (b) and divide that sum ~~for the past 4 fiscal years divided~~  
1056 ~~by the~~ number of ~~increase in~~ capital outlay FTE students for the  
1057 same period.

1058 (b) The Department of Education shall determine, for each  
1059 eligible district, the amount that must be added to the funds  
1060 per capital outlay FTE ~~value~~ calculated pursuant to paragraph  
1061 (a) to produce the statewide ~~weighted~~ average value per capital  
1062 outlay FTE for the revenues identified ~~student station~~  
1063 ~~calculated~~ pursuant to paragraph (a) ~~(2) (b)~~.

1064 (c) The value calculated for each eligible district  
1065 pursuant to paragraph (b) shall be ~~multiplied by the average~~  
1066 ~~increase in capital outlay FTE students for the past 4 fiscal~~  
1067 ~~years to determine~~ the maximum amount of a grant that may be  
1068 awarded to a district pursuant to this section.

1069 (d) In the event the funds provided ~~in the General~~  
1070 ~~Appropriations Act~~ are insufficient to fully fund the maximum  
1071 grants calculated pursuant to this section ~~paragraph (c)~~, the  
1072 Department of Education shall allocate the funds based on each  
1073 district's prorated share of the total maximum award amount  
1074 calculated for all eligible districts.

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1075 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
1076 1011.78, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1077 1011.78 Standard student attire incentive payments.—There  
1078 is created an incentive payment for school districts and charter  
1079 schools that implement a standard student attire policy for all  
1080 students in kindergarten through grade 8 in accordance with this  
1081 section.

1082 (3) QUALIFICATIONS.—To qualify for the incentive payment,  
1083 a school district or charter school must, at a minimum,  
1084 implement a standard attire policy that:

1085 (b) Prohibits certain types or styles of clothing ~~and~~  
1086 ~~requires solid-colored clothing and fabrics for pants, skirts,~~  
1087 ~~shorts, or similar clothing and short- or long-sleeved shirts~~  
1088 ~~with collars.~~

1089 Section 7. Section 1003.631, Florida Statutes, is created  
1090 to read:

1091 1003.631 Schools of Excellence.—The Schools of Excellence  
1092 Program is established to provide administrative flexibility to  
1093 the state's top schools so that the instructional personnel and  
1094 administrative staff at such schools can continue to serve their  
1095 communities and increase student learning to the best of their  
1096 professional ability.

1097 (1) DESIGNATION.—

1098 (a) The State Board of Education shall designate a school  
1099 as a School of Excellence if the school's percentage of possible

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1100 points earned in its school grade calculation is in the 80th  
1101 percentile or higher for schools comprised of the same grade  
1102 groupings, including elementary schools, middle schools, high  
1103 schools, and schools with a combination of grade levels, for at  
1104 least 2 of the last 3 school years. The school must have data  
1105 for each applicable school grade component pursuant to s.  
1106 1008.34(3) to be eligible for designation as a School of  
1107 Excellence. A qualifying school shall retain the designation as  
1108 a School of Excellence for up to 3 years, at the end of which  
1109 time the school may renew the designation, if:

1110 1. The school was in the 80th percentile or higher  
1111 pursuant to this subsection for 2 of the previous 3 years; and

1112 2. The school did not receive a school grade lower than  
1113 "B" pursuant to s. 1008.34 during any of the previous 3 years.

1114 (b) A school that earns a school grade lower than "B"  
1115 pursuant to s. 1008.34 during the 3-year period may not continue  
1116 to be designated as a School of Excellence during the remainder  
1117 of that 3-year period and loses the administrative flexibilities  
1118 provided in subsection (2).

1119 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE FLEXIBILITIES.—A School of Excellence  
1120 must be provided the following administrative flexibilities:

1121 (a) Exemption from any provision of law or rule that  
1122 expressly requires a minimum period of daily or weekly  
1123 instruction in reading.

1124 (b) Principal autonomy as provided under s. 1012.28(8).

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1125 (c) For instructional personnel, the substitution of 1  
1126 school year of employment at a School of Excellence for 20  
1127 inservice points toward the renewal of a professional  
1128 certificate, up to 60 inservice points in a 5-year cycle,  
1129 pursuant to s. 1012.585(3).

1130 (d) Exemption from compliance with district policies or  
1131 procedures that establish times for the start and completion of  
1132 the school day.

1133 (e) Calculation for compliance with maximum class size  
1134 pursuant to s. 1003.03(4) based on the average number of  
1135 students at the school level.

1136 Section 8. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section  
1137 1012.56, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (d),  
1138 subsections (1) and (7), and paragraph (a) of subsection (8) are  
1139 amended, and a new paragraph (c) is added to subsection (8) of  
1140 that section, to read:

1141 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

1142 (1) APPLICATION.—Each person seeking certification  
1143 pursuant to this chapter shall submit a completed application  
1144 containing the applicant's social security number to the  
1145 Department of Education and remit the fee required pursuant to  
1146 s. 1012.59 and rules of the State Board of Education. Pursuant  
1147 to the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity  
1148 Reconciliation Act of 1996, each party is required to provide  
1149 his or her social security number in accordance with this

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1150 section. Disclosure of social security numbers obtained through  
1151 this requirement is limited to the purpose of administration of  
1152 the Title IV-D program of the Social Security Act for child  
1153 support enforcement.

1154 (a) Pursuant to s. 120.60, the department shall issue  
1155 within 90 calendar days after receipt ~~the stamped receipted date~~  
1156 of the completed application.

1157 ~~(a) If the applicant meets the requirements,~~ a professional  
1158 certificate to a qualifying applicant covering the  
1159 classification, level, and area for which the applicant is  
1160 deemed qualified and a document explaining the requirements for  
1161 renewal of the professional certificate.

1162 (b) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to  
1163 a qualifying applicant within 14 calendar days after receipt of  
1164 a request from ~~if the applicant meets the requirements and if~~  
1165 ~~requested by an employer employing school district or an~~  
1166 ~~employing private school~~ with a professional education  
1167 competence demonstration program pursuant to paragraphs (6) (f)  
1168 and (8) (b). ~~The,~~ a temporary certificate must cover ~~covering~~ the  
1169 classification, level, and area for which the applicant is  
1170 deemed qualified. The department shall electronically notify the  
1171 applicant's employer that the temporary certificate has been  
1172 issued and provide the applicant an official statement of status  
1173 of eligibility at the time the certificate is issued. ~~and an~~  
1174 ~~official statement of status of eligibility; or~~

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1175 (c) Pursuant to s. 120.60, the department shall issue  
1176 within 90 calendar days after receipt of the completed  
1177 application, if an applicant does not meet the requirements for  
1178 either certificate, an official statement of status of  
1179 eligibility.

1180  
1181 The statement of status of eligibility must be provided  
1182 electronically and must advise the applicant of any  
1183 qualifications that must be completed to qualify for  
1184 certification. Each method by which an applicant can complete  
1185 the qualifications for a professional certificate must be  
1186 included in the statement of status of eligibility. Each  
1187 statement of status of eligibility is valid for 3 years after  
1188 its date of issuance, except as provided in paragraph (2) (d).

1189 (7) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION.—

1190 (a) The Department of Education shall issue a professional  
1191 certificate for a period not to exceed 5 years to any applicant  
1192 who fulfills one of the following:

- 1193 1. Meets all the requirements outlined in subsection (2).  
1194 2. ~~or,~~ For a professional certificate covering grades 6  
1195 through 12, ~~any applicant who:~~
- 1196 a.1. Meets the requirements of paragraphs (2) (a)-(h).  
1197 b.2. Holds a master's or higher degree in the area of  
1198 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

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1199 ~~c.3.~~ Teaches a high school course in the subject of the  
1200 advanced degree.

1201 ~~d.4.~~ Is rated highly effective as determined by the  
1202 teacher's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, based in part  
1203 on student performance as measured by a statewide, standardized  
1204 assessment or an Advanced Placement, Advanced International  
1205 Certificate of Education, or International Baccalaureate  
1206 examination.

1207 ~~e.5.~~ Achieves a passing score on the Florida professional  
1208 education competency examination required by state board rule.

1209 3. Meets the requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)-(h) and  
1210 completes a professional preparation and education competence  
1211 program approved by the department pursuant to paragraph (8)(c).  
1212 An applicant who completes the program and is rated highly  
1213 effective as determined by his or her performance evaluation  
1214 under s. 1012.34 is not required to take or achieve a passing  
1215 score on the professional education competency examination in  
1216 order to be awarded a professional certificate.

1217 (b) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to  
1218 any applicant who completes the requirements outlined in  
1219 paragraphs (2)(a)-(f) and completes the subject area content  
1220 requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates  
1221 mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5) and  
1222 holds an accredited degree or a degree approved by the

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1223 Department of Education at the level required for the subject  
1224 area specialization in state board rule.

1225 (c) The department shall issue one nonrenewable 2-year  
1226 temporary certificate and one nonrenewable 5-year professional  
1227 certificate to a qualified applicant who holds a bachelor's  
1228 degree in the area of speech-language impairment to allow for  
1229 completion of a master's degree program in speech-language  
1230 impairment.

1231  
1232 Each temporary certificate is valid for 3 school fiscal years  
1233 and is nonrenewable. However, the requirement in paragraph  
1234 (2) (g) must be met within 1 calendar year of the date of  
1235 employment under the temporary certificate. Individuals who are  
1236 employed under contract at the end of the 1 calendar year time  
1237 period may continue to be employed through the end of the school  
1238 year in which they have been contracted. A school district shall  
1239 not employ, or continue the employment of, an individual in a  
1240 position for which a temporary certificate is required beyond  
1241 this time period if the individual has not met the requirement  
1242 of paragraph (2) (g). At least 1 year before an individual's  
1243 temporary certificate is set to expire, the department shall  
1244 electronically notify the individual of the date on which his or  
1245 her certificate will expire and provide a list of each method by  
1246 which the qualifications for a professional certificate can be  
1247 completed. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to

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1248 allow the department to extend the validity period of a  
1249 temporary certificate for 2 years when the requirements for the  
1250 professional certificate, not including the requirement in  
1251 paragraph (2)(g), were not completed due to the serious illness  
1252 or injury of the applicant or other extraordinary extenuating  
1253 circumstances or for 1 year if the temporary certificateholder  
1254 is rated effective or highly effective based solely on a student  
1255 learning growth formula approved by the Commissioner of  
1256 Education pursuant to s. 1012.34(8). The department shall  
1257 reissue the temporary certificate for 2 additional years upon  
1258 approval by the Commissioner of Education. A written request for  
1259 reissuance of the certificate shall be submitted by the district  
1260 school superintendent, the governing authority of a university  
1261 lab school, the governing authority of a state-supported school,  
1262 or the governing authority of a private school.

1263 (8) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION  
1264 COMPETENCY PROGRAM.—

1265 (a) The Department of Education shall develop and each  
1266 school district, charter school, and charter management  
1267 organization may provide a cohesive competency-based  
1268 professional development certification and education competency  
1269 program by which ~~members of a school district's~~ instructional  
1270 staff may satisfy the mastery of professional preparation and  
1271 education competence requirements specified in subsection (6)  
1272 and rules of the State Board of Education. Participants must

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1273 hold a state-issued temporary certificate. A school district,  
1274 charter school, or charter management organization that  
1275 implements the program shall provide a competency-based  
1276 certification program developed by the Department of Education  
1277 or developed by the district, charter school, or charter  
1278 management organization and approved by the Department of  
1279 Education. The program shall include the following:

1280 1. A minimum period of initial preparation before assuming  
1281 duties as the teacher of record.

1282 2. An option for collaboration with ~~between school~~  
1283 ~~districts and~~ other supporting agencies or educational entities  
1284 for implementation.

1285 3. A teacher mentorship and induction ~~An experienced peer-~~  
1286 ~~mentor~~ component.

1287 a. Each individual selected by the district as a ~~peer~~  
1288 mentor:

1289 I. Must hold a valid professional certificate issued  
1290 pursuant to this section;;

1291 II. Must have earned at least 3 years of teaching  
1292 experience in prekindergarten through grade 12;; ~~and~~

1293 III. Must have completed specialized training in clinical  
1294 supervision and participate in ongoing mentor training provided  
1295 through the coordinated system of professional development under  
1296 s. 1012.98(3)(e);

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1297 IV. Must have earned an effective or highly effective  
1298 rating on the prior year's performance evaluation under s.  
1299 1012.34; and

1300 V. May ~~or~~ be a peer evaluator under the district's  
1301 evaluation system approved under s. 1012.34.

1302 b. The teacher mentorship and induction component must, at  
1303 a minimum, provide weekly opportunities for mentoring and  
1304 induction activities, including common planning time, ongoing  
1305 professional development targeted to a teacher's needs,  
1306 opportunities for a teacher to observe other teachers, co-  
1307 teaching experiences, and reflection and followup discussions.  
1308 Mentorship and induction activities must be provided for an  
1309 applicant's first year in the program and may be provided until  
1310 the applicant attains his or her professional certificate in  
1311 accordance with this section. A principal who is rated highly  
1312 effective as determined by his or her performance evaluation  
1313 under s. 1012.34 must be provided flexibility in selecting  
1314 professional development activities under this paragraph;  
1315 however, the activities must be approved by the department as  
1316 part of the district's, charter school's, or charter management  
1317 organization's program.

1318 4. An assessment of teaching performance aligned to the  
1319 district's system for personnel evaluation under s. 1012.34  
1320 which provides for:

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1321 a. An initial evaluation of each educator's competencies  
1322 to determine an appropriate individualized professional  
1323 development plan.

1324 b. A summative evaluation to assure successful completion  
1325 of the program.

1326 5. Professional education preparation content knowledge,  
1327 which must be included in the mentoring and induction activities  
1328 under subparagraph 3., that includes, but is not limited to, the  
1329 following:

1330 a. The state standards provided under s. 1003.41,  
1331 including scientifically based reading instruction, content  
1332 literacy, and mathematical practices, for each subject  
1333 identified on the temporary certificate.

1334 b. The educator-accomplished practices approved by the  
1335 state board.

1336 c. A variety of data indicators for monitoring student  
1337 progress.

1338 d. Methodologies for teaching students with disabilities.

1339 e. Methodologies for teaching students of limited English  
1340 proficiency appropriate for each subject area identified on the  
1341 temporary certificate.

1342 f. Techniques and strategies for operationalizing the role  
1343 of the teacher in assuring a safe learning environment for  
1344 students.

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1345 6. Required achievement of passing scores on the subject  
1346 area and professional education competency examination required  
1347 by State Board of Education rule. Mastery of general knowledge  
1348 must be demonstrated as described in subsection (3).

1349 (c) No later than December 31, 2017, the department shall  
1350 adopt standards for the approval of professional development  
1351 certification and education competency programs, including  
1352 standards for the teacher mentorship and induction component,  
1353 under paragraph (a). Standards for the teacher mentorship and  
1354 induction component must include program administration and  
1355 evaluation; mentor roles, selection, and training; beginning  
1356 teacher assessment and professional development; and teacher  
1357 content knowledge and practices aligned to the Florida Educator  
1358 Accomplished Practices. Each school district or charter school  
1359 with a program under this subsection must submit its program,  
1360 including the teacher mentorship and induction component, to the  
1361 department for approval no later than June 30, 2018. After  
1362 December 31, 2018, a teacher may not satisfy requirements for a  
1363 professional certificate through a professional development  
1364 certification and education competency program under paragraph  
1365 (a) unless the program has been approved by the department  
1366 pursuant to this paragraph.

1367 Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
1368 1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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Amendment No.

1369 1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for  
1370 teacher preparation programs.—

1371 (2) UNIFORM CORE CURRICULA AND CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT.—

1372 (b) The rules to establish uniform core curricula for each  
1373 state-approved teacher preparation program must include, but are  
1374 not limited to, the following:

- 1375 1. The Florida Educator Accomplished Practices.
- 1376 2. The state-adopted content standards.
- 1377 3. Scientifically researched and evidence-based reading  
1378 instructional strategies that improve reading performance for  
1379 all students, including explicit, systematic, and sequential  
1380 approaches to teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary,  
1381 fluency, and text comprehension and multisensory intervention  
1382 strategies instruction.
- 1383 4. Content literacy and mathematics practices.
- 1384 5. Strategies appropriate for the instruction of English  
1385 language learners.
- 1386 6. Strategies appropriate for the instruction of students  
1387 with disabilities.
- 1388 7. School safety.

1389 Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
1390 1004.85, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1391 1004.85 Postsecondary educator preparation institutes.—

1392 (3) Educator preparation institutes approved pursuant to  
1393 this section may offer competency-based certification programs

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1394 specifically designed for noneducation major baccalaureate  
1395 degree holders to enable program participants to meet the  
1396 educator certification requirements of s. 1012.56. An educator  
1397 preparation institute choosing to offer a competency-based  
1398 certification program pursuant to the provisions of this section  
1399 must implement a program previously approved by the Department  
1400 of Education for this purpose or a program developed by the  
1401 institute and approved by the department for this purpose.  
1402 Approved programs shall be available for use by other approved  
1403 educator preparation institutes.

1404 (a) Within 90 days after receipt of a request for  
1405 approval, the Department of Education shall approve a  
1406 preparation program pursuant to the requirements of this  
1407 subsection or issue a statement of the deficiencies in the  
1408 request for approval. The department shall approve a  
1409 certification program if the institute provides evidence of the  
1410 institute's capacity to implement a competency-based program  
1411 that includes each of the following:

1412 1.a. Participant instruction and assessment in the Florida  
1413 Educator Accomplished Practices.

1414 b. The state-adopted student content standards.

1415 c. Scientifically researched and evidence-based reading  
1416 instructional strategies that improve reading performance for  
1417 all students, including explicit, systematic, and sequential  
1418 approaches to teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary,

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1419 | fluency, and text comprehension and multisensory intervention  
1420 | strategies instruction.

1421 |       d. Content literacy and mathematical practices.  
1422 |       e. Strategies appropriate for instruction of English  
1423 | language learners.  
1424 |       f. Strategies appropriate for instruction of students with  
1425 | disabilities.  
1426 |       g. School safety.

1427 |       2. An educational plan for each participant to meet  
1428 | certification requirements and demonstrate his or her ability to  
1429 | teach the subject area for which the participant is seeking  
1430 | certification, which is based on an assessment of his or her  
1431 | competency in the areas listed in subparagraph 1.

1432 |       3. Field experiences appropriate to the certification  
1433 | subject area specified in the educational plan with a diverse  
1434 | population of students in a variety of settings under the  
1435 | supervision of qualified educators.

1436 |       4. A certification ombudsman to facilitate the process and  
1437 | procedures required for participants who complete the program to  
1438 | meet any requirements related to the background screening  
1439 | pursuant to s. 1012.32 and educator professional or temporary  
1440 | certification pursuant to s. 1012.56.

1441 |       Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
1442 | 1012.585, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is  
1443 | added to that subsection, to read:

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1444 1012.585 Process for renewal of professional  
1445 certificates.—

1446 (3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the  
1447 following requirements must be met:

1448 (a) The applicant must earn a minimum of 6 college credits  
1449 or 120 inservice points or a combination thereof. For each area  
1450 of specialization to be retained on a certificate, the applicant  
1451 must earn at least 3 of the required credit hours or equivalent  
1452 inservice points in the specialization area. Education in  
1453 "clinical educator" training pursuant to s. 1004.04(5)(b);  
1454 participation in mentorship and induction activities, including  
1455 as a mentor, pursuant to s. 1012.56(8)(a); and credits or points  
1456 that provide training in the area of scientifically researched,  
1457 knowledge-based reading literacy, including explicit,  
1458 systematic, and sequential approaches to reading instruction,  
1459 developing phonemic awareness, and implementing multisensory  
1460 intervention strategies, and computational skills acquisition,  
1461 exceptional student education, normal child development, and the  
1462 disorders of development may be applied toward any  
1463 specialization area. Credits or points that provide training in  
1464 the areas of drug abuse, child abuse and neglect, strategies in  
1465 teaching students having limited proficiency in English, or  
1466 dropout prevention, or training in areas identified in the  
1467 educational goals and performance standards adopted pursuant to  
1468 ss. 1000.03(5) and 1008.345 may be applied toward any

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1469 specialization area, except specialization areas identified by  
1470 State Board of Education rule that include reading instruction  
1471 or intervention for any students in kindergarten through grade  
1472 6. Credits or points earned through approved summer institutes  
1473 may be applied toward the fulfillment of these requirements.  
1474 Inservice points may also be earned by participation in  
1475 professional growth components approved by the State Board of  
1476 Education and specified pursuant to s. 1012.98 in the district's  
1477 approved master plan for inservice educational training;  
1478 however, such points may not be used to satisfy the  
1479 specialization requirements of this paragraph, including, but  
1480 not limited to, serving as a trainer in an approved teacher  
1481 training activity, serving on an instructional materials  
1482 committee or a state board or commission that deals with  
1483 educational issues, or serving on an advisory council created  
1484 pursuant to s. 1001.452.

1485 (f) An applicant for renewal of a professional certificate  
1486 in any area of certification identified by State Board of  
1487 Education rule that includes reading instruction or intervention  
1488 for any students in kindergarten through grade 6, with a  
1489 beginning validity date of July 1, 2020, or thereafter, must  
1490 earn a minimum of 2 college credits or the equivalent inservice  
1491 points in the use of explicit, systematic, and sequential  
1492 approaches to reading instruction, developing phonemic  
1493 awareness, and implementing multisensory intervention

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1494 strategies. Such training must be provided by teacher  
1495 preparation programs under s. 1004.04 or s. 1004.85 or approved  
1496 school district professional development systems under s.  
1497 1012.98. The requirements in this paragraph may not add to the  
1498 total hours required by the department for continuing education  
1499 or inservice training.

1500 Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 1012.586, Florida  
1501 Statutes, is amended to read:

1502 1012.586 Additions or changes to certificates; duplicate  
1503 certificates.—A school district may process via a Department of  
1504 Education website certificates for the following applications of  
1505 public school employees:

1506 (1) Addition of a subject coverage or endorsement to a  
1507 valid Florida certificate on the basis of the completion of the  
1508 appropriate subject area testing requirements of s.  
1509 1012.56(5)(a) or the completion of the requirements of an  
1510 approved school district program or the inservice components for  
1511 an endorsement.

1512 (a) To reduce duplication, the department may recommend  
1513 the consolidation of endorsement areas and requirements to the  
1514 State Board of Education.

1515 (b) By July 1, 2018, and at least once every 5 years  
1516 thereafter, the department shall conduct a review of existing  
1517 subject coverage or endorsement requirements in the elementary,  
1518 reading, and exceptional student educational areas. The review

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1519 must include reciprocity requirements for out-of-state  
1520 certificates and requirements for demonstrating competency in  
1521 the reading instruction professional development topics listed  
1522 in s. 1012.98(4)(b)11. At the conclusion of each review, the  
1523 department shall recommend to the state board changes to the  
1524 subject coverage or endorsement requirements based upon any  
1525 identified instruction or intervention strategies proven to  
1526 improve student reading performance. This paragraph does not  
1527 authorize the state board to establish any new certification  
1528 subject coverage.

1529

1530 The employing school district shall charge the employee a fee  
1531 not to exceed the amount charged by the Department of Education  
1532 for such services. Each district school board shall retain a  
1533 portion of the fee as defined in the rules of the State Board of  
1534 Education. The portion sent to the department shall be used for  
1535 maintenance of the technology system, the web application, and  
1536 posting and mailing of the certificate.

1537 Section 13. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (3) of  
1538 section 1012.98, Florida Statutes, and paragraph (b) of  
1539 subsection (4) and subsections (10) and (11) of that section are  
1540 amended, to read:

1541 1012.98 School Community Professional Development Act.—

1542 (3) The activities designed to implement this section  
1543 must:

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1544        (e) Provide training to teacher mentors as part of the  
1545 professional development certification and education competency  
1546 program under s. 1012.56(8)(a). The training must include  
1547 components on teacher development, peer coaching, time  
1548 management, and other related topics as determined by the  
1549 Department of Education.

1550            (4) The Department of Education, school districts,  
1551 schools, Florida College System institutions, and state  
1552 universities share the responsibilities described in this  
1553 section. These responsibilities include the following:

1554            (b) Each school district shall develop a professional  
1555 development system as specified in subsection (3). The system  
1556 shall be developed in consultation with teachers, teacher-  
1557 educators of Florida College System institutions and state  
1558 universities, business and community representatives, and local  
1559 education foundations, consortia, and professional  
1560 organizations. The professional development system must:

1561            1. Be approved by the department. All substantial  
1562 revisions to the system shall be submitted to the department for  
1563 review for continued approval.

1564            2. Be based on analyses of student achievement data and  
1565 instructional strategies and methods that support rigorous,  
1566 relevant, and challenging curricula for all students. Schools  
1567 and districts, in developing and refining the professional  
1568 development system, shall also review and monitor school

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1569 discipline data; school environment surveys; assessments of  
1570 parental satisfaction; performance appraisal data of teachers,  
1571 managers, and administrative personnel; and other performance  
1572 indicators to identify school and student needs that can be met  
1573 by improved professional performance.

1574 3. Provide inservice activities coupled with followup  
1575 support appropriate to accomplish district-level and school-  
1576 level improvement goals and standards. The inservice activities  
1577 for instructional personnel shall focus on analysis of student  
1578 achievement data, ongoing formal and informal assessments of  
1579 student achievement, identification and use of enhanced and  
1580 differentiated instructional strategies that emphasize rigor,  
1581 relevance, and reading in the content areas, enhancement of  
1582 subject content expertise, integrated use of classroom  
1583 technology that enhances teaching and learning, classroom  
1584 management, parent involvement, and school safety.

1585 4. Provide inservice activities and support targeted to  
1586 the individual needs of new teachers participating in the  
1587 professional development certification and education competency  
1588 program under s. 1012.56(8) (a).

1589 5.4. Include a master plan for inservice activities,  
1590 pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, for all  
1591 district employees from all fund sources. The master plan shall  
1592 be updated annually by September 1, must be based on input from  
1593 teachers and district and school instructional leaders, and must

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1594 use the latest available student achievement data and research  
1595 to enhance rigor and relevance in the classroom. Each district  
1596 inservice plan must be aligned to and support the school-based  
1597 inservice plans and school improvement plans pursuant to s.  
1598 1001.42(18). Each district inservice plan must provide a  
1599 description of the training that middle grades instructional  
1600 personnel and school administrators receive on the district's  
1601 code of student conduct adopted pursuant to s. 1006.07;  
1602 integrated digital instruction and competency-based instruction  
1603 and CAPE Digital Tool certificates and CAPE industry  
1604 certifications; classroom management; student behavior and  
1605 interaction; extended learning opportunities for students; and  
1606 instructional leadership. District plans must be approved by the  
1607 district school board annually in order to ensure compliance  
1608 with subsection (1) and to allow for dissemination of research-  
1609 based best practices to other districts. District school boards  
1610 must submit verification of their approval to the Commissioner  
1611 of Education no later than October 1, annually. Each school  
1612 principal may establish and maintain an individual professional  
1613 development plan for each instructional employee assigned to the  
1614 school as a seamless component to the school improvement plans  
1615 developed pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). An individual professional  
1616 development plan must be related to specific performance data  
1617 for the students to whom the teacher is assigned, define the  
1618 inservice objectives and specific measurable improvements

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1619 expected in student performance as a result of the inservice  
1620 activity, and include an evaluation component that determines  
1621 the effectiveness of the professional development plan.

1622 ~~6.5.~~ Include inservice activities for school  
1623 administrative personnel that address updated skills necessary  
1624 for instructional leadership and effective school management  
1625 pursuant to s. 1012.986.

1626 ~~7.6.~~ Provide for systematic consultation with regional and  
1627 state personnel designated to provide technical assistance and  
1628 evaluation of local professional development programs.

1629 ~~8.7.~~ Provide for delivery of professional development by  
1630 distance learning and other technology-based delivery systems to  
1631 reach more educators at lower costs.

1632 ~~9.8.~~ Provide for the continuous evaluation of the quality  
1633 and effectiveness of professional development programs in order  
1634 to eliminate ineffective programs and strategies and to expand  
1635 effective ones. Evaluations must consider the impact of such  
1636 activities on the performance of participating educators and  
1637 their students' achievement and behavior.

1638 ~~10.9.~~ For middle grades, emphasize:

1639 a. Interdisciplinary planning, collaboration, and  
1640 instruction.

1641 b. Alignment of curriculum and instructional materials to  
1642 the state academic standards adopted pursuant to s. 1003.41.

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1643 c. Use of small learning communities; problem-solving,  
1644 inquiry-driven research and analytical approaches for students;  
1645 strategies and tools based on student needs; competency-based  
1646 instruction; integrated digital instruction; and project-based  
1647 instruction.

1648  
1649 Each school that includes any of grades 6, 7, or 8 must include  
1650 in its school improvement plan, required under s. 1001.42(18), a  
1651 description of the specific strategies used by the school to  
1652 implement each item listed in this subparagraph.

1653 11. Provide training to reading coaches, classroom  
1654 teachers, and school administrators in effective methods of  
1655 identifying characteristics of conditions such as dyslexia and  
1656 other causes of diminished phonological processing skills;  
1657 incorporating instructional techniques into the general  
1658 education setting which are proven to improve reading  
1659 performance for all students; and using predictive and other  
1660 data to make instructional decisions based on individual student  
1661 needs. The training must help teachers integrate phonemic  
1662 awareness; phonics, word study, and spelling; reading fluency;  
1663 vocabulary, including academic vocabulary; and text  
1664 comprehension strategies into an explicit, systematic, and  
1665 sequential approach to reading instruction, including  
1666 multisensory intervention strategies. Each district must provide

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1667 all elementary grades instructional personnel access to training  
1668 sufficient to meet the requirements of s. 1012.585(3)(f).

1669 (10) For instructional personnel and administrative  
1670 personnel who have been evaluated as less than effective, a  
1671 district school board shall require participation in specific  
1672 professional development programs as provided in subparagraph  
1673 (4)(b)5. ~~(4)(b)4.~~ as part of the improvement prescription.

1674 (11) The department shall disseminate to the school  
1675 community proven model professional development programs that  
1676 have demonstrated success in increasing rigorous and relevant  
1677 content, increasing student achievement and engagement, ~~and~~  
1678 meeting identified student needs, and providing effective  
1679 mentorship activities to new teachers and training to teacher  
1680 mentors. The methods of dissemination must include a web-based  
1681 statewide performance-support system including a database of  
1682 exemplary professional development activities, a listing of  
1683 available professional development resources, training programs,  
1684 and available technical assistance.

1685 Section 14. Section 683.1455, Florida Statutes, is created  
1686 to read:

1687 683.1455 American Founders' Month.—

1688 (1) The month of September of each year is designated as  
1689 "American Founders' Month."

1690 (2) The Governor may annually issue a proclamation  
1691 designating the month of September as "American Founders' Month"

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1692 and urging all civic, fraternal, and religious organizations and  
1693 public and private educational institutions to recognize and  
1694 observe this occasion through appropriate programs, meetings,  
1695 services, or celebrations in which state, county, and local  
1696 governmental officials are invited to participate.

1697 Section 15. Paragraphs (c) through (g) of subsection (5)  
1698 of section 1000.03, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
1699 paragraphs (d) through (h), respectively, and a new paragraph  
1700 (c) is added to that subsection to read:

1701 1000.03 Function, mission, and goals of the Florida K-20  
1702 education system.—

1703 (5) The priorities of Florida's K-20 education system  
1704 include:

1705 (c) Civic literacy.—Students are prepared to become  
1706 civically engaged and knowledgeable adults who make positive  
1707 contributions to their communities.

1708 Section 16. Section 1001.215, Florida Statutes, is amended  
1709 to read:

1710 1001.215 Just Read, Florida! Office.—There is created in  
1711 the Department of Education the Just Read, Florida! Office. The  
1712 office is ~~shall be~~ fully accountable to the Commissioner of  
1713 Education and shall:

1714 (1) Train ~~highly effective~~ reading coaches.

1715 (2) Create multiple designations of effective reading  
1716 instruction, with accompanying credentials, to enable ~~which~~

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1717 ~~encourage~~ all teachers to integrate reading instruction into  
1718 their content areas.

1719 (3) Work with the Lastinger Center for Learning at the  
1720 University of Florida to develop training for ~~train~~ K-12  
1721 teachers, reading coaches, and school principals on effective  
1722 content-area-specific reading strategies; the integration of  
1723 content-rich curriculum from other core subject areas into  
1724 reading instruction; and evidence-based reading strategies  
1725 identified in subsection (7) to improve student reading  
1726 performance. For secondary teachers, emphasis shall be on  
1727 technical text. These strategies must be developed for all  
1728 content areas in the K-12 curriculum.

1729 (4) Develop and provide access to sequenced, content-rich  
1730 curriculum programming, instructional practices, and resources  
1731 that help elementary schools use state-adopted instructional  
1732 materials to increase students' background knowledge and  
1733 literacy skills, including student attainment of the Next  
1734 Generation Sunshine State Standards for social studies, science,  
1735 and the arts.

1736 (5)~~(4)~~ Provide parents with information and strategies for  
1737 assisting their children in reading, including reading in ~~the~~  
1738 content areas ~~area~~.

1739 (6)~~(5)~~ Provide technical assistance to school districts in  
1740 the development and implementation of district plans for use of

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1741 the research-based reading instruction allocation provided in s.  
1742 1011.62(9) and annually review and approve such plans.

1743 ~~(7)-(6)~~ Review, evaluate, and provide technical assistance  
1744 to school districts' implementation of the K-12 comprehensive  
1745 reading plan required in s. 1011.62(9).

1746 ~~(8)-(7)~~ Work with the Florida Center for Reading Research  
1747 to identify scientifically researched and evidence-based reading  
1748 instructional and intervention programs that incorporate  
1749 explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to teaching  
1750 phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text  
1751 comprehension and incorporate decodable or phonetic text  
1752 instructional ~~provide information on research-based reading~~  
1753 ~~programs and effective reading in the content area strategies.~~  
1754 Reading intervention includes evidence-based strategies  
1755 frequently used to remediate reading deficiencies and includes,  
1756 but is not limited to, individual instruction, multisensory  
1757 approaches, tutoring, mentoring, or the use of technology that  
1758 targets specific reading skills and abilities.

1759 ~~(9)-(8)~~ Periodically review the Next Generation Sunshine  
1760 State Standards for English Language Arts to determine their  
1761 appropriateness at each grade level ~~reading at all grade levels.~~

1762 ~~(10)-(9)~~ Periodically review teacher certification  
1763 requirements and examinations, including alternative  
1764 certification requirements and examinations ~~exams~~, to ascertain  
1765 whether the examinations measure the skills needed for evidence-

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1766 based ~~research-based~~ reading instruction and instructional  
1767 strategies for teaching reading, including reading in the  
1768 content areas.

1769 ~~(11)-(10)~~ Work with teacher preparation programs approved  
1770 pursuant to ss. ~~s.~~ 1004.04 and 1004.85 to integrate effective,  
1771 research-based and evidence-based reading instructional and  
1772 intervention strategies, including explicit, systematic, and  
1773 sequential and reading strategies, multisensory intervention  
1774 strategies, and reading in the content area instructional  
1775 strategies into teacher preparation programs.

1776 ~~(12)-(11)~~ Administer grants and perform other functions as  
1777 necessary to help meet the goal that all students read at their  
1778 highest potential ~~grade level.~~

1779 Section 17. Subsection (3) is added to section 1003.44,  
1780 Florida Statutes, to read:

1781 1003.44 Patriotic programs; rules.—

1782 (3) All public schools in the state are encouraged to  
1783 coordinate, at all grade levels, instruction related to our  
1784 nation's founding fathers with "American Founders' Month"  
1785 pursuant to s. 683.1455.

1786 Section 18. Subsections (4) through (11) of section  
1787 1007.25, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5)  
1788 through (12), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to  
1789 that section to read:

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1790 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;  
1791 other degree requirements.—

1792 (4) Beginning with students initially entering a Florida  
1793 College System institution or state university in the 2018-2019  
1794 school year and thereafter, each student must demonstrate  
1795 competency in civic literacy. Students must have the option to  
1796 demonstrate competency through successful completion of a civic  
1797 literacy course or by achieving a passing score on an  
1798 assessment. The State Board of Education must adopt in rule and  
1799 the Board of Governors must adopt in regulation at least one  
1800 existing assessment that measures competencies consistent with  
1801 the required course competencies outlined in paragraph (b). The  
1802 chair of the State Board of Education and the chair of the Board  
1803 of Governors, or their respective designees, shall jointly  
1804 appoint a faculty committee to:

1805 (a) Develop a new course in civic literacy or revise an  
1806 existing general education core course in American History or  
1807 American Government to include civic literacy.

1808 (b) Establish course competencies and identify outcomes  
1809 that include, at a minimum, an understanding of the basic  
1810 principles of American democracy and how they are applied in our  
1811 republican form of government, an understanding of the United  
1812 States Constitution, knowledge of the founding documents and how  
1813 they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of

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1814 self-governance, and an understanding of landmark Supreme Court  
1815 cases and their impact on law and society.

1816 Section 19. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section  
1817 943.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1818 943.22 Salary incentive program for full-time officers.—

1819 (1) For the purpose of this section, the term:

1820 (c) "Community college degree or equivalent" means  
1821 graduation from an accredited community college or having been  
1822 granted a degree pursuant to s. 1007.25(11) ~~s. 1007.25(10)~~ or  
1823 successful completion of 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours  
1824 and eligibility to receive an associate degree from an  
1825 accredited college, university, or community college.

1826 Section 20. Subsection (7) and paragraph (d) of subsection  
1827 (8) of section 1001.64, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1828 1001.64 Florida College System institution boards of  
1829 trustees; powers and duties.—

1830 (7) Each board of trustees has responsibility for:

1831 ensuring that students have access to general education courses  
1832 as identified in rule; requiring no more than 60 semester hours  
1833 of degree program coursework, including 36 semester hours of  
1834 general education coursework, for an associate in arts degree;  
1835 notifying students that earned hours in excess of 60 semester  
1836 hours may not be accepted by state universities; notifying  
1837 students of unique program prerequisites; and ensuring that  
1838 degree program coursework beyond general education coursework is

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1839 consistent with degree program prerequisite requirements adopted  
1840 pursuant to s. 1007.25(6) ~~s. 1007.25(5)~~.

1841 (8) Each board of trustees has authority for policies  
1842 related to students, enrollment of students, student records,  
1843 student activities, financial assistance, and other student  
1844 services.

1845 (d) Boards of trustees shall identify their general  
1846 education curricula pursuant to s. 1007.25(7) ~~s. 1007.25(6)~~.

1847 Section 21. Subsection (1), paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and  
1848 (h) of subsection (6), subsection (7), paragraph (b) of  
1849 subsection (8), paragraph (n) of subsection (9), paragraph (a)  
1850 of subsection (10), paragraph (h) of subsection (12), subsection  
1851 (13), paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (17), paragraphs (a)  
1852 and (c) of subsection (18), subsections (19) and (20),  
1853 paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (21), and subsections (25)  
1854 and (28) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to  
1855 read:

1856 1002.33 Charter schools.—

1857 (1) AUTHORIZATION. ~~Charter schools shall be part of the~~  
1858 ~~state's program of public education.~~ All charter schools in  
1859 Florida are public schools and shall be part of the state's  
1860 program of public education. A charter school may be formed by  
1861 creating a new school or converting an existing public school to  
1862 charter status. A charter school may operate a virtual charter  
1863 school pursuant to s. 1002.45(1)(d) to provide full-time online

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1864 instruction to ~~eligible~~ students, pursuant to s. 1002.455, in  
1865 kindergarten through grade 12. The school district in which the  
1866 student enrolls in the virtual charter school shall report the  
1867 student for funding pursuant to s. 1011.61(1)(c)1.b.(VI), and  
1868 the home school district shall not report the student for  
1869 funding. An existing charter school that is seeking to become a  
1870 virtual charter school must amend its charter or submit a new  
1871 application pursuant to subsection (6) to become a virtual  
1872 charter school. A virtual charter school is subject to the  
1873 requirements of this section; however, a virtual charter school  
1874 is exempt from subsections (18) and (19), ~~subparagraphs~~  
1875 ~~(20)(a)2., 4., 5., and 7.,~~ paragraph (20)(c), and s. 1003.03. A  
1876 public school may not use the term charter in its name unless it  
1877 has been approved under this section.

1878 (6) APPLICATION PROCESS AND REVIEW.—Charter school  
1879 applications are subject to the following requirements:

1880 (a) A person or entity seeking to open a charter school  
1881 shall prepare and submit an application on the standard a-model  
1882 application form prepared by the Department of Education which:

1883 1. Demonstrates how the school will use the guiding  
1884 principles and meet the statutorily defined purpose of a charter  
1885 school.

1886 2. Provides a detailed curriculum plan that illustrates  
1887 how students will be provided services to attain the Sunshine  
1888 State Standards.

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1889           3. Contains goals and objectives for improving student  
1890 learning and measuring that improvement. These goals and  
1891 objectives must indicate how much academic improvement students  
1892 are expected to show each year, how success will be evaluated,  
1893 and the specific results to be attained through instruction.

1894           4. Describes the reading curriculum and differentiated  
1895 strategies that will be used for students reading at grade level  
1896 or higher and a separate curriculum and strategies for students  
1897 who are reading below grade level. A sponsor shall deny an  
1898 application if the school does not propose a reading curriculum  
1899 that is consistent with effective teaching strategies that are  
1900 grounded in scientifically based reading research.

1901           5. Contains an annual financial plan for each year  
1902 requested by the charter for operation of the school for up to 5  
1903 years. This plan must contain anticipated fund balances based on  
1904 revenue projections, a spending plan based on projected revenues  
1905 and expenses, and a description of controls that will safeguard  
1906 finances and projected enrollment trends.

1907           6. Discloses the name of each applicant, governing board  
1908 member, and all proposed education services providers; the name  
1909 and sponsor of any charter school operated by each applicant,  
1910 each governing board member, and each proposed education  
1911 services provider that has closed and the reasons for the  
1912 closure; and the academic and financial history of such charter

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1913 schools, which the sponsor shall consider in deciding whether to  
1914 approve or deny the application.

1915 7. Contains additional information a sponsor may require,  
1916 which shall be attached as an addendum to the charter school  
1917 application described in this paragraph.

1918 8. For the establishment of a virtual charter school,  
1919 documents that the applicant has contracted with a provider of  
1920 virtual instruction services pursuant to s. 1002.45(1)(d).

1921 (b) A sponsor shall receive and review all applications  
1922 for a charter school using the evaluation instrument developed  
1923 by the Department of Education. A sponsor shall receive and  
1924 consider charter school applications received on or before  
1925 August 1 of each calendar year for charter schools to be opened  
1926 at the beginning of the school district's next school year, or  
1927 to be opened at a time agreed to by the applicant and the  
1928 sponsor. A sponsor may not refuse to receive a charter school  
1929 application submitted before August 1 and may receive an  
1930 application submitted later than August 1 if it chooses.

1931 Beginning in 2018 and thereafter, a sponsor shall receive and  
1932 consider charter school applications received on or before  
1933 February 1 of each calendar year for charter schools to be  
1934 opened 18 months later at the beginning of the school district's  
1935 school year, or to be opened at a time agreed to by the  
1936 applicant and the sponsor. A sponsor may not refuse to receive a  
1937 charter school application submitted before February 1 and may

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1938 receive an application submitted later than February 1 if it  
1939 chooses. ~~In order to facilitate greater collaboration in the~~  
1940 ~~application process, an applicant may submit a draft charter~~  
1941 ~~school application on or before May 1 with an application fee of~~  
1942 ~~\$500. If a draft application is timely submitted, the sponsor~~  
1943 ~~shall review and provide feedback as to material deficiencies in~~  
1944 ~~the application by July 1. The applicant shall then have until~~  
1945 ~~August 1 to resubmit a revised and final application. The~~  
1946 ~~sponsor may approve the draft application. Except as provided~~  
1947 ~~for a draft application, A sponsor may not charge an applicant~~  
1948 ~~for a charter any fee for the processing or consideration of an~~  
1949 ~~application, and a sponsor may not base its consideration or~~  
1950 ~~approval of a final application upon the promise of future~~  
1951 ~~payment of any kind. Before approving or denying any final~~  
1952 ~~application, the sponsor shall allow the applicant, upon receipt~~  
1953 ~~of written notification, at least 7 calendar days to make~~  
1954 ~~technical or nonsubstantive corrections and clarifications,~~  
1955 ~~including, but not limited to, corrections of grammatical,~~  
1956 ~~typographical, and like errors or missing signatures, if such~~  
1957 ~~errors are identified by the sponsor as cause to deny the final~~  
1958 ~~application.~~

1959 1. In order to facilitate an accurate budget projection  
1960 process, a sponsor shall be held harmless for FTE students who  
1961 are not included in the FTE projection due to approval of  
1962 charter school applications after the FTE projection deadline.

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1963 In a further effort to facilitate an accurate budget projection,  
1964 within 15 calendar days after receipt of a charter school  
1965 application, a sponsor shall report to the Department of  
1966 Education the name of the applicant entity, the proposed charter  
1967 school location, and its projected FTE.

1968 2. In order to ensure fiscal responsibility, an  
1969 application for a charter school shall include a full accounting  
1970 of expected assets, a projection of expected sources and amounts  
1971 of income, including income derived from projected student  
1972 enrollments and from community support, and an expense  
1973 projection that includes full accounting of the costs of  
1974 operation, including start-up costs.

1975 3.a. A sponsor shall by a majority vote approve or deny an  
1976 application no later than 90 ~~60~~ calendar days after the  
1977 application is received, unless the sponsor and the applicant  
1978 mutually agree in writing to temporarily postpone the vote to a  
1979 specific date, at which time the sponsor shall by a majority  
1980 vote approve or deny the application. If the sponsor fails to  
1981 act on the application, an applicant may appeal to the State  
1982 Board of Education as provided in paragraph (c). If an  
1983 application is denied, the sponsor shall, within 10 calendar  
1984 days after such denial, articulate in writing the specific  
1985 reasons, based upon good cause, supporting its denial of the  
1986 application and shall provide the letter of denial and

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1987 supporting documentation to the applicant and to the Department  
1988 of Education.

1989 b. An application submitted by a high-performing charter  
1990 school identified pursuant to s. 1002.331 or a high-performing  
1991 charter school system identified pursuant to s. 1002.332 may be  
1992 denied by the sponsor only if the sponsor demonstrates by clear  
1993 and convincing evidence that:

1994 (I) The application does not materially comply with the  
1995 requirements in paragraph (a);

1996 (II) The charter school proposed in the application does  
1997 not materially comply with the requirements in paragraphs  
1998 (9) (a)-(f);

1999 (III) The proposed charter school's educational program  
2000 does not substantially replicate that of the applicant or one of  
2001 the applicant's high-performing charter schools;

2002 (IV) The applicant has made a material misrepresentation  
2003 or false statement or concealed an essential or material fact  
2004 during the application process; or

2005 (V) The proposed charter school's educational program and  
2006 financial management practices do not materially comply with the  
2007 requirements of this section.

2008  
2009 Material noncompliance is a failure to follow requirements or a  
2010 violation of prohibitions applicable to charter school  
2011 applications, which failure is quantitatively or qualitatively

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2012 significant either individually or when aggregated with other  
2013 noncompliance. An applicant is considered to be replicating a  
2014 high-performing charter school if the proposed school is  
2015 substantially similar to at least one of the applicant's high-  
2016 performing charter schools and the organization or individuals  
2017 involved in the establishment and operation of the proposed  
2018 school are significantly involved in the operation of replicated  
2019 schools.

2020 c. If the sponsor denies an application submitted by a  
2021 high-performing charter school or a high-performing charter  
2022 school system, the sponsor must, within 10 calendar days after  
2023 such denial, state in writing the specific reasons, based upon  
2024 the criteria in sub-subparagraph b., supporting its denial of  
2025 the application and must provide the letter of denial and  
2026 supporting documentation to the applicant and to the Department  
2027 of Education. The applicant may appeal the sponsor's denial of  
2028 the application in accordance with ~~directly to the State Board~~  
2029 ~~of Education and, if an appeal is filed, must provide a copy of~~  
2030 ~~the appeal to the sponsor pursuant to~~ paragraph (c).

2031 4. For budget projection purposes, the sponsor shall  
2032 report to the Department of Education the approval or denial of  
2033 an application within 10 calendar days after such approval or  
2034 denial. In the event of approval, the report to the Department  
2035 of Education shall include the final projected FTE for the  
2036 approved charter school.

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2037 5. Upon approval of an application, the initial startup  
2038 shall commence with the beginning of the public school calendar  
2039 for the district in which the charter is granted. A charter  
2040 school may defer the opening of the school's operations for up  
2041 to 2 years to provide time for adequate facility planning. The  
2042 charter school must provide written notice of such intent to the  
2043 sponsor and the parents of enrolled students at least 30  
2044 calendar days before the first day of school.

2045 (c)1. An applicant may appeal any denial of that  
2046 applicant's application or failure to act on an application to  
2047 the State Board of Education no later than 30 calendar days  
2048 after receipt of the sponsor's decision or failure to act and  
2049 shall notify the sponsor of its appeal. Any response of the  
2050 sponsor shall be submitted to the State Board of Education  
2051 within 30 calendar days after notification of the appeal. Upon  
2052 receipt of notification from the State Board of Education that a  
2053 charter school applicant is filing an appeal, the Commissioner  
2054 of Education shall convene a meeting of the Charter School  
2055 Appeal Commission to study and make recommendations to the State  
2056 Board of Education regarding its pending decision about the  
2057 appeal. The commission shall forward its recommendation to the  
2058 state board at least 7 calendar days before the date on which  
2059 the appeal is to be heard. ~~An appeal regarding the denial of an  
2060 application submitted by a high-performing charter school  
2061 pursuant to s. 1002.331 shall be conducted by the State Board of~~

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2062 ~~Education in accordance with this paragraph, except that the~~  
2063 ~~commission shall not convene to make recommendations regarding~~  
2064 ~~the appeal. However, the Commissioner of Education shall review~~  
2065 ~~the appeal and make a recommendation to the state board.~~

2066 2. The Charter School Appeal Commission ~~or, in the case of~~  
2067 ~~an appeal regarding an application submitted by a high-~~  
2068 ~~performing charter school, the State Board of Education~~ may  
2069 reject an appeal submission for failure to comply with  
2070 procedural rules governing the appeals process. The rejection  
2071 shall describe the submission errors. The appellant shall have  
2072 15 calendar days after notice of rejection in which to resubmit  
2073 an appeal that meets the requirements set forth in State Board  
2074 of Education rule. An appeal submitted subsequent to such  
2075 rejection is considered timely if the original appeal was filed  
2076 within 30 calendar days after receipt of notice of the specific  
2077 reasons for the sponsor's denial of the charter application.

2078 3.a. The State Board of Education shall by majority vote  
2079 accept or reject the decision of the sponsor no later than 90  
2080 calendar days after an appeal is filed in accordance with State  
2081 Board of Education rule. The State Board of Education shall  
2082 remand the application to the sponsor with its written decision  
2083 that the sponsor approve or deny the application. The sponsor  
2084 shall implement the decision of the State Board of Education.  
2085 The decision of the State Board of Education is not subject to  
2086 the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 120.

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2087           b. If an appeal concerns an application submitted by a  
2088 high-performing charter school identified pursuant to s.  
2089 1002.331 or a high-performing charter school system identified  
2090 pursuant to s. 1002.332, the State Board of Education shall  
2091 determine whether the sponsor's denial was in accordance with  
2092 sub-subparagraph (b)3.b. sponsor has shown, by clear and  
2093 convincing evidence, that:

2094           ~~(I) The application does not materially comply with the~~  
2095 ~~requirements in paragraph (a);~~

2096           ~~(II) The charter school proposed in the application does~~  
2097 ~~not materially comply with the requirements in paragraphs~~  
2098 ~~(9)(a)-(f);~~

2099           ~~(III) The proposed charter school's educational program~~  
2100 ~~does not substantially replicate that of the applicant or one of~~  
2101 ~~the applicant's high-performing charter schools;~~

2102           ~~(IV) The applicant has made a material misrepresentation~~  
2103 ~~or false statement or concealed an essential or material fact~~  
2104 ~~during the application process; or~~

2105           ~~(V) The proposed charter school's educational program and~~  
2106 ~~financial management practices do not materially comply with the~~  
2107 ~~requirements of this section.~~

2108  
2109 ~~The State Board of Education shall approve or reject the~~  
2110 ~~sponsor's denial of an application no later than 90 calendar~~  
2111 ~~days after an appeal is filed in accordance with State Board of~~

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2112 ~~Education rule. The State Board of Education shall remand the~~  
2113 ~~application to the sponsor with its written decision that the~~  
2114 ~~sponsor approve or deny the application. The sponsor shall~~  
2115 ~~implement the decision of the State Board of Education. The~~  
2116 ~~decision of the State Board of Education is not subject to the~~  
2117 ~~Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 120.~~

2118 ~~(h) The terms and conditions for the operation of a~~  
2119 ~~charter school shall be set forth by the sponsor and the~~  
2120 ~~applicant in a written contractual agreement, called a charter.~~  
2121 ~~The sponsor may not impose unreasonable rules or regulations~~  
2122 ~~that violate the intent of giving charter schools greater~~  
2123 ~~flexibility to meet educational goals. The sponsor has 30 days~~  
2124 ~~after approval of the application to provide an initial proposed~~  
2125 ~~charter contract to the charter school. The applicant and the~~  
2126 ~~sponsor have 40 days thereafter to negotiate and notice the~~  
2127 ~~charter contract for final approval by the sponsor unless both~~  
2128 ~~parties agree to an extension. The proposed charter contract~~  
2129 ~~shall be provided to the charter school at least 7 calendar days~~  
2130 ~~prior to the date of the meeting at which the charter is~~  
2131 ~~scheduled to be voted upon by the sponsor. The Department of~~  
2132 ~~Education shall provide mediation services for any dispute~~  
2133 ~~regarding this section subsequent to the approval of a charter~~  
2134 ~~application and for any dispute relating to the approved~~  
2135 ~~charter, except disputes regarding charter school application~~  
2136 ~~denials. If the Commissioner of Education determines that the~~

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~~dispute cannot be settled through mediation, the dispute may be  
appealed to an administrative law judge appointed by the  
Division of Administrative Hearings. The administrative law  
judge has final order authority to rule on issues of equitable  
treatment of the charter school as a public school, whether  
proposed provisions of the charter violate the intended  
flexibility granted charter schools by statute, or on any other  
matter regarding this section except a charter school  
application denial, a charter termination, or a charter  
nonrenewal and shall award the prevailing party reasonable  
attorney's fees and costs incurred to be paid by the losing  
party. The costs of the administrative hearing shall be paid by  
the party whom the administrative law judge rules against.~~

(7) CHARTER.—The terms and conditions for the operation of  
a charter school shall be set forth by the sponsor and the  
applicant in a written contractual agreement, called a charter.  
The sponsor and the governing board of the charter school shall  
use the standard charter contract pursuant to subsection (21),  
which shall incorporate the approved application and any addenda  
approved with the application. Any term or condition of a  
proposed charter contract that differs from the standard charter  
contract adopted by rule of the State Board of Education shall  
be presumed a limitation on charter school flexibility. The  
sponsor may not impose unreasonable rules or regulations that  
violate the intent of giving charter schools greater flexibility

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2162 to meet educational goals ~~The major issues involving the~~  
2163 ~~operation of a charter school shall be considered in advance and~~  
2164 ~~written into the charter.~~ The charter shall be signed by the  
2165 governing board of the charter school and the sponsor, following  
2166 a public hearing to ensure community input.

2167 (a) The charter shall address and criteria for approval of  
2168 the charter shall be based on:

2169 1. The school's mission, the students to be served, and  
2170 the ages and grades to be included.

2171 2. The focus of the curriculum, the instructional methods  
2172 to be used, any distinctive instructional techniques to be  
2173 employed, and identification and acquisition of appropriate  
2174 technologies needed to improve educational and administrative  
2175 performance which include a means for promoting safe, ethical,  
2176 and appropriate uses of technology which comply with legal and  
2177 professional standards.

2178 a. The charter shall ensure that reading is a primary  
2179 focus of the curriculum and that resources are provided to  
2180 identify and provide specialized instruction for students who  
2181 are reading below grade level. The curriculum and instructional  
2182 strategies for reading must be consistent with the Next  
2183 Generation Sunshine State Standards and grounded in  
2184 scientifically based reading research.

2185 b. In order to provide students with access to diverse  
2186 instructional delivery models, to facilitate the integration of

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2187 technology within traditional classroom instruction, and to  
2188 provide students with the skills they need to compete in the  
2189 21st century economy, the Legislature encourages instructional  
2190 methods for blended learning courses consisting of both  
2191 traditional classroom and online instructional techniques.  
2192 Charter schools may implement blended learning courses which  
2193 combine traditional classroom instruction and virtual  
2194 instruction. Students in a blended learning course must be full-  
2195 time students of the charter school pursuant to s.  
2196 1011.61(1)(a)1. ~~and receive the online instruction in a~~  
2197 ~~classroom setting at the charter school.~~ Instructional personnel  
2198 certified pursuant to s. 1012.55 who provide virtual instruction  
2199 for blended learning courses may be employees of the charter  
2200 school or may be under contract to provide instructional  
2201 services to charter school students. At a minimum, such  
2202 instructional personnel must hold an active state or school  
2203 district adjunct certification under s. 1012.57 for the subject  
2204 area of the blended learning course. The funding and performance  
2205 accountability requirements for blended learning courses are the  
2206 same as those for traditional courses.

2207 3. The current incoming baseline standard of student  
2208 academic achievement, the outcomes to be achieved, and the  
2209 method of measurement that will be used. The criteria listed in  
2210 this subparagraph shall include a detailed description of:

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2211 a. How the baseline student academic achievement levels  
2212 and prior rates of academic progress will be established.

2213 b. How these baseline rates will be compared to rates of  
2214 academic progress achieved by these same students while  
2215 attending the charter school.

2216 c. To the extent possible, how these rates of progress  
2217 will be evaluated and compared with rates of progress of other  
2218 closely comparable student populations.

2219  
2220 The district school board is required to provide academic  
2221 student performance data to charter schools for each of their  
2222 students coming from the district school system, as well as  
2223 rates of academic progress of comparable student populations in  
2224 the district school system.

2225 4. The methods used to identify the educational strengths  
2226 and needs of students and how well educational goals and  
2227 performance standards are met by students attending the charter  
2228 school. The methods shall provide a means for the charter school  
2229 to ensure accountability to its constituents by analyzing  
2230 student performance data and by evaluating the effectiveness and  
2231 efficiency of its major educational programs. Students in  
2232 charter schools shall, at a minimum, participate in the  
2233 statewide assessment program created under s. 1008.22.

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2234 5. In secondary charter schools, a method for determining  
2235 that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation in  
2236 s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282.

2237 6. A method for resolving conflicts between the governing  
2238 board of the charter school and the sponsor.

2239 7. The admissions procedures and dismissal procedures,  
2240 including the school's code of student conduct. Admission or  
2241 dismissal must not be based on a student's academic performance.

2242 8. The ways by which the school will achieve a  
2243 racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or  
2244 within the racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the  
2245 same school district.

2246 9. The financial and administrative management of the  
2247 school, including a reasonable demonstration of the professional  
2248 experience or competence of those individuals or organizations  
2249 applying to operate the charter school or those hired or  
2250 retained to perform such professional services and the  
2251 description of clearly delineated responsibilities and the  
2252 policies and practices needed to effectively manage the charter  
2253 school. A description of internal audit procedures and  
2254 establishment of controls to ensure that financial resources are  
2255 properly managed must be included. Both public sector and  
2256 private sector professional experience shall be equally valid in  
2257 such a consideration.

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2258 10. The asset and liability projections required in the  
2259 application which are incorporated into the charter and shall be  
2260 compared with information provided in the annual report of the  
2261 charter school.

2262 11. A description of procedures that identify various  
2263 risks and provide for a comprehensive approach to reduce the  
2264 impact of losses; plans to ensure the safety and security of  
2265 students and staff; plans to identify, minimize, and protect  
2266 others from violent or disruptive student behavior; and the  
2267 manner in which the school will be insured, including whether or  
2268 not the school will be required to have liability insurance,  
2269 and, if so, the terms and conditions thereof and the amounts of  
2270 coverage.

2271 12. The term of the charter which shall provide for  
2272 cancellation of the charter if insufficient progress has been  
2273 made in attaining the student achievement objectives of the  
2274 charter and if it is not likely that such objectives can be  
2275 achieved before expiration of the charter. The initial term of a  
2276 charter shall be for 4 or 5 years. In order to facilitate access  
2277 to long-term financial resources for charter school  
2278 construction, charter schools that are operated by a  
2279 municipality or other public entity as provided by law are  
2280 eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the  
2281 district school board. A charter lab school is eligible for a  
2282 charter for a term of up to 15 years. In addition, to facilitate

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2283 access to long-term financial resources for charter school  
2284 construction, charter schools that are operated by a private,  
2285 not-for-profit, s. 501(c)(3) status corporation are eligible for  
2286 up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district  
2287 school board. Such long-term charters remain subject to annual  
2288 review and may be terminated during the term of the charter, but  
2289 only according to the provisions set forth in subsection (8).

2290 13. The facilities to be used and their location. The  
2291 sponsor may not require a charter school to have a certificate  
2292 of occupancy or a temporary certificate of occupancy for such a  
2293 facility earlier than 15 calendar days before the first day of  
2294 school.

2295 14. The qualifications to be required of the teachers and  
2296 the potential strategies used to recruit, hire, train, and  
2297 retain qualified staff to achieve best value.

2298 15. The governance structure of the school, including the  
2299 status of the charter school as a public or private employer as  
2300 required in paragraph (12)(i).

2301 16. A timetable for implementing the charter which  
2302 addresses the implementation of each element thereof and the  
2303 date by which the charter shall be awarded in order to meet this  
2304 timetable.

2305 17. In the case of an existing public school that is being  
2306 converted to charter status, alternative arrangements for  
2307 current students who choose not to attend the charter school and

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2308 for current teachers who choose not to teach in the charter  
2309 school after conversion in accordance with the existing  
2310 collective bargaining agreement or district school board rule in  
2311 the absence of a collective bargaining agreement. However,  
2312 alternative arrangements shall not be required for current  
2313 teachers who choose not to teach in a charter lab school, except  
2314 as authorized by the employment policies of the state university  
2315 which grants the charter to the lab school.

2316 18. Full disclosure of the identity of all relatives  
2317 employed by the charter school who are related to the charter  
2318 school owner, president, chairperson of the governing board of  
2319 directors, superintendent, governing board member, principal,  
2320 assistant principal, or any other person employed by the charter  
2321 school who has equivalent decisionmaking authority. For the  
2322 purpose of this subparagraph, the term "relative" means father,  
2323 mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first  
2324 cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-  
2325 law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law,  
2326 stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother,  
2327 stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

2328 19. Implementation of the activities authorized under s.  
2329 1002.331 by the charter school when it satisfies the eligibility  
2330 requirements for a high-performing charter school. A high-  
2331 performing charter school shall notify its sponsor in writing by  
2332 March 1 if it intends to increase enrollment or expand grade

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2333 levels the following school year. The written notice shall  
2334 specify the amount of the enrollment increase and the grade  
2335 levels that will be added, as applicable.

2336 (b) The sponsor has 30 days after approval of the  
2337 application to provide an initial proposed charter contract to  
2338 the charter school. The applicant and the sponsor have 40 days  
2339 thereafter to negotiate and notice the charter contract for  
2340 final approval by the sponsor unless both parties agree to an  
2341 extension. The proposed charter contract shall be provided to  
2342 the charter school at least 7 calendar days before the date of  
2343 the meeting at which the charter is scheduled to be voted upon  
2344 by the sponsor. The Department of Education shall provide  
2345 mediation services for any dispute regarding this section  
2346 subsequent to the approval of a charter application and for any  
2347 dispute relating to the approved charter, except a dispute  
2348 regarding a charter school application denial. If the  
2349 Commissioner of Education determines that the dispute cannot be  
2350 settled through mediation, the dispute may be appealed to an  
2351 administrative law judge appointed by the Division of  
2352 Administrative Hearings. The administrative law judge has final  
2353 order authority to rule on issues of equitable treatment of the  
2354 charter school as a public school, whether proposed provisions  
2355 of the charter violate the intended flexibility granted charter  
2356 schools by statute, or any other matter regarding this section,  
2357 except a dispute regarding charter school application denial, a

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2358 charter termination, or a charter nonrenewal. The administrative  
2359 law judge shall award the prevailing party reasonable attorney  
2360 fees and costs incurred during the mediation process,  
2361 administrative proceeding, and any appeals, to be paid by the  
2362 party whom the administrative law judge rules against.

2363 (c)~~(b)~~1. A charter may be renewed provided that a program  
2364 review demonstrates that the criteria in paragraph (a) have been  
2365 successfully accomplished and that none of the grounds for  
2366 nonrenewal established by paragraph (8) (a) has been documented.  
2367 In order to facilitate long-term financing for charter school  
2368 construction, charter schools operating for a minimum of 3 years  
2369 and demonstrating exemplary academic programming and fiscal  
2370 management are eligible for a 15-year charter renewal. Such  
2371 long-term charter is subject to annual review and may be  
2372 terminated during the term of the charter.

2373 2. The 15-year charter renewal that may be granted  
2374 pursuant to subparagraph 1. shall be granted to a charter school  
2375 that has received a school grade of "A" or "B" pursuant to s.  
2376 1008.34 in 3 of the past 4 years and is not in a state of  
2377 financial emergency or deficit position as defined by this  
2378 section. Such long-term charter is subject to annual review and  
2379 may be terminated during the term of the charter pursuant to  
2380 subsection (8).

2381 (d)~~(e)~~ A charter may be modified during its initial term  
2382 or any renewal term upon the recommendation of the sponsor or

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2383 the charter school's governing board and the approval of both  
2384 parties to the agreement. Modification may include, but is not  
2385 limited to, consolidation of multiple charters into a single  
2386 charter if the charters are operated under the same governing  
2387 board and physically located on the same campus, regardless of  
2388 the renewal cycle.

2389 (e)~~(d)~~ A charter may be terminated by a charter school's  
2390 governing board through voluntary closure. The decision to cease  
2391 operations must be determined at a public meeting. The governing  
2392 board shall notify the parents and sponsor of the public meeting  
2393 in writing before the public meeting. The governing board must  
2394 notify the sponsor, parents of enrolled students, and the  
2395 department in writing within 24 hours after the public meeting  
2396 of its determination. The notice shall state the charter  
2397 school's intent to continue operations or the reason for the  
2398 closure and acknowledge that the governing board agrees to  
2399 follow the procedures for dissolution and reversion of public  
2400 funds pursuant to paragraphs (8) (e)-(g) and (9) (o).

2401 (8) CAUSES FOR NONRENEWAL OR TERMINATION OF CHARTER.—

2402 (b) At least 90 days before ~~prior to~~ renewing,  
2403 nonrenewing, or terminating a charter, the sponsor shall notify  
2404 the governing board of the school of the proposed action in  
2405 writing. The notice shall state in reasonable detail the grounds  
2406 for the proposed action and stipulate that the school's  
2407 governing board may, within 14 calendar days after receiving the

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2408 notice, request a hearing. The hearing shall be conducted at the  
2409 sponsor's election in accordance with one of the following  
2410 procedures:

2411 1. A direct hearing conducted by the sponsor within 60  
2412 days after receipt of the request for a hearing. The hearing  
2413 shall be conducted in accordance with ss. 120.569 and 120.57.  
2414 The sponsor shall decide upon nonrenewal or termination by a  
2415 majority vote. The sponsor's decision shall be a final order; or

2416 2. A hearing conducted by an administrative law judge  
2417 assigned by the Division of Administrative Hearings. The hearing  
2418 shall be conducted within 60 days after receipt of the request  
2419 for a hearing and in accordance with chapter 120. The  
2420 administrative law judge's recommended order shall be submitted  
2421 to the sponsor. A majority vote by the sponsor shall be required  
2422 to adopt or modify the administrative law judge's recommended  
2423 order. The sponsor shall issue a final order.

2424 (9) CHARTER SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS.—

2425 (n)1. The director and a representative of the governing  
2426 board of a charter school that has earned a grade of "D" or "F"  
2427 pursuant to s. 1008.34 shall appear before the sponsor to  
2428 present information concerning each contract component having  
2429 noted deficiencies. The director and a representative of the  
2430 governing board shall submit to the sponsor for approval a  
2431 school improvement plan to raise student performance. Upon  
2432 approval by the sponsor, the charter school shall begin

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2433 implementation of the school improvement plan. The department  
2434 shall offer technical assistance and training to the charter  
2435 school and its governing board and establish guidelines for  
2436 developing, submitting, and approving such plans.

2437 2.a. If a charter school earns three consecutive grades  
2438 below a "C" ~~of "D," two consecutive grades of "D" followed by a~~  
2439 ~~grade of "F," or two nonconsecutive grades of "F" within a 3-~~  
2440 ~~year period,~~ the charter school governing board shall choose one  
2441 of the following corrective actions:

2442 (I) Contract for educational services to be provided  
2443 directly to students, instructional personnel, and school  
2444 administrators, as prescribed in state board rule;

2445 (II) Contract with an outside entity that has a  
2446 demonstrated record of effectiveness to operate the school;

2447 (III) Reorganize the school under a new director or  
2448 principal who is authorized to hire new staff; or

2449 (IV) Voluntarily close the charter school.

2450 b. The charter school must implement the corrective action  
2451 in the school year following receipt of a third consecutive  
2452 grade below a "C" ~~of "D," a grade of "F" following two~~  
2453 ~~consecutive grades of "D," or a second nonconsecutive grade of~~  
2454 ~~"F" within a 3-year period.~~

2455 c. The sponsor may annually waive a corrective action if  
2456 it determines that the charter school is likely to improve a  
2457 letter grade if additional time is provided to implement the

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2458 intervention and support strategies prescribed by the school  
2459 improvement plan. Notwithstanding this sub-subparagraph, a  
2460 charter school that earns a second consecutive grade of "F" is  
2461 subject to subparagraph 3. 4.

2462 d. A charter school is no longer required to implement a  
2463 corrective action if it improves to a "C" or higher ~~by at least~~  
2464 ~~one letter grade~~. However, the charter school must continue to  
2465 implement strategies identified in the school improvement plan.  
2466 The sponsor must annually review implementation of the school  
2467 improvement plan to monitor the school's continued improvement  
2468 pursuant to subparagraph 4. 5.

2469 e. A charter school implementing a corrective action that  
2470 does not improve to a "C" or higher ~~by at least one letter grade~~  
2471 after 2 full school years of implementing the corrective action  
2472 must select a different corrective action. Implementation of the  
2473 new corrective action must begin in the school year following  
2474 the implementation period of the existing corrective action,  
2475 unless the sponsor determines that the charter school is likely  
2476 to improve to a "C" or higher ~~a letter grade~~ if additional time  
2477 is provided to implement the existing corrective action.  
2478 Notwithstanding this sub-subparagraph, a charter school that  
2479 earns a second consecutive grade of "F" while implementing a  
2480 corrective action is subject to subparagraph 3. 4.

2481 ~~3. A charter school with a grade of "D" or "F" that~~  
2482 ~~improves by at least one letter grade must continue to implement~~

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2483 ~~the strategies identified in the school improvement plan. The~~  
2484 ~~sponsor must annually review implementation of the school~~  
2485 ~~improvement plan to monitor the school's continued improvement~~  
2486 ~~pursuant to subparagraph 5.~~

2487 3.4. A charter school's charter contract is automatically  
2488 terminated if the school earns two consecutive grades of "F"  
2489 after all school grade appeals are final unless:

2490 a. The charter school is established to turn around the  
2491 performance of a district public school pursuant to s.  
2492 1008.33(4)(b)2. ~~1008.33(4)(b)3.~~ Such charter schools shall be  
2493 governed by s. 1008.33;

2494 b. The charter school serves a student population the  
2495 majority of which resides in a school zone served by a district  
2496 public school subject to s. 1008.33(4) ~~that earned a grade of~~  
2497 ~~"F" in the year before the charter school opened~~ and the charter  
2498 school earns at least a grade of "D" in its third year of  
2499 operation. The exception provided under this sub-subparagraph  
2500 does not apply to a charter school in its fourth year of  
2501 operation and thereafter; or

2502 c. The state board grants the charter school a waiver of  
2503 termination. The charter school must request the waiver within  
2504 15 days after the department's official release of school  
2505 grades. The state board may waive termination if the charter  
2506 school demonstrates that the Learning Gains of its students on  
2507 statewide assessments are comparable to or better than the

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2508 Learning Gains of similarly situated students enrolled in nearby  
2509 district public schools. The waiver is valid for 1 year and may  
2510 only be granted once. Charter schools that have been in  
2511 operation for more than 5 years are not eligible for a waiver  
2512 under this sub-subparagraph.

2513

2514 The sponsor shall notify the charter school's governing board,  
2515 the charter school principal, and the department in writing when  
2516 a charter contract is terminated under this subparagraph. The  
2517 letter of termination must meet the requirements of paragraph  
2518 (8) (c). A charter terminated under this subparagraph must follow  
2519 the procedures for dissolution and reversion of public funds  
2520 pursuant to paragraphs (8) (e)-(g) and (9) (o).

2521 ~~4.5.~~ The director and a representative of the governing  
2522 board of a graded charter school that has implemented a school  
2523 improvement plan under this paragraph shall appear before the  
2524 sponsor at least once a year to present information regarding  
2525 the progress of intervention and support strategies implemented  
2526 by the school pursuant to the school improvement plan and  
2527 corrective actions, if applicable. The sponsor shall communicate  
2528 at the meeting, and in writing to the director, the services  
2529 provided to the school to help the school address its  
2530 deficiencies.

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2531 ~~5.6.~~ Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph  
2532 except sub-subparagraphs 3.a.-c. ~~4.a.-e.~~, the sponsor may  
2533 terminate the charter at any time pursuant to subsection (8).

2534 (10) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.—

2535 (a) A charter school may be exempt from the requirements  
2536 of s. 1002.31 if the school is ~~shall be~~ open to any student  
2537 covered in an interdistrict agreement and any student ~~or~~  
2538 residing in the school district in which the charter school is  
2539 located.~~.~~ However, in the case of a charter lab school, the  
2540 charter lab school shall be open to any student eligible to  
2541 attend the lab school as provided in s. 1002.32 or who resides  
2542 in the school district in which the charter lab school is  
2543 located. Any eligible student shall be allowed interdistrict  
2544 transfer to attend a charter school when based on good cause.  
2545 Good cause shall include, but is not limited to, geographic  
2546 proximity to a charter school in a neighboring school district.

2547 (12) EMPLOYEES OF CHARTER SCHOOLS.—

2548 (h) For the purposes of tort liability, the charter  
2549 school, including its governing body and employees, ~~of a charter~~  
2550 ~~school~~ shall be governed by s. 768.28. This paragraph does not  
2551 include any for-profit entity contracted by the charter school  
2552 or its governing body.

2553 (13) CHARTER SCHOOL COOPERATIVES.—Charter schools may  
2554 enter into cooperative agreements to form charter school  
2555 cooperative organizations that may provide ~~the following~~

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2556 services to further educational, operational, and administrative  
2557 initiatives in which the participating charter schools share  
2558 common interests: charter school planning and development,  
2559 direct instructional services, and contracts with charter school  
2560 governing boards to provide personnel administrative services,  
2561 payroll services, human resource management, evaluation and  
2562 assessment services, teacher preparation, and professional  
2563 development.

2564 (17) FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a charter school,  
2565 regardless of the sponsorship, shall be funded as if they are in  
2566 a basic program or a special program, the same as students  
2567 enrolled in other public schools in the school district. Funding  
2568 for a charter lab school shall be as provided in s. 1002.32.

2569 (b) The basis for the agreement for funding students  
2570 enrolled in a charter school shall be the sum of the school  
2571 district's operating funds from the Florida Education Finance  
2572 Program as provided in s. 1011.62 and the General Appropriations  
2573 Act, including gross state and local funds, discretionary  
2574 lottery funds, and funds from the school district's current  
2575 operating discretionary millage levy; divided by total funded  
2576 weighted full-time equivalent students in the school district;  
2577 multiplied by the weighted full-time equivalent students for the  
2578 charter school. Charter schools whose students or programs meet  
2579 the eligibility criteria in law are entitled to their  
2580 proportionate share of categorical program funds included in the

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2581 total funds available in the Florida Education Finance Program  
2582 by the Legislature, including transportation, the research-based  
2583 reading allocation, and the Florida digital classrooms  
2584 allocation. Total funding for each charter school shall be  
2585 recalculated during the year to reflect the revised calculations  
2586 under the Florida Education Finance Program by the state and the  
2587 actual weighted full-time equivalent students reported by the  
2588 charter school during the full-time equivalent student survey  
2589 periods designated by the Commissioner of Education. For charter  
2590 schools operated by a not-for-profit or municipal entity, any  
2591 unrestricted current and capital assets identified in the  
2592 charter school's annual financial audit may be used for other  
2593 charter schools operated by the not-for-profit or municipal  
2594 entity within the school district. Unrestricted current assets  
2595 shall be used in accordance with s. 1011.62 and any unrestricted  
2596 capital assets shall be used in accordance with s. 1013.62(2).

2597 ~~(c) If the district school board is providing programs or~~  
2598 ~~services to students funded by federal funds, any eligible~~  
2599 ~~students enrolled in charter schools in the school district~~  
2600 ~~shall be provided federal funds for the same level of service~~  
2601 ~~provided students in the schools operated by the district school~~  
2602 ~~board. Pursuant to provisions of 20 U.S.C. 8061 s. 10306, all~~  
2603 charter schools shall receive all federal funding for which the  
2604 school is otherwise eligible, including Title I funding, not  
2605 later than 5 months after the charter school first opens and

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2606 within 5 months after any subsequent expansion of enrollment.  
2607 Unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the charter school and  
2608 its sponsor, and consistent with state and federal rules and  
2609 regulations governing the use and disbursement of federal funds,  
2610 the sponsor shall reimburse the charter school on a monthly  
2611 basis for all invoices submitted by the charter school for  
2612 federal funds available to the sponsor for the benefit of the  
2613 charter school, the charter school's students, and the charter  
2614 school's students as public school students in the school  
2615 district. Such federal funds include, but are not limited to,  
2616 Title I, Title II, and Individuals with Disabilities Education  
2617 Act (IDEA) funds. To receive timely reimbursement for an  
2618 invoice, the charter school must submit the invoice to the  
2619 sponsor at least 30 days before the monthly date of  
2620 reimbursement set by the sponsor. In order to be reimbursed, any  
2621 expenditures made by the charter school must comply with all  
2622 applicable state rules and federal regulations, including, but  
2623 not limited to, the applicable federal Office of Management and  
2624 Budget Circulars; the federal Education Department General  
2625 Administrative Regulations; and program-specific statutes,  
2626 rules, and regulations. Such funds may not be made available to  
2627 the charter school until a plan is submitted to the sponsor for  
2628 approval of the use of the funds in accordance with applicable  
2629 federal requirements. The sponsor has 30 days to review and  
2630 approve any plan submitted pursuant to this paragraph.

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2631 (18) FACILITIES.—

2632 (a) A startup charter school shall utilize facilities  
2633 which comply with the Florida Building Code pursuant to chapter  
2634 553 except for the State Requirements for Educational  
2635 Facilities. Conversion charter schools shall utilize facilities  
2636 that comply with the State Requirements for Educational  
2637 Facilities provided that the school district and the charter  
2638 school have entered into a mutual management plan for the  
2639 reasonable maintenance of such facilities. The mutual management  
2640 plan shall contain a provision by which the district school  
2641 board agrees to maintain charter school facilities in the same  
2642 manner as its other public schools within the district. Charter  
2643 schools, with the exception of conversion charter schools, are  
2644 not required to comply, but may choose to comply, with the State  
2645 Requirements for Educational Facilities of the Florida Building  
2646 Code adopted pursuant to s. 1013.37. The local governing  
2647 authority shall not adopt or impose any local building  
2648 requirements or site-development restrictions, such as parking  
2649 and site-size criteria, student enrollment, and occupant load,  
2650 that are addressed by and more stringent than those found in the  
2651 State Requirements for Educational Facilities of the Florida  
2652 Building Code. A local governing authority must treat charter  
2653 schools equitably in comparison to similar requirements,  
2654 restrictions, and site planning processes imposed upon public  
2655 schools that are not charter schools. The agency having

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2656 jurisdiction for inspection of a facility and issuance of a  
2657 certificate of occupancy or use shall be the local municipality  
2658 or, if in an unincorporated area, the county governing  
2659 authority. If an official or employee of the local governing  
2660 authority refuses to comply with this paragraph, the aggrieved  
2661 school or entity has an immediate right to bring an action in  
2662 circuit court to enforce its rights by injunction. An aggrieved  
2663 party that receives injunctive relief may be awarded attorney  
2664 fees and court costs.

2665 (c) Any facility, or portion thereof, used to house a  
2666 charter school whose charter has been approved by the sponsor  
2667 and the governing board, pursuant to subsection (7), shall be  
2668 exempt from ad valorem taxes pursuant to s. 196.1983. Library,  
2669 community service, museum, performing arts, theatre, cinema,  
2670 church, Florida College System institution, college, and  
2671 university facilities may provide space to charter schools  
2672 within their facilities under their preexisting zoning and land  
2673 use designations without obtaining a special exception,  
2674 rezoning, or a land use change.

2675 (19) CAPITAL OUTLAY FUNDING.—Charter schools are eligible  
2676 for capital outlay funds pursuant to ss. 1011.71(2) and ~~s.~~  
2677 1013.62. Capital outlay funds authorized in ss. 1011.71(2) and  
2678 1013.62 which have been shared with a charter school-in-the-  
2679 workplace prior to July 1, 2010, are deemed to have met the  
2680 authorized expenditure requirements for such funds.

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2681 (20) SERVICES.—

2682 (a)1. A sponsor shall provide certain administrative and  
2683 educational services to charter schools. These services shall  
2684 include contract management services; full-time equivalent and  
2685 data reporting services; exceptional student education  
2686 administration services; services related to eligibility and  
2687 reporting duties required to ensure that school lunch services  
2688 under the National School ~~federal~~ Lunch Program, consistent with  
2689 the needs of the charter school, are provided by the school  
2690 district at the request of the charter school, that any funds  
2691 due to the charter school under the National School ~~federal~~  
2692 Lunch Program be paid to the charter school as soon as the  
2693 charter school begins serving food under the National School  
2694 ~~federal~~ Lunch Program, and that the charter school is paid at  
2695 the same time and in the same manner under the National School  
2696 ~~federal~~ Lunch Program as other public schools serviced by the  
2697 sponsor or the school district; test administration services,  
2698 including payment of the costs of state-required or district-  
2699 required student assessments; processing of teacher certificate  
2700 data services; and information services, including equal access  
2701 to student information systems that are used by public schools  
2702 in the district in which the charter school is located. Student  
2703 performance data for each student in a charter school,  
2704 including, but not limited to, FCAT scores, standardized test  
2705 scores, previous public school student report cards, and student

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2706 performance measures, shall be provided by the sponsor to a  
2707 charter school in the same manner provided to other public  
2708 schools in the district.

2709 2. A sponsor may withhold an administrative fee for the  
2710 provision of such services which shall be a percentage of the  
2711 available funds defined in paragraph (17)(b) calculated based on  
2712 weighted full-time equivalent students. If the charter school  
2713 serves 75 percent or more exceptional education students as  
2714 defined in s. 1003.01(3), the percentage shall be calculated  
2715 based on unweighted full-time equivalent students. The  
2716 administrative fee shall be calculated as follows:

2717 a. Up to 5 percent for:

2718 (I) Enrollment of up to and including 250 students in a  
2719 charter school as defined in this section.

2720 (II) Enrollment of up to and including 500 students within  
2721 a charter school system which meets all of the following:

2722 (A) Includes conversion charter schools and nonconversion  
2723 charter schools.

2724 (B) Has all of its schools located in the same county.

2725 (C) Has a total enrollment exceeding the total enrollment  
2726 of at least one school district in the state.

2727 (D) Has the same governing board for all of its schools.

2728 (E) Does not contract with a for-profit service provider  
2729 for management of school operations.

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2730 (III) Enrollment of up to and including 250 students in a  
2731 virtual charter school.

2732 b. Up to 2 percent for enrollment of up to and including  
2733 250 students in a high-performing charter school as defined in  
2734 s. 1002.331.

2735 3. A sponsor may not charge charter schools any additional  
2736 fees or surcharges for administrative and educational services  
2737 in addition to the maximum percentage of administrative fees  
2738 withheld pursuant to this paragraph ~~A total administrative fee~~  
2739 ~~for the provision of such services shall be calculated based~~  
2740 ~~upon up to 5 percent of the available funds defined in paragraph~~  
2741 ~~(17) (b) for all students, except that when 75 percent or more of~~  
2742 ~~the students enrolled in the charter school are exceptional~~  
2743 ~~students as defined in s. 1003.01(3), the 5 percent of those~~  
2744 ~~available funds shall be calculated based on unweighted full-~~  
2745 ~~time equivalent students. However, a sponsor may only withhold~~  
2746 ~~up to a 5-percent administrative fee for enrollment for up to~~  
2747 ~~and including 250 students. For charter schools with a~~  
2748 ~~population of 251 or more students, the difference between the~~  
2749 ~~total administrative fee calculation and the amount of the~~  
2750 ~~administrative fee withheld may only be used for capital outlay~~  
2751 ~~purposes specified in s. 1013.62(3).~~

2752 ~~3. For high-performing charter schools, as defined in s.~~  
2753 ~~1002.331, a sponsor may withhold a total administrative fee of~~

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2754 ~~up to 2 percent for enrollment up to and including 250 students~~  
2755 ~~per school.~~

2756 ~~4. In addition, a sponsor may withhold only up to a 5-~~  
2757 ~~percent administrative fee for enrollment for up to and~~  
2758 ~~including 500 students within a system of charter schools which~~  
2759 ~~meets all of the following:~~

2760 ~~a. Includes both conversion charter schools and~~  
2761 ~~nonconversion charter schools;~~

2762 ~~b. Has all schools located in the same county;~~

2763 ~~c. Has a total enrollment exceeding the total enrollment~~  
2764 ~~of at least one school district in the state;~~

2765 ~~d. Has the same governing board; and~~

2766 ~~e. Does not contract with a for-profit service provider~~  
2767 ~~for management of school operations.~~

2768 ~~5. The difference between the total administrative fee~~  
2769 ~~calculation and the amount of the administrative fee withheld~~  
2770 ~~pursuant to subparagraph 4. may be used for instructional and~~  
2771 ~~administrative purposes as well as for capital outlay purposes~~  
2772 ~~specified in s. 1013.62(3).~~

2773 ~~6. For a high-performing charter school system that also~~  
2774 ~~meets the requirements in subparagraph 4., a sponsor may~~  
2775 ~~withhold a 2-percent administrative fee for enrollments up to~~  
2776 ~~and including 500 students per system.~~

2777 ~~7. Sponsors shall not charge charter schools any~~  
2778 ~~additional fees or surcharges for administrative and educational~~

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2779 ~~services in addition to the maximum 5-percent administrative fee~~  
2780 ~~withheld pursuant to this paragraph.~~

2781 ~~8. The sponsor of a virtual charter school may withhold a~~  
2782 ~~fee of up to 5 percent. The funds shall be used to cover the~~  
2783 ~~cost of services provided under subparagraph 1. and~~  
2784 ~~implementation of the school district's digital classrooms plan~~  
2785 ~~pursuant to s. 1011.62.~~

2786 (b) If goods and services are made available to the  
2787 charter school through the contract with the school district,  
2788 they shall be provided to the charter school at a rate no  
2789 greater than the district's actual cost unless mutually agreed  
2790 upon by the charter school and the sponsor in a contract  
2791 negotiated separately from the charter. When mediation has  
2792 failed to resolve disputes over contracted services or  
2793 contractual matters not included in the charter, an appeal may  
2794 be made for a dispute resolution hearing before the Charter  
2795 School Appeal Commission. To maximize the use of state funds,  
2796 school districts shall allow charter schools to participate in  
2797 the sponsor's bulk purchasing program if applicable.

2798 (c) Transportation of charter school students shall be  
2799 provided by the charter school consistent with the requirements  
2800 of subpart I.E. of chapter 1006 and s. 1012.45. The governing  
2801 body of the charter school may provide transportation through an  
2802 agreement or contract with the district school board, a private  
2803 provider, or parents. The charter school and the sponsor shall

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2804 cooperate in making arrangements that ensure that transportation  
2805 is not a barrier to equal access for all students residing  
2806 within a reasonable distance of the charter school as determined  
2807 in its charter.

2808 (d) Each charter school shall annually complete and submit  
2809 a survey, provided in a format specified by the Department of  
2810 Education, to rate the timeliness and quality of services  
2811 provided by the district in accordance with this section. The  
2812 department shall compile the results, by district, and include  
2813 the results in the report required under sub-sub-subparagraph  
2814 (5) (b) 1.k. (III).

2815 (21) PUBLIC INFORMATION ON CHARTER SCHOOLS.—

2816 (a) The Department of Education shall provide information  
2817 to the public, directly and through sponsors, on how to form and  
2818 operate a charter school and how to enroll in a charter school  
2819 once it is created. This information shall include the standard  
2820 ~~a model~~ application form, standard charter contract, standard  
2821 evaluation instrument, and standard charter renewal contract,  
2822 which shall include the information specified in subsection (7)  
2823 and shall be developed by consulting and negotiating with both  
2824 school districts and charter schools before implementation. The  
2825 charter and charter renewal contracts shall be used by charter  
2826 school sponsors.

2827 (b)1. The Department of Education shall report to each  
2828 charter school receiving a school grade pursuant to s. 1008.34

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2829 or a school improvement rating pursuant to s. 1008.341 the  
2830 school's student assessment data.

2831 2. The charter school shall report the information in  
2832 subparagraph 1. to each parent of a student at the charter  
2833 school, the parent of a child on a waiting list for the charter  
2834 school, the district in which the charter school is located, and  
2835 the governing board of the charter school. This paragraph does  
2836 not abrogate the provisions of s. 1002.22, relating to student  
2837 records, or the requirements of 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g, the Family  
2838 Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

2839 ~~3.a. Pursuant to this paragraph, the Department of~~  
2840 ~~Education shall compare the charter school student performance~~  
2841 ~~data for each charter school in subparagraph 1. with the student~~  
2842 ~~performance data in traditional public schools in the district~~  
2843 ~~in which the charter school is located and other charter schools~~  
2844 ~~in the state. For alternative charter schools, the department~~  
2845 ~~shall compare the student performance data described in this~~  
2846 ~~paragraph with all alternative schools in the state. The~~  
2847 ~~comparative data shall be provided by the following grade~~  
2848 ~~groupings:~~

- 2849 ~~(I) Grades 3 through 5;~~  
2850 ~~(II) Grades 6 through 8; and~~  
2851 ~~(III) Grades 9 through 11.~~

2852 ~~b. Each charter school shall provide the information~~  
2853 ~~specified in this paragraph on its Internet website and also~~

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2854 ~~provide notice to the public at large in a manner provided by~~  
2855 ~~the rules of the State Board of Education. The State Board of~~  
2856 ~~Education shall adopt rules to administer the notice~~  
2857 ~~requirements of this subparagraph pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and~~  
2858 ~~120.54. The website shall include, through links or actual~~  
2859 ~~content, other information related to school performance.~~

2860 (25) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY STATUS FOR CERTAIN CHARTER  
2861 SCHOOL SYSTEMS.—

2862 (a) A charter school system's governing board shall be  
2863 designated a local educational agency for the purpose of  
2864 receiving federal funds, the same as though the charter school  
2865 system were a school district, if the governing board of the  
2866 charter school system has adopted and filed a resolution with  
2867 its sponsoring district school board and the Department of  
2868 Education in which the governing board of the charter school  
2869 system accepts the full responsibility for all local education  
2870 agency requirements and the charter school system meets all of  
2871 the following:

2872 ~~(a) Includes both conversion charter schools and~~  
2873 ~~nonconversion charter schools;~~

2874 1.(b) Has all schools located in the same county;

2875 2.(e) Has a total enrollment exceeding the total  
2876 enrollment of at least one school district in the state; and

2877 3.(d) Has the same governing board. ~~;~~ and

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2878        (b) A charter school system's governing board may be  
2879 designated a local educational agency for the purpose of  
2880 receiving federal funds for all schools within a school district  
2881 that are established pursuant to s. 1008.33 and are under the  
2882 jurisdiction of the governing board. The governing board must  
2883 adopt and file a resolution with its sponsoring district school  
2884 board and the Department of Education and accept full  
2885 responsibility for all local educational agency requirements.

2886        ~~(c) Does not contract with a for-profit service provider~~  
2887 ~~for management of school operations.~~

2888  
2889 Such designation does not apply to other provisions unless  
2890 specifically provided in law.

2891        (28) RULEMAKING.—The Department of Education, after  
2892 consultation with school districts and charter school directors,  
2893 shall recommend that the State Board of Education adopt rules to  
2894 implement specific subsections of this section. Such rules shall  
2895 require minimum paperwork and shall not limit charter school  
2896 flexibility authorized by statute. The State Board of Education  
2897 shall adopt rules, pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, to  
2898 implement a standard charter model application form, standard  
2899 application form for the replication of charter schools in a  
2900 high-performing charter school system, standard evaluation  
2901 instrument, and standard charter and charter renewal contracts  
2902 in accordance with this section.

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2903 Section 22. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
2904 1002.3305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2905 1002.3305 College-preparatory Boarding Academy Pilot  
2906 Program for at-risk students.—

2907 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

2908 (b) "Eligible student" means a student who is a resident  
2909 of the state and entitled to attend school in a participating  
2910 school district, is at risk of academic failure, is currently  
2911 enrolled in grades 5 through 12, if it is determined by the  
2912 operator that a seat is available ~~grade 5 or 6~~, is from a family  
2913 whose gross income is at or below 200 percent of the federal  
2914 poverty guidelines, is eligible for benefits or services funded  
2915 by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Title IV-E  
2916 of the Social Security Act, and meets at least one of the  
2917 following additional risk factors:

2918 1. The child is in foster care or has been declared an  
2919 adjudicated dependent by a court.

2920 2. The student's head of household is not the student's  
2921 custodial parent.

2922 3. The student resides in a household that receives a  
2923 housing voucher or has been determined eligible for public  
2924 housing assistance.

2925 4. A member of the student's immediate family has been  
2926 incarcerated.

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2927 5. The child is covered under the terms of the state's  
2928 Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration project with the United  
2929 States Department of Health and Human Services.

2930 Section 23. Subsection (3) of section 1002.331, Florida  
2931 Statutes, is amended to read:

2932 1002.331 High-performing charter schools.-

2933 (3) (a) 1. A high-performing charter school may submit an  
2934 application pursuant to s. 1002.33(6) in any school district in  
2935 the state to establish and operate a new charter school that  
2936 will substantially replicate its educational program. An  
2937 application submitted by a high-performing charter school must  
2938 state that the application is being submitted pursuant to this  
2939 paragraph and must include the verification letter provided by  
2940 the Commissioner of Education pursuant to subsection (4).

2941 2. If the sponsor fails to act on the application within  
2942 90 ~~60~~ days after receipt, the application is deemed approved and  
2943 the procedure in s. 1002.33(7) ~~1002.33(6)(h)~~ applies. ~~If the~~  
2944 ~~sponsor denies the application, the high-performing charter~~  
2945 ~~school may appeal pursuant to s. 1002.33(6).~~

2946 (b) A high-performing charter school may not establish  
2947 more than one charter school within the state under paragraph  
2948 (a) in any year. A subsequent application to establish a charter  
2949 school under paragraph (a) may not be submitted unless each  
2950 charter school established in this manner achieves high-  
2951 performing charter school status. However, a high-performing

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2952 | charter school may establish more than one charter school within  
2953 | the state under paragraph (a) in any year if it operates in the  
2954 | area of a persistently low-performing school and serves students  
2955 | from that school.

2956 | Section 24. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph  
2957 | (b) of subsection (2) of section 1002.332, Florida Statutes are  
2958 | amended, and paragraph (c) is added to subsection (2), to read:

2959 | 1002.332 High-performing charter school system.—

2960 | (1) For purposes of this section, the term:

2961 | (b) "High-performing charter school system" means an  
2962 | entity that:

2963 | 1. Operated at least three high-performing charter schools  
2964 | in the state during each of the previous 3 school years;

2965 | 2. Operated a system of charter schools in which at least  
2966 | 50 percent of the charter schools were high-performing charter  
2967 | schools pursuant to s. 1002.331 and no charter school earned a  
2968 | school grade of "D" or "F" pursuant to s. 1008.34 in any of the  
2969 | previous 3 school years regardless of whether the entity  
2970 | currently operates the charter school, except that:

2971 | a. If the entity assumed operation of a public school  
2972 | pursuant to s. 1008.33(4)(b)2. ~~1008.33(4)(b)3.~~ with a school  
2973 | grade of "F," that school's grade may not be considered in  
2974 | determining high-performing charter school system status for a  
2975 | period of 3 years.

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2976 b. If the entity established a new charter school that  
2977 served a student population the majority of which resided in a  
2978 school zone served by a public school that earned a grade of "F"  
2979 or three consecutive grades of "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34, that  
2980 charter school's grade may not be considered in determining  
2981 high-performing charter school system status if it attained and  
2982 maintained a school grade that was higher than that of the  
2983 public school serving that school zone within 3 years after  
2984 establishment; and

2985 3. Did not receive a financial audit that revealed one or  
2986 more of the financial emergency conditions set forth in s.  
2987 218.503(1) for any charter school assumed or established by the  
2988 entity in the most recent 3 fiscal years for which such audits  
2989 are available.

2990 (2)

2991 (b) A high-performing charter school system may replicate  
2992 its high-performing charter schools in any school district in  
2993 the state. The applicant must submit an application using the  
2994 standard application form prepared by the Department of  
2995 Education which:

2996 1. Contains goals and objectives for improving student  
2997 learning and a process for measuring student improvement. These  
2998 goals and objectives must indicate how much academic improvement  
2999 students are expected to demonstrate each year, how success will

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3000 be evaluated, and the specific results to be attained through  
3001 instruction.

3002 2. Contains an annual financial plan for each year  
3003 requested by the charter for operation of the school for up to 5  
3004 years. This plan must contain anticipated fund balances based on  
3005 revenue projections, a spending plan based on projected revenue  
3006 and expenses, and a description of controls that will safeguard  
3007 finances and projected enrollment trends.

3008 3. Discloses the name of each applicant, governing board  
3009 member, and all proposed education services providers; the name  
3010 and sponsor of any charter school operated by each applicant,  
3011 each governing board member, and each proposed education  
3012 services provider that has closed and the reasons for the  
3013 closure; and the academic and financial history of such charter  
3014 schools, which the sponsor shall consider when deciding whether  
3015 to approve or deny the application.

3016 (c) An application submitted by a high-performing charter  
3017 school system must state that the application is being submitted  
3018 pursuant to this section and must include the verification  
3019 letter provided by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to  
3020 this subsection. If the sponsor fails to act on the application  
3021 within 90 days after receipt, the application is deemed approved  
3022 and the procedure in s. 1002.33(7) applies ~~pursuant to s.~~  
3023 1002.331(3).

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3024 Section 25. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 1003.498,  
3025 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

3026 1003.498 School district virtual course offerings.—

3027 (1) School districts may deliver courses in the  
3028 traditional school setting by personnel certified pursuant to s.  
3029 1012.55 who provide direct instruction through virtual  
3030 instruction or through blended learning courses consisting of  
3031 both traditional classroom and online instructional techniques.  
3032 Students in a blended learning course must be full-time students  
3033 of the school pursuant to s. 1011.61(1)(a)1. ~~and receive the~~  
3034 ~~online instruction in a classroom setting at the school.~~ The  
3035 funding, performance, and accountability requirements for  
3036 blended learning courses are the same as those for traditional  
3037 courses. To facilitate the delivery and coding of blended  
3038 learning courses, the department shall provide identifiers for  
3039 existing courses to designate that they are being used for  
3040 blended learning courses for the purpose of ensuring the  
3041 efficient reporting of such courses. A district may report full-  
3042 time equivalent student membership for credit earned by a  
3043 student who is enrolled in a virtual education course provided  
3044 by the district which is completed after the end of the regular  
3045 school year if the FTE is reported no later than the deadline  
3046 for amending the final student membership report for that year.

3047 (2) School districts may offer virtual courses for  
3048 students enrolled in the school district. These courses must be

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3049 identified in the course code directory. Students ~~who meet the~~  
3050 ~~eligibility requirements of s. 1002.455~~ may participate in these  
3051 virtual course offerings pursuant to s. 1002.455.

3052 (a) Any ~~eligible~~ student who is enrolled in a school  
3053 district may register and enroll in an online course offered by  
3054 his or her school district.

3055 (b)1. Any ~~eligible~~ student who is enrolled in a school  
3056 district may register and enroll in an online course offered by  
3057 any other school district in the state. The school district in  
3058 which the student completes the course shall report the  
3059 student's completion of that course for funding pursuant to s.  
3060 1011.61(1)(c)1.b.(VI), and the home school district shall not  
3061 report the student for funding for that course.

3062 2. The full-time equivalent student membership calculated  
3063 under this subsection is subject to the requirements in s.  
3064 1011.61(4). The Department of Education shall establish  
3065 procedures to enable interdistrict coordination for the delivery  
3066 and funding of this online option.

3067 Section 26. Subsection (5), paragraph (j) of subsection  
3068 (6), and paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 1007.35,  
3069 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

3070 1007.35 Florida Partnership for Minority and  
3071 Underrepresented Student Achievement.—

3072 (5) Each public high school, including, but not limited  
3073 to, schools and alternative sites and centers of the Department

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3074 of Juvenile Justice, shall provide for the administration of the  
3075 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test  
3076 (PSAT/NMSQT), or the preliminary ACT Aspire to all enrolled 10th  
3077 grade students. However, a written notice shall be provided to  
3078 each parent which must ~~that shall~~ include the opportunity to  
3079 exempt his or her child from taking the PSAT/NMSQT or the  
3080 preliminary ACT Aspire.

3081 (a) Test results will provide each high school with a  
3082 database of student assessment data which certified school  
3083 counselors will use to identify students who are prepared or who  
3084 need additional work to be prepared to enroll and be successful  
3085 in AP courses or other advanced high school courses.

3086 (b) Funding for the PSAT/NMSQT or the preliminary ACT  
3087 ~~Aspire~~ for all 10th grade students shall be contingent upon  
3088 annual funding in the General Appropriations Act.

3089 (c) Public school districts must choose either the  
3090 PSAT/NMSQT or the preliminary ACT Aspire for districtwide  
3091 administration.

3092 (6) The partnership shall:

3093 (j) Provide information to students, parents, teachers,  
3094 counselors, administrators, districts, Florida College System  
3095 institutions, and state universities regarding PSAT/NMSQT or the  
3096 preliminary ACT Aspire administration, including, but not  
3097 limited to:

3098 1. Test administration dates and times.

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3099 2. That participation in the PSAT/NMSQT or the preliminary  
3100 ACT ~~Aspire~~ is open to all 10th grade students.

3101 3. The value of such tests in providing diagnostic  
3102 feedback on student skills.

3103 4. The value of student scores in predicting the  
3104 probability of success on AP or other advanced course  
3105 examinations.

3106 (8) (a) By September 30 of each year, the partnership shall  
3107 submit to the department a report that contains an evaluation of  
3108 the effectiveness of the delivered services and activities.

3109 Activities and services must be evaluated on their effectiveness  
3110 at raising student achievement and increasing the number of AP  
3111 or other advanced course examinations in low-performing middle  
3112 and high schools. Other indicators that must be addressed in the  
3113 evaluation report include the number of middle and high school  
3114 teachers trained; the effectiveness of the training; measures of  
3115 postsecondary readiness of the students affected by the program;  
3116 levels of participation in 10th grade PSAT/NMSQT or the  
3117 preliminary ACT ~~Aspire~~ testing; and measures of student, parent,  
3118 and teacher awareness of and satisfaction with the services of  
3119 the partnership.

3120 Section 27. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section  
3121 1008.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

3122 1008.34 School grading system; school report cards;  
3123 district grade.—

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3124 (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.—

3125 (d) The data performance of students attending alternative  
3126 schools, ~~and~~ students designated as hospital or homebound, and  
3127 students who transfer to a private school shall be factored into  
3128 a school grade as follows:

3129 1. The student performance data for eligible students  
3130 attending alternative schools that provide dropout prevention  
3131 and academic intervention services pursuant to s. 1003.53 shall  
3132 be included in the calculation of the home school's grade. The  
3133 term "eligible students" in this subparagraph does not include  
3134 students attending an alternative school who are subject to  
3135 district school board policies for expulsion for repeated or  
3136 serious offenses, who are in dropout retrieval programs serving  
3137 students who have officially been designated as dropouts, or who  
3138 are in programs operated or contracted by the Department of  
3139 Juvenile Justice. As used in this subparagraph, the term "home  
3140 school" means the school to which the student would be assigned  
3141 if the student were not assigned to an alternative school. If an  
3142 alternative school chooses to be graded under this section,  
3143 student performance data for eligible students identified in  
3144 this subparagraph shall not be included in the home school's  
3145 grade but shall be included only in the calculation of the  
3146 alternative school's grade. A school district that fails to  
3147 assign statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment scores  
3148 of each of its students to his or her home school or to the

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3149 alternative school that receives a grade shall forfeit Florida  
3150 School Recognition Program funds for one fiscal year. School  
3151 districts must require collaboration between the home school and  
3152 the alternative school in order to promote student success. This  
3153 collaboration must include an annual discussion between the  
3154 principal of the alternative school and the principal of each  
3155 student's home school concerning the most appropriate school  
3156 assignment of the student.

3157 2. Student performance data for students designated as  
3158 hospital or homebound shall be assigned to their home school for  
3159 the purposes of school grades. As used in this subparagraph, the  
3160 term "home school" means the school to which a student would be  
3161 assigned if the student were not assigned to a hospital or  
3162 homebound program.

3163 3. A high school must include a student in its graduation  
3164 rate if the student transfers from the high school to a private  
3165 school with which the school district has a contractual  
3166 relationship.

3167 Section 28. Subsection (3) of section 1008.341, Florida  
3168 Statutes, is amended to read:

3169 1008.341 School improvement rating for alternative  
3170 schools.—

3171 (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT RATING.—Student  
3172 Learning Gains based on statewide, standardized assessments,  
3173 including retakes, administered under s. 1008.22 for all

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3174 eligible students who were assigned to and enrolled in the  
3175 school during the October or February FTE count and who have  
3176 assessment scores, concordant scores, or comparable scores for  
3177 the preceding school year shall be used in determining an  
3178 alternative school's school improvement rating. An alternative  
3179 school's rating shall be based on the following components:

3180 (a) The percentage of eligible students who make Learning  
3181 Gains in English Language Arts as measured by statewide,  
3182 standardized assessments under s. 1008.22(3).

3183 (b) The percentage of eligible students who make Learning  
3184 Gains in mathematics as measured by statewide, standardized  
3185 assessments under s. 1008.22(3).

3186  
3187 Student performance results of students who are subject to  
3188 district school board policies for expulsion for repeated or  
3189 serious offenses, who are in dropout retrieval programs serving  
3190 students who have officially been designated as dropouts, or who  
3191 are in programs operated or contracted by the Department of  
3192 Juvenile Justice may not be included in an alternative school's  
3193 school improvement rating.

3194 Section 29. Subsection (2) of section 1011.71, Florida  
3195 Statutes, is amended to read:

3196 1011.71 District school tax.—

3197 (2) In addition to the maximum millage levy as provided in  
3198 subsection (1), each school board may levy not more than 1.5

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3199 mills against the taxable value for school purposes for ~~district~~  
3200 ~~schools, including~~ charter schools pursuant to s. 1013.62(3) and  
3201 for district schools ~~at the discretion of the school board,~~ to  
3202 fund:

3203 (a) New construction and remodeling projects, as set forth  
3204 in s. 1013.64(3)(d) and (6)(b) ~~s. 1013.64(3)(b) and (6)(b)~~ and  
3205 included in the district's educational plant survey pursuant to  
3206 s. 1013.31, without regard to prioritization, sites and site  
3207 improvement or expansion to new sites, existing sites, auxiliary  
3208 facilities, athletic facilities, or ancillary facilities.

3209 (b) Maintenance, renovation, and repair of existing school  
3210 plants or of leased facilities to correct deficiencies pursuant  
3211 to s. 1013.15(2).

3212 (c) The purchase, lease-purchase, or lease of school  
3213 buses.

3214 (d) The purchase, lease-purchase, or lease of new and  
3215 replacement equipment; computer and device hardware and  
3216 operating system software, ~~including electronic hardware and~~  
3217 ~~other hardware devices~~ necessary for gaining access to or  
3218 enhancing the use of electronic and digital instructional  
3219 content and resources ~~or to facilitate the access to and the use~~  
3220 ~~of a school district's digital classrooms plan pursuant to s.~~  
3221 ~~1011.62, excluding software other than the operating system~~  
3222 ~~necessary to operate the hardware or device;~~ and enterprise  
3223 resource software applications that are classified as capital

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3224 assets in accordance with definitions of the Governmental  
3225 Accounting Standards Board, have a useful life of at least 5  
3226 years, and are used to support districtwide administration or  
3227 state-mandated reporting requirements. Enterprise resource  
3228 software may be acquired by annual license fees, maintenance  
3229 fees, or lease agreements.

3230 (e) Payments for educational facilities and sites due  
3231 under a lease-purchase agreement entered into by a district  
3232 school board pursuant to s. 1003.02(1)(f) or s. 1013.15(2), not  
3233 exceeding, in the aggregate, an amount equal to three-fourths of  
3234 the proceeds from the millage levied by a district school board  
3235 pursuant to this subsection. The three-fourths limit is waived  
3236 for lease-purchase agreements entered into before June 30, 2009,  
3237 by a district school board pursuant to this paragraph.

3238 (f) Payment of loans approved pursuant to ss. 1011.14 and  
3239 1011.15.

3240 (g) Payment of costs directly related to complying with  
3241 state and federal environmental statutes, rules, and regulations  
3242 governing school facilities.

3243 (h) Payment of costs of leasing relocatable educational  
3244 facilities, of renting or leasing educational facilities and  
3245 sites pursuant to s. 1013.15(2), or of renting or leasing  
3246 buildings or space within existing buildings pursuant to s.  
3247 1013.15(4).

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3248 (i) Payment of the cost of school buses when a school  
3249 district contracts with a private entity to provide student  
3250 transportation services if the district meets the requirements  
3251 of this paragraph.

3252 1. The district's contract must require that the private  
3253 entity purchase, lease-purchase, or lease, and operate and  
3254 maintain, one or more school buses of a specific type and size  
3255 that meet the requirements of s. 1006.25.

3256 2. Each such school bus must be used for the daily  
3257 transportation of public school students in the manner required  
3258 by the school district.

3259 3. Annual payment for each such school bus may not exceed  
3260 10 percent of the purchase price of the state pool bid.

3261 4. The proposed expenditure of the funds for this purpose  
3262 must have been included in the district school board's notice of  
3263 proposed tax for school capital outlay as provided in s.  
3264 200.065(10).

3265 (j) Payment of the cost of the opening day collection for  
3266 the library media center of a new school.

3267 (k) Payout of sick leave and annual leave accrued as of  
3268 June 30, 2017, by individuals who are no longer employed by a  
3269 school district that transfers to a charter school operator all  
3270 day-to-day classroom instruction responsibility for all full-  
3271 time equivalent students funded under s. 1011.62. This paragraph  
3272 expires July 1, 2018.

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3273 Section 30. Subsection (2) of section 1013.54, Florida  
3274 Statutes, is amended to read:

3275 1013.54 Cooperative development and use of satellite  
3276 facilities by private industry and district school boards.—

3277 (2) The commissioner shall appoint a review committee to  
3278 make recommendations and prioritize requests. If the project is  
3279 approved by the commissioner, the commissioner shall include up  
3280 to one-fourth of the cost of the project in the legislative  
3281 capital outlay budget request, as provided in s. 1013.60, for  
3282 the funding of capital outlay projects involving both  
3283 educational and private industry. The commissioner shall  
3284 prioritize any such projects for each fiscal year and,  
3285 notwithstanding the provisions of s. 1013.64(3)(e) ~~s.~~  
3286 ~~1013.64(3)(e)~~, limit the recommended state funding amount not to  
3287 exceed 5 percent off the top of the total funds recommended  
3288 pursuant to s. 1013.64(2) and (3).

3289 Section 31. Section 1013.62, Florida Statutes, is amended  
3290 to read:

3291 1013.62 Charter schools capital outlay funding.—

3292 (1) Charter school capital outlay funding shall consist of  
3293 revenue resulting from the discretionary millage authorized in  
3294 s. 1011.71(2) and state funds when such funds are appropriated  
3295 in the General Appropriations Act.

3296 ~~(1) In each year in which funds are appropriated for~~  
3297 ~~charter school capital outlay purposes, the Commissioner of~~

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3298 ~~Education shall allocate the funds among eligible charter~~  
3299 ~~schools as specified in this section.~~

3300 (a) To be eligible to receive capital outlay funds ~~for a~~  
3301 ~~funding allocation~~, a charter school must:

3302 1.a. Have been in operation for 2 or more years;

3303 b. Be governed by a governing board established in the  
3304 state for 2 ~~3~~ or more years which operates both charter schools  
3305 and conversion charter schools within the state;

3306 c. Be an expanded feeder chain of a charter school within  
3307 the same school district that is currently receiving charter  
3308 school capital outlay funds;

3309 d. Have been accredited by a regional accrediting  
3310 association as defined by State Board of Education rule ~~the~~  
3311 ~~Commission on Schools of the Southern Association of Colleges~~  
3312 ~~and Schools~~; or

3313 e. Serve students in facilities that are provided by a  
3314 business partner for a charter school-in-the-workplace pursuant  
3315 to s. 1002.33(15) (b).

3316 2. Have an annual audit that does not reveal any of the  
3317 financial emergency conditions provided in s. 218.503(1) for the  
3318 most recent fiscal year for which such audit results are  
3319 available.

3320 3. Have satisfactory student achievement based on state  
3321 accountability standards applicable to the charter school.

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3322 4. Have received final approval from its sponsor pursuant  
3323 to s. 1002.33 for operation during that fiscal year.

3324 5. Serve students in facilities that are not provided by  
3325 the charter school's sponsor.

3326 (b) A charter school is not eligible to receive capital  
3327 outlay funds for a funding allocation if it was created by the  
3328 conversion of a public school and operates in facilities  
3329 provided by the charter school's sponsor for a nominal fee, or  
3330 at no charge, or if it is directly or indirectly operated by the  
3331 school district.

3332 (2)(e) The department shall use the following calculation  
3333 methodology to allocate state funds appropriated in the General  
3334 Appropriations Act to eligible charter schools ~~The funding~~  
3335 ~~allocation for eligible charter schools shall be calculated as~~  
3336 ~~follows:~~

3337 (a)1. Eligible charter schools shall be grouped into  
3338 categories based on their student populations according to the  
3339 following criteria:

3340 1.a. Seventy-five percent or greater who are eligible for  
3341 free or reduced-price school meals under the National School  
3342 Lunch Program or, for schools operating programs under the  
3343 Community Eligibility Provision of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids  
3344 Act of 2010, an equivalent percentage of the student population  
3345 eligible for free and reduced-price meals as determined by  
3346 applying the multiplier authorized under the National School

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3347 Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 1759a(a)(1)(F)(vii), to the number of  
3348 students reported for direct certification lunch.

3349 ~~2.b.~~ Twenty-five percent or greater with disabilities as  
3350 defined in state board rule and consistent with the requirements  
3351 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

3352 ~~(b)2.~~ If an eligible charter school does not meet the  
3353 criteria for either category under paragraph (a) subparagraph  
3354 ~~1.~~, its FTE shall be provided as the base amount of funding and  
3355 shall be assigned a weight of 1.0. An eligible charter school  
3356 that meets the criteria under subparagraph (a)1. or subparagraph  
3357 (a)2. sub-subparagraph 1.a. or sub-subparagraph 1.b. shall be  
3358 provided an additional 25 percent above the base funding amount,  
3359 and the total FTE shall be multiplied by a weight of 1.25. An  
3360 eligible charter school that meets the criteria under both  
3361 subparagraphs (a)1. and (a)2. sub-subparagraphs 1.a. and b.  
3362 shall be provided an additional 50 percent above the base  
3363 funding amount, and the FTE for that school shall be multiplied  
3364 by a weight of 1.5.

3365 ~~(c)3.~~ The state appropriation for charter school capital  
3366 outlay shall be divided by the total weighted FTE for all  
3367 eligible charter schools to determine the base charter school  
3368 per weighted FTE allocation amount. The per weighted FTE  
3369 allocation amount shall be multiplied by the weighted FTE to  
3370 determine each charter school's capital outlay allocation.

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3371 ~~(d)(2)(a)~~ The department shall calculate the eligible  
3372 charter school funding allocations. Funds shall be allocated  
3373 using full-time equivalent membership from the second and third  
3374 enrollment surveys and free and reduced-price school lunch data.  
3375 The department shall recalculate the allocations periodically  
3376 based on the receipt of revised information, on a schedule  
3377 established by the Commissioner of Education.

3378 ~~(e)(b)~~ The department shall distribute capital outlay  
3379 funds monthly, beginning in the first quarter of the fiscal  
3380 year, based on one-twelfth of the amount the department  
3381 reasonably expects the charter school to receive during that  
3382 fiscal year. The commissioner shall adjust subsequent  
3383 distributions as necessary to reflect each charter school's  
3384 recalculated allocation.

3385 (3) If the school board levies the discretionary millage  
3386 authorized in s. 1011.71(2), the department shall use the  
3387 following calculation methodology to determine the amount of  
3388 revenue that a school district must distribute to each eligible  
3389 charter school:

3390 (a) Reduce the total discretionary millage revenue by the  
3391 school district's annual debt service obligation incurred as of  
3392 March 1, 2017, and any amount of participation requirement  
3393 pursuant to s. 1013.64(2)(a)8. that is being satisfied by  
3394 revenues raised by the discretionary millage.

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3395 (b) Divide the school district's adjusted discretionary  
3396 millage revenue by the district's total capital outlay full-time  
3397 equivalent membership and the total number of unweighted full-  
3398 time equivalent students of each eligible charter school to  
3399 determine a capital outlay allocation per full-time equivalent  
3400 student.

3401 (c) Multiply the capital outlay allocation per full-time  
3402 equivalent student by the total number of full-time equivalent  
3403 students of each eligible charter school to determine the  
3404 capital outlay allocation for each charter school.

3405 (d) If applicable, reduce the capital outlay allocation  
3406 identified in paragraph (c) by the total amount of state funds  
3407 allocated to each eligible charter school in subsection (2) to  
3408 determine the maximum calculated capital outlay allocation.

3409 (e) School districts shall distribute capital outlay funds  
3410 to charter schools no later than February 1 of each year,  
3411 beginning on February 1, 2018, for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

3412 (4)~~(3)~~ A charter school's governing body may use charter  
3413 school capital outlay funds for the following purposes:

3414 (a) Purchase of real property.

3415 (b) Construction of school facilities.

3416 (c) Purchase, lease-purchase, or lease of permanent or  
3417 relocatable school facilities.

3418 (d) Purchase of vehicles to transport students to and from  
3419 the charter school.

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3420 (e) Renovation, repair, and maintenance of school  
3421 facilities that the charter school owns or is purchasing through  
3422 a lease-purchase or long-term lease of 5 years or longer.

3423 ~~(f) Effective July 1, 2008, purchase, lease-purchase, or~~  
3424 ~~lease of new and replacement equipment, and enterprise resource~~  
3425 ~~software applications that are classified as capital assets in~~  
3426 ~~accordance with definitions of the Governmental Accounting~~  
3427 ~~Standards Board, have a useful life of at least 5 years, and are~~  
3428 ~~used to support schoolwide administration or state-mandated~~  
3429 ~~reporting requirements.~~

3430 ~~(f)(g)~~ Payment of the cost of premiums for property and  
3431 casualty insurance necessary to insure the school facilities.

3432 ~~(g)(h)~~ Purchase, lease-purchase, or lease of driver's  
3433 education vehicles; motor vehicles used for the maintenance or  
3434 operation of plants and equipment; security vehicles; or  
3435 vehicles used in storing or distributing materials and  
3436 equipment.

3437 (h) Purchase, lease-purchase, or lease of computer and  
3438 device hardware and operating system software necessary for  
3439 gaining access to or enhancing the use of electronic and digital  
3440 instructional content and resources; and enterprise resource  
3441 software applications that are classified as capital assets in  
3442 accordance with definitions of the Governmental Accounting  
3443 Standards Board, have a useful life of at least 5 years, and are  
3444 used to support schoolwide administration or state-mandated

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3445 reporting requirements. Enterprise resource software may be  
3446 acquired by annual license fees, maintenance fees, or lease  
3447 agreement.

3448 (i) Payment of the cost of the opening day collection for  
3449 the library media center of a new school.

3450

3451 Conversion charter schools may use capital outlay funds received  
3452 through the reduction in the administrative fee provided in s.  
3453 1002.33(20) for renovation, repair, and maintenance of school  
3454 facilities that are owned by the sponsor.

3455 (5)-(4) If a charter school is nonrenewed or terminated,  
3456 any unencumbered funds and all equipment and property purchased  
3457 with district public funds shall revert to the ownership of the  
3458 district school board, as provided for in s. 1002.33(8)(e) and  
3459 (f). In the case of a charter lab school, any unencumbered funds  
3460 and all equipment and property purchased with university public  
3461 funds shall revert to the ownership of the state university that  
3462 issued the charter. The reversion of such equipment, property,  
3463 and furnishings shall focus on recoverable assets, but not on  
3464 intangible or irrecoverable costs such as rental or leasing  
3465 fees, normal maintenance, and limited renovations. The reversion  
3466 of all property secured with public funds is subject to the  
3467 complete satisfaction of all lawful liens or encumbrances. If  
3468 there are additional local issues such as the shared use of  
3469 facilities or partial ownership of facilities or property, these

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3470 issues shall be agreed to in the charter contract prior to the  
3471 expenditure of funds.

3472 ~~(6)-(5)~~ The Commissioner of Education shall specify  
3473 procedures for submitting and approving requests for funding  
3474 under this section and procedures for documenting expenditures.

3475 ~~(7)-(6)~~ The annual legislative budget request of the  
3476 Department of Education shall include a request for capital  
3477 outlay funding for charter schools. The request shall be based  
3478 on the projected number of students to be served in charter  
3479 schools who meet the eligibility requirements of this section.

3480 Section 32. Effective upon this act becoming a law,  
3481 paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (3) and paragraphs  
3482 (b) and (c) of subsection (6) of section 1013.64, Florida  
3483 Statutes, are amended to read:

3484 1013.64 Funds for comprehensive educational plant needs;  
3485 construction cost maximums for school district capital  
3486 projects.—Allocations from the Public Education Capital Outlay  
3487 and Debt Service Trust Fund to the various boards for capital  
3488 outlay projects shall be determined as follows:

3489 (3) (a) Each district school board shall receive an amount  
3490 from the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust  
3491 Fund to be calculated by computing the capital outlay membership  
3492 as determined by the department. Such membership must include,  
3493 but is not limited to, prekindergarten through grade 12;

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3494 ~~1. K-12 students whose instruction is funded by the~~  
3495 ~~Florida Education Finance Program and prekindergarten~~  
3496 ~~exceptional students for whom the school district provides the~~  
3497 ~~educational facility, except hospital- and homebound part-time~~  
3498 ~~students; and~~

3499 ~~2. Students who are career education students, and adult~~  
3500 ~~disabled students and who are enrolled in school district career~~  
3501 ~~centers.~~

3502 (b) The capital outlay full-time equivalent membership  
3503 shall be determined ~~for prekindergarten exceptional education~~  
3504 ~~students, kindergarten through the 12th grade, and for career~~  
3505 ~~centers~~ by counting the reported unweighted full-time equivalent  
3506 student membership for the second and third surveys with each  
3507 survey limited to 0.5 full-time equivalent student membership  
3508 per student and comparing the results on a school-by-school  
3509 basis with the Florida Inventory of School Houses. ~~If the prior~~  
3510 ~~academic year's third survey count is higher than the current~~  
3511 ~~year's second survey count when comparing the results on a~~  
3512 ~~school-by-school basis with the Florida Inventory of School~~  
3513 ~~Houses, the prior year's third survey count shall be used on a~~  
3514 ~~school-by-school basis for determining the current capital~~  
3515 ~~outlay membership. The Florida Inventory of School Houses shall~~  
3516 ~~be updated with the current capital outlay membership count as~~  
3517 ~~soon as practicable after verification of the capital outlay~~  
3518 ~~membership.~~

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3519 (c) The capital outlay full-time equivalent membership by  
3520 grade level organization shall be used in making calculations.  
3521 The capital outlay membership by grade level organization for  
3522 the 4th prior year must be used to compute the base-year  
3523 allocation. The capital outlay full-time equivalent membership  
3524 by grade-level organization for the prior year must be used to  
3525 compute the growth over the highest of the 3 years preceding the  
3526 prior year. From the total amount appropriated by the  
3527 Legislature pursuant to this subsection, 40 percent shall be  
3528 allocated among the base capital outlay full-time equivalent  
3529 membership and 60 percent among the growth capital outlay full-  
3530 time equivalent membership. The allocation within each of these  
3531 groups shall be prorated to the districts based upon each  
3532 district's percentage of base and growth capital outlay full-  
3533 time equivalent membership. The most recent 4-year capital  
3534 outlay full-time equivalent membership data shall be used in  
3535 each subsequent year's calculation for the allocation of funds  
3536 pursuant to this subsection. If a change, correction, or  
3537 recomputation of data during any year results in a reduction or  
3538 increase of the calculated amount previously allocated to a  
3539 district, the allocation to that district shall be adjusted  
3540 accordingly. If such recomputation results in an increase or  
3541 decrease of the calculated amount, such additional or reduced  
3542 amounts shall be added to or reduced from the district's future  
3543 appropriations. However, no change, correction, or recomputation

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3544 of data shall be made subsequent to 2 years following the  
3545 initial annual allocation.

3546 (6)

3547 (b)1. A district school board may not use funds from the  
3548 following sources: Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt  
3549 Service Trust Fund; School District and Community College  
3550 District Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund; Classrooms  
3551 First Program funds provided in s. 1013.68; nonvoted 1.5-mill  
3552 levy of ad valorem property taxes provided in s. 1011.71(2);  
3553 Classrooms for Kids Program funds provided in s. 1013.735;  
3554 District Effort Recognition Program funds provided in s.  
3555 1013.736; or High Growth District Capital Outlay Assistance  
3556 Grant Program funds provided in s. 1013.738 for any new  
3557 construction of educational plant space with a total cost per  
3558 student station, including change orders, that equals more than:

3559 a. \$17,952 for an elementary school,

3560 b. \$19,386 for a middle school, or

3561 c. \$25,181 for a high school,

3562

3563 (January 2006) as adjusted annually to reflect increases or  
3564 decreases in the Consumer Price Index.

3565 2. School districts shall maintain accurate documentation  
3566 related to the costs of all new construction of educational  
3567 plant space reported to the Department of Education pursuant to  
3568 paragraph (d). The Auditor General shall review the

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3569 documentation maintained by the school districts and verify  
3570 compliance with the limits under this paragraph during its  
3571 scheduled operational audits of the school district. The  
3572 department shall make the final determination on district  
3573 compliance based on the recommendation of the Auditor General.

3574 3. The Office of Economic and Demographic Research, in  
3575 consultation with the department, shall conduct a study of the  
3576 cost per student station amounts using the most recent available  
3577 information on construction costs. In this study, the costs per  
3578 student station should represent the costs of classroom  
3579 construction and administrative offices as well as the  
3580 supplemental costs of core facilities, including required media  
3581 centers, gymnasiums, music rooms, cafeterias and their  
3582 associated kitchens and food service areas, vocational areas,  
3583 and other defined specialty areas, including exceptional student  
3584 education areas. The study must take into account appropriate  
3585 cost-effectiveness factors in school construction and should  
3586 include input from industry experts. The Office of Economic and  
3587 Demographic Research must provide the results of the study and  
3588 recommendations on the cost per student station to the Governor,  
3589 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
3590 Representatives no later than January 31, 2017.

3591 4. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
3592 Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a study of the State  
3593 Requirements for Education Facilities (SREF) to identify current

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3594 requirements that can be eliminated or modified in order to  
3595 decrease the cost of construction of educational facilities  
3596 while ensuring student safety. OPPAGA must provide the results  
3597 of the study, and an overall recommendation as to whether SREF  
3598 should be retained, to the Governor, the President of the  
3599 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later  
3600 than January 31, 2017.

3601 5. Effective July 1, 2017, in addition to the funding  
3602 sources listed in subparagraph 1., a district school board may  
3603 not use funds from any sources for new construction of  
3604 educational plant space with a total cost per student station,  
3605 including change orders, which equals more than the current  
3606 adjusted amounts provided in sub-subparagraphs 1.a.-c. which  
3607 shall subsequently be adjusted annually to reflect increases or  
3608 decreases in the Consumer Price Index. However, if a contract  
3609 has been executed for architectural and design services or for  
3610 construction management services before July 1, 2017, a district  
3611 school board may use funds from any source for the new  
3612 construction of educational plant space and such funds are  
3613 exempt from the total cost per student station requirements.

3614 6. A district school board must not use funds from the  
3615 Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund or  
3616 the School District and Community College District Capital  
3617 Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund for any new construction of

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3618 an ancillary plant that exceeds 70 percent of the average cost  
3619 per square foot of new construction for all schools.

3620 (c) Except as otherwise provided, new construction for  
3621 which a contract has been executed for architectural and design  
3622 services or for construction management services ~~initiated~~ by a  
3623 district school board on or after July 1, 2017, may not exceed  
3624 the cost per student station as provided in paragraph (b). A  
3625 school district that exceeds the cost per student station  
3626 provided in paragraph (b), as determined by the Auditor General,  
3627 shall be subject to sanctions. If the Auditor General determines  
3628 that the cost per student station overage is de minimus or due  
3629 to extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the  
3630 district, the sanctions shall not apply. The sanctions are as  
3631 follows:

3632 1. The school district shall be ineligible for allocations  
3633 from the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust  
3634 Fund for the next 3 years in which the school district would  
3635 have received allocations had the violation not occurred.

3636 2. The school district shall be subject to the supervision  
3637 of a district capital outlay oversight committee. The oversight  
3638 committee is authorized to approve all capital outlay  
3639 expenditures of the school district, including new construction,  
3640 renovations, and remodeling, for 3 fiscal years following the  
3641 violation.

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3642 a. Each oversight committee shall be composed of the  
3643 following:

3644 (I) One appointee of the Commissioner of Education who has  
3645 significant financial management, school facilities  
3646 construction, or related experience.

3647 (II) One appointee of the office of the state attorney  
3648 with jurisdiction over the district.

3649 (III) One appointee of the Chief Financial Officer who is  
3650 a licensed certified public accountant.

3651 b. An appointee to the oversight committee may not be  
3652 employed by the school district; be a relative, as defined in s.  
3653 1002.33(24)(a)2., of any school district employee; or be an  
3654 elected official. Each appointee must sign an affidavit  
3655 attesting to these conditions and affirming that no conflict of  
3656 interest exists in his or her oversight role.

3657 Section 33. Paragraphs (b) and (f) of subsection (3) and  
3658 subsection (4) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are  
3659 amended to read:

3660 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school  
3661 diploma.—

3662 (3) STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; COURSE AND ASSESSMENT  
3663 REQUIREMENTS.—

3664 (b) *Four credits in mathematics.*—A student must earn one  
3665 credit in Algebra I and one credit in Geometry. A student's  
3666 performance on the statewide, standardized Algebra I end-of-

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3667 course (EOC) assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's  
3668 final course grade. A student must pass the statewide,  
3669 standardized Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a comparative  
3670 score, in order to earn a standard high school diploma. A  
3671 student's performance on the statewide, standardized Geometry  
3672 EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final  
3673 course grade. ~~If the state administers a statewide, standardized~~  
3674 ~~Algebra II assessment, a student selecting Algebra II must take~~  
3675 ~~the assessment, and the student's performance on the assessment~~  
3676 ~~constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade.~~ A  
3677 student who earns an industry certification for which there is a  
3678 statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the  
3679 State Board of Education may substitute the certification for  
3680 one mathematics credit. Substitution may occur for up to two  
3681 mathematics credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.

3682 (f) *One credit in physical education.*—Physical education  
3683 must include the integration of health. Participation in an  
3684 interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level for  
3685 two full seasons shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in  
3686 physical education ~~if the student passes a competency test on~~  
3687 ~~personal fitness with a score of "C" or better. The competency~~  
3688 ~~test on personal fitness developed by the Department of~~  
3689 ~~Education must be used.~~ A district school board may not require  
3690 that the one credit in physical education be taken during the  
3691 9th grade year. Completion of one semester with a grade of "C"

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3692 or better in a marching band class, in a physical activity class  
3693 that requires participation in marching band activities as an  
3694 extracurricular activity, or in a dance class shall satisfy one-  
3695 half credit in physical education or one-half credit in  
3696 performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the  
3697 personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive  
3698 physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or  
3699 504 plan. Completion of 2 years in a Reserve Officer Training  
3700 Corps (R.O.T.C.) class, a significant component of which is  
3701 drills, shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical  
3702 education and the one-credit requirement in performing arts.  
3703 This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness  
3704 requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education  
3705 under an IEP or 504 plan.

3706 (4) ONLINE COURSE REQUIREMENT.—At least one course within  
3707 the 24 credits required under this section must be completed  
3708 through online learning.

3709 (a) An online course taken in grade 6, grade 7, or grade 8  
3710 fulfills the requirements of this subsection. The requirement is  
3711 met through an online course offered by the Florida Virtual  
3712 School, a virtual education provider approved by the State Board  
3713 of Education, a high school, or an online dual enrollment  
3714 course. A student who is enrolled in a full-time or part-time  
3715 virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45 meets the  
3716 requirement.

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3717 (b) A district school board or a charter school governing  
3718 board, as applicable, may allow a student ~~offer students the~~  
3719 ~~following options~~ to satisfy the online course requirements of  
3720 this subsection by completing a blended learning course or:

3721 1. ~~Completion of a course in which the~~ a student earns a  
3722 nationally recognized industry certification in information  
3723 technology that is identified on the CAPE Industry Certification  
3724 Funding List pursuant to s. 1008.44 or passing ~~passage of the~~  
3725 information technology certification examination without  
3726 enrolling ~~enrollment in or~~ completing ~~completion of the~~  
3727 corresponding course or courses, as applicable.

3728 2. ~~Passage of an online content assessment, without~~  
3729 ~~enrollment in or completion of the corresponding course or~~  
3730 ~~courses, as applicable, by which the student demonstrates skills~~  
3731 ~~and competency in locating information and applying technology~~  
3732 ~~for instructional purposes.~~

3733  
3734 For purposes of this subsection, a school district may not  
3735 require a student to take the online or blended learning course  
3736 outside the school day or in addition to a student's courses for  
3737 a given semester. This subsection does not apply to a student  
3738 who has an individual education plan under s. 1003.57 which  
3739 indicates that an online or blended learning course would be  
3740 inappropriate or to an out-of-state transfer student who is

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3741 enrolled in a Florida high school and has 1 academic year or  
3742 less remaining in high school.

3743 Section 34. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
3744 1003.4285, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

3745 1003.4285 Standard high school diploma designations.—

3746 (1) Each standard high school diploma shall include, as  
3747 applicable, the following designations if the student meets the  
3748 criteria set forth for the designation:

3749 (a) *Scholar designation*.—In addition to the requirements  
3750 of s. 1003.4282, in order to earn the Scholar designation, a  
3751 student must satisfy the following requirements:

3752 1. Mathematics.—Earn one credit in Algebra II and one  
3753 credit in statistics or an equally rigorous course. Beginning  
3754 with students entering grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year,  
3755 pass the ~~Algebra II and~~ Geometry statewide, standardized  
3756 assessment ~~assessments~~.

3757 2. Science.—Pass the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC  
3758 assessment and earn one credit in chemistry or physics and one  
3759 credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics.  
3760 However, a student enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP),  
3761 International Baccalaureate (IB), or Advanced International  
3762 Certificate of Education (AICE) Biology course who takes the  
3763 respective AP, IB, or AICE Biology assessment and earns the  
3764 minimum score necessary to earn college credit as identified  
3765 pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) meets the requirement of this

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3766 subparagraph without having to take the statewide, standardized  
3767 Biology I EOC assessment.

3768 3. Social studies.—Pass the statewide, standardized United  
3769 States History EOC assessment. However, a student enrolled in an  
3770 AP, IB, or AICE course that includes United States History  
3771 topics who takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE assessment and  
3772 earns the minimum score necessary to earn college credit as  
3773 identified pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) meets the requirement of  
3774 this subparagraph without having to take the statewide,  
3775 standardized United States History EOC assessment.

3776 4. Foreign language.—Earn two credits in the same foreign  
3777 language.

3778 5. Electives.—Earn at least one credit in an Advanced  
3779 Placement, an International Baccalaureate, an Advanced  
3780 International Certificate of Education, or a dual enrollment  
3781 course.

3782 Section 35. Paragraphs (c) through (f) and paragraph (g)  
3783 of subsection (7) of section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, are  
3784 redesignated as paragraphs (d) through (g) and paragraph (i),  
3785 respectively, subsections (8) through (12) are renumbered as  
3786 subsections (9) through (13), respectively, paragraphs (a), (b),  
3787 and (d) of subsection (3), paragraphs (a) and (b) and present  
3788 paragraph (f) of subsection (7), and paragraph (e) of present  
3789 subsection (11) are amended, new paragraphs (c) and (i) are

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3790 added to subsection (7), and a new subsection (8) is added to  
3791 that section, to read:

3792 1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

3793 (3) STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The  
3794 Commissioner of Education shall design and implement a  
3795 statewide, standardized assessment program aligned to the core  
3796 curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine  
3797 State Standards. The commissioner also must develop or select  
3798 and implement a common battery of assessment tools that will be  
3799 used in all juvenile justice education programs in the state.  
3800 These tools must accurately measure the core curricular content  
3801 established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.  
3802 Participation in the assessment program is mandatory for all  
3803 school districts and all students attending public schools,  
3804 including adult students seeking a standard high school diploma  
3805 under s. 1003.4282 and students in Department of Juvenile  
3806 Justice education programs, except as otherwise provided by law.  
3807 If a student does not participate in the assessment program, the  
3808 school district must notify the student's parent and provide the  
3809 parent with information regarding the implications of such  
3810 nonparticipation. The statewide, standardized assessment program  
3811 shall be designed and implemented as follows:

3812 (a) *Statewide, standardized comprehensive assessments.*—The  
3813 statewide, standardized Reading assessment shall be administered  
3814 annually in grades 3 through 10. The statewide, standardized

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3815 Writing assessment shall be administered annually at least once  
3816 at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. When the  
3817 Reading and Writing assessments are replaced by English Language  
3818 Arts (ELA) assessments, ELA assessments shall be administered to  
3819 students in grades 3 through 10. Retake opportunities for the  
3820 grade 10 Reading assessment or, upon implementation, the grade  
3821 10 ELA assessment must be provided. Students taking the ELA  
3822 assessments shall not take the statewide, standardized  
3823 assessments in Reading or Writing. ELA assessments shall be  
3824 administered online. The statewide, standardized Mathematics  
3825 assessments shall be administered annually in grades 3 through  
3826 8. Students taking a revised Mathematics assessment shall not  
3827 take the discontinued assessment. The statewide, standardized  
3828 Science assessment shall be administered annually at least once  
3829 at the elementary and middle grades levels. In order to earn a  
3830 standard high school diploma, a student who has not earned a  
3831 passing score on the grade 10 Reading assessment or, upon  
3832 implementation, the grade 10 ELA assessment must earn a passing  
3833 score on the assessment retake or earn a concordant score as  
3834 authorized under subsection (9) ~~(8)~~.

3835 (b) *End-of-course (EOC) assessments.*—EOC assessments must  
3836 be statewide, standardized, and developed or approved by the  
3837 Department of Education as follows:

3838 1. EOC assessments for Algebra I, Geometry, ~~Algebra II,~~  
3839 Biology I, United States History, and Civics shall be

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3840 administered to students enrolled in such courses as specified  
3841 in the course code directory.

3842 2. Students enrolled in a course, as specified in the  
3843 course code directory, with an associated statewide,  
3844 standardized EOC assessment must take the EOC assessment for  
3845 such course and may not take the corresponding subject or grade-  
3846 level statewide, standardized assessment pursuant to paragraph  
3847 (a). Sections 1003.4156 and 1003.4282 govern the use of  
3848 statewide, standardized EOC assessment results for students.

3849 3. The commissioner may select one or more nationally  
3850 developed comprehensive examinations, which may include  
3851 examinations for a College Board Advanced Placement course,  
3852 International Baccalaureate course, or Advanced International  
3853 Certificate of Education course, or industry-approved  
3854 examinations to earn national industry certifications identified  
3855 in the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List, for use as EOC  
3856 assessments under this paragraph if the commissioner determines  
3857 that the content knowledge and skills assessed by the  
3858 examinations meet or exceed the grade-level expectations for the  
3859 core curricular content established for the course in the Next  
3860 Generation Sunshine State Standards. Use of any such examination  
3861 as an EOC assessment must be approved by the state board in  
3862 rule.

3863 4. Contingent upon funding provided in the General  
3864 Appropriations Act, including the appropriation of funds

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3865 received through federal grants, the commissioner may establish  
3866 an implementation schedule for the development and  
3867 administration of additional statewide, standardized EOC  
3868 assessments that must be approved by the state board in rule. If  
3869 approved by the state board, student performance on such  
3870 assessments constitutes 30 percent of a student's final course  
3871 grade.

3872 5. All statewide, standardized EOC assessments must be  
3873 administered online except as otherwise provided in paragraph  
3874 (c).

3875 (d) *Implementation schedule.*—

3876 1. The Commissioner of Education shall establish and  
3877 publish on the department's website an implementation schedule  
3878 to transition from the statewide, standardized Reading and  
3879 Writing assessments to the ELA assessments and to the revised  
3880 Mathematics assessments, including the Algebra I and Geometry  
3881 EOC assessments. The schedule must take into consideration  
3882 funding, sufficient field and baseline data, access to  
3883 assessments, instructional alignment, and school district  
3884 readiness to administer the assessments online. All such  
3885 assessments must be delivered through computer-based testing,  
3886 however, the following assessments must be delivered in a  
3887 computer-based format, as follows: ~~the grade 3 ELA assessment,~~  
3888 ~~beginning in the 2017-2018 school year;~~ the grade 3 Mathematics  
3889 assessment beginning in the 2016-2017 school year; the grade 4

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3890 ELA assessment, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year; and the  
3891 grade 4 Mathematics assessment, beginning in the 2016-2017  
3892 school year. Notwithstanding the requirements of this  
3893 subparagraph, statewide, standardized ELA and mathematics  
3894 assessments in grades 3 through 6 must be delivered only in a  
3895 paper-based format, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year,  
3896 and all such assessments must be paper-based no later than the  
3897 2018-2019 school year.

3898 2. The Department of Education shall publish minimum and  
3899 recommended technology requirements that include specifications  
3900 for hardware, software, networking, security, and broadband  
3901 capacity to facilitate school district compliance with the  
3902 requirements of this section ~~requirement that assessments be~~  
3903 ~~administered online.~~

3904 (7) ASSESSMENT SCHEDULES AND REPORTING OF RESULTS.—

3905 (a) The Commissioner of Education shall establish  
3906 schedules for the administration of statewide, standardized  
3907 assessments and the reporting of student assessment results. The  
3908 commissioner shall consider the observance of religious and  
3909 school holidays when developing the schedules. The assessment  
3910 and reporting schedules must provide the earliest possible  
3911 reporting of student assessment results to the school districts,  
3912 consistent with the requirements of paragraph (3)(g). Assessment  
3913 results for the statewide, standardized ELA and mathematics  
3914 assessments and all statewide, standardized EOC assessments must

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3915 be made available no later than ~~the week of~~ June 30 ~~&~~, except  
3916 for results for the grade 3 statewide, standardized ELA  
3917 assessment, which must be made available no later than May 31 ~~of~~  
3918 ~~assessments administered in the 2014-2015 school year~~. School  
3919 districts shall administer statewide, standardized assessments  
3920 in accordance with the schedule established by the commissioner.

3921 (b) By January ~~August~~ of each year, beginning in 2018  
3922 ~~2016~~, the commissioner shall publish on the department's website  
3923 a uniform calendar that includes the assessment and reporting  
3924 schedules for, at a minimum, the next 2 school years. The  
3925 uniform calendar must be provided to school districts in an  
3926 electronic format that allows each school district and public  
3927 school to populate the calendar with, at minimum, the following  
3928 information for reporting the district assessment schedules  
3929 under paragraph (d) ~~(e)~~:

3930 1. Whether the assessment is a district-required  
3931 assessment or a state-required assessment.

3932 2. The specific date or dates that each assessment will be  
3933 administered.

3934 3. The time allotted to administer each assessment.

3935 4. Whether the assessment is a computer-based assessment  
3936 or a paper-based assessment.

3937 5. The grade level or subject area associated with the  
3938 assessment.

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3939 6. The date that the assessment results are expected to be  
3940 available to teachers and parents.

3941 7. The type of assessment, the purpose of the assessment,  
3942 and the use of the assessment results.

3943 8. A glossary of assessment terminology.

3944 9. Estimates of average time for administering state-  
3945 required and district-required assessments, by grade level.

3946 (c) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the spring  
3947 administration of the statewide, standardized assessments in  
3948 paragraphs (3)(a) and (b), excluding assessment retakes, must be  
3949 in accordance with the following schedule:

3950 1. The grade 3 statewide, standardized ELA assessment and  
3951 the writing portion of the statewide, standardized ELA  
3952 assessment for grades 4 through 10 must be administered no  
3953 earlier than April 1 each year within an assessment window not  
3954 to exceed 2 weeks.

3955 2. With the exception of assessments identified in  
3956 subparagraph 1., any statewide, standardized assessment that is  
3957 delivered in a paper-based format must be administered no  
3958 earlier than May 1 each year within an assessment window not to  
3959 exceed 2 weeks.

3960 3. With the exception of assessments identified in  
3961 subparagraphs 1. and 2., any statewide, standardized assessment  
3962 must be administered within a 4-week assessment window that  
3963 opens no earlier than May 1 each year.

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3964  
3965 Each school district shall administer the assessments identified  
3966 under subparagraphs 2. and 3. no earlier than 4 weeks before the  
3967 last day of school for the district.

3968 (g) ~~(f)~~ A school district must provide a student's  
3969 performance results on district-required local assessments to  
3970 the student's teachers within 1 week and to the student's  
3971 parents no later than 30 days after administering such  
3972 assessments, unless the superintendent determines in writing  
3973 that extenuating circumstances exist and reports the extenuating  
3974 circumstances to the district school board.

3975 (h) The results of statewide, standardized ELA and  
3976 mathematics assessments, including assessment retakes, shall be  
3977 reported in an easy-to-read and understandable format and  
3978 delivered in time to provide useful, actionable information to  
3979 students, parents, and each student's current teacher of record  
3980 and teacher of record for the subsequent school year; however,  
3981 in any case, the district shall provide the results pursuant to  
3982 this paragraph within 1 week after receiving the results from  
3983 the department. A report of student assessment results must, at  
3984 a minimum, contain:

3985 1. A clear explanation of the student's performance on the  
3986 applicable statewide, standardized assessments.

3987 2. Information identifying the student's areas of strength  
3988 and areas in need of improvement.

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3989 3. Specific actions that may be taken, and the available  
3990 resources that may be used, by the student's parent to assist  
3991 his or her child based on the student's areas of strength and  
3992 areas in need of improvement.

3993 4. Longitudinal information, if available, on the  
3994 student's progress in each subject area based on previous  
3995 statewide, standardized assessment data.

3996 5. Comparative information showing the student's score  
3997 compared to other students in the school district, in the state,  
3998 or, if available, in other states.

3999 6. Predictive information, if available, showing the  
4000 linkage between the scores attained by the student on the  
4001 statewide, standardized assessments and the scores he or she may  
4002 potentially attain on nationally recognized college entrance  
4003 examinations.

4004 (8) PUBLICATION OF ASSESSMENTS.- To promote transparency  
4005 in the statewide assessment program, in any procurement for the  
4006 ELA assessment in grades 3 through 10 and the mathematics  
4007 assessment in grades 3 through 8, the Department of Education  
4008 shall solicit cost proposals for publication of the state  
4009 assessments on its website in accordance with this subsection.

4010 (a) The department shall publish each assessment  
4011 administered under paragraph (3) (a) and subparagraph (3) (b) 1.,  
4012 excluding assessment retakes, at least once on a triennial basis  
4013 pursuant to a schedule determined by the Commissioner of

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4014 Education. Each assessment, when published, must have been  
4015 administered during the most recent school year.

4016 (b) The initial publication of assessments must occur no  
4017 later than June 30, 2021, subject to appropriation, and must  
4018 include, at a minimum, the grade 3 ELA and mathematics  
4019 assessments, the grade 10 ELA assessment, and the Algebra I EOC  
4020 assessment.

4021 (c) The department must provide materials on its website  
4022 to help the public interpret assessment information published  
4023 pursuant to this subsection.

4024 (12)~~(11)~~ REPORTS.—The Department of Education shall  
4025 annually provide a report to the Governor, the President of the  
4026 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which  
4027 shall include the following:

4028 (e) The number of students who after 8th grade enroll in  
4029 adult education rather than other secondary education, which is  
4030 defined as grades 9 through 12.

4031 Section 36. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1), paragraph (a)  
4032 of subsection (3), and subsections (7), (8), and (9) of section  
4033 1012.34, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

4034 1012.34 Personnel evaluation procedures and criteria.—

4035 (1) EVALUATION SYSTEM APPROVAL AND REPORTING.—

4036 (c) Annually, by February 1, the Commissioner of Education  
4037 shall publish on the department's website the status of each

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4038 school district's instructional personnel and school  
4039 administrator evaluation systems. This information must include:  
4040     ~~1.~~ performance evaluation results for the prior school  
4041 year for instructional personnel and school administrators using  
4042 the four levels of performance specified in paragraph (2)(e).  
4043 The performance evaluation results for instructional personnel  
4044 shall be disaggregated by classroom teachers, as defined in s.  
4045 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, and all other  
4046 instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(b)-(d).  
4047     ~~2. An analysis that compares performance evaluation~~  
4048 ~~results calculated by each school district to indicators of~~  
4049 ~~performance calculated by the department using the standards for~~  
4050 ~~performance levels adopted by the state board under subsection~~  
4051 ~~(8).~~  
4052     ~~3. Data reported under s. 1012.341.~~  
4053     (3) EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA.—Instructional  
4054 personnel and school administrator performance evaluations must  
4055 be based upon the performance of students assigned to their  
4056 classrooms or schools, as provided in this section. Pursuant to  
4057 this section, a school district's performance evaluation system  
4058 is not limited to basing unsatisfactory performance of  
4059 instructional personnel and school administrators solely upon  
4060 student performance, but may include other criteria to evaluate  
4061 instructional personnel and school administrators' performance,  
4062 or any combination of student performance and other criteria.

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4063 Evaluation procedures and criteria must comply with, but are not  
4064 limited to, the following:

4065 (a) A performance evaluation must be conducted for each  
4066 employee at least once a year, except that a classroom teacher,  
4067 as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers,  
4068 who is newly hired by the district school board must be observed  
4069 and evaluated at least twice in the first year of teaching in  
4070 the school district. The performance evaluation must be based  
4071 upon sound educational principles and contemporary research in  
4072 effective educational practices. The evaluation criteria must  
4073 include:

4074 1. Performance of students.—At least one-third of a  
4075 performance evaluation must be based upon data and indicators of  
4076 student performance, as determined by each school district ~~in~~  
4077 ~~accordance with subsection (7)~~. This portion of the evaluation  
4078 must include growth or achievement data of the teacher's  
4079 students or, for a school administrator, the students attending  
4080 the school over the course of at least 3 years. If less than 3  
4081 years of data are available, the years for which data are  
4082 available must be used. The proportion of growth or achievement  
4083 data may be determined by instructional assignment.

4084 2. Instructional practice.—For instructional personnel, at  
4085 least one-third of the performance evaluation must be based upon  
4086 instructional practice. Evaluation criteria used when annually  
4087 observing classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a),

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4088 | excluding substitute teachers, must include indicators based  
4089 | upon each of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices adopted  
4090 | by the State Board of Education. For instructional personnel who  
4091 | are not classroom teachers, evaluation criteria must be based  
4092 | upon indicators of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices  
4093 | and may include specific job expectations related to student  
4094 | support.

4095 |       3. Instructional leadership.—For school administrators, at  
4096 | least one-third of the performance evaluation must be based on  
4097 | instructional leadership. Evaluation criteria for instructional  
4098 | leadership must include indicators based upon each of the  
4099 | leadership standards adopted by the State Board of Education  
4100 | under s. 1012.986, including performance measures related to the  
4101 | effectiveness of classroom teachers in the school, the  
4102 | administrator's appropriate use of evaluation criteria and  
4103 | procedures, recruitment and retention of effective and highly  
4104 | effective classroom teachers, improvement in the percentage of  
4105 | instructional personnel evaluated at the highly effective or  
4106 | effective level, and other leadership practices that result in  
4107 | student learning growth. The system may include a means to give  
4108 | parents and instructional personnel an opportunity to provide  
4109 | input into the administrator's performance evaluation.

4110 |       4. Other indicators of performance.—For instructional  
4111 | personnel and school administrators, the remainder of a  
4112 | performance evaluation may include, but is not limited to,

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4113 professional and job responsibilities as recommended by the  
4114 State Board of Education or identified by the district school  
4115 board and, for instructional personnel, peer reviews,  
4116 objectively reliable survey information from students and  
4117 parents based on teaching practices that are consistently  
4118 associated with higher student achievement, and other valid and  
4119 reliable measures of instructional practice.

4120 (7) MEASUREMENT OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE.—

4121 (a) The Commissioner of Education shall approve a formula  
4122 to measure individual student learning growth on the statewide,  
4123 standardized assessments in English Language Arts and  
4124 mathematics administered under s. 1008.22. A third party,  
4125 independent of the assessment developer, must analyze student  
4126 learning growth data calculated using the formula and provide  
4127 access to a data visualization tool that enables teachers to  
4128 understand and evaluate the data and school administrators to  
4129 improve instruction, evaluate programs, allocate resources, plan  
4130 professional development, and communicate with stakeholders. The  
4131 formula must take into consideration each student's prior  
4132 academic performance. The formula must not set different  
4133 expectations for student learning growth based upon a student's  
4134 gender, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. In the  
4135 development of the formula, the commissioner shall consider  
4136 other factors such as a student's attendance record, disability  
4137 status, or status as an English language learner. The

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4138 commissioner may select additional formulas to measure student  
4139 performance as appropriate for the remainder of the statewide,  
4140 standardized assessments included under s. 1008.22 and continue  
4141 to select formulas as new assessments are implemented in the  
4142 state system. ~~After the commissioner approves the formula to~~  
4143 ~~measure individual student learning growth, the State Board of~~  
4144 ~~Education shall adopt these formulas in rule.~~

4145 (b) Each school district may, but is not required to,  
4146 ~~shall~~ measure student learning growth using the formulas  
4147 approved by the commissioner under paragraph (a) ~~and the~~  
4148 ~~standards for performance levels adopted by the state board~~  
4149 ~~under subsection (8) for courses associated with the statewide,~~  
4150 ~~standardized assessments administered under s. 1008.22 no later~~  
4151 ~~than the school year immediately following the year the formula~~  
4152 ~~is approved by the commissioner. For grades and subjects not~~  
4153 ~~assessed by statewide, standardized assessments, each school~~  
4154 ~~district shall measure student performance using a methodology~~  
4155 ~~determined by the district.~~

4156 (8) RULEMAKING. ~~No later than August 1, 2015,~~ The State  
4157 Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1)  
4158 and 120.54 which establish uniform procedures and format for the  
4159 submission, review, and approval of district evaluation systems  
4160 and reporting requirements for the annual evaluation of  
4161 instructional personnel and school administrators; ~~specific,~~  
4162 ~~discrete standards for each performance level required under~~

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4163 ~~subsection (2), based on student learning growth models approved~~  
4164 ~~by the commissioner, to ensure clear and sufficient~~  
4165 ~~differentiation in the performance levels and to provide~~  
4166 ~~consistency in meaning across school districts; the measurement~~  
4167 ~~of student learning growth and associated implementation~~  
4168 ~~procedures required under subsection (7); and a process for~~  
4169 ~~monitoring school district implementation of evaluation systems~~  
4170 ~~in accordance with this section.~~

4171 ~~(9) TRANSITION TO NEW STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED~~  
4172 ~~ASSESSMENTS. Standards for each performance level required under~~  
4173 ~~subsection (2) shall be established by the State Board of~~  
4174 ~~Education beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.~~

4175 Section 37. The Commissioner of Education shall contract  
4176 for an independent study to determine whether the SAT and ACT  
4177 may be administered in lieu of the grade 10 statewide,  
4178 standardized ELA assessment and the Algebra I end-of-course  
4179 assessment for high school students consistent with federal  
4180 requirements under 20 U.S.C. s. 6311(b)(2)(H). The commissioner  
4181 shall submit a report containing the results of such review and  
4182 any recommendations to the Governor, the President of the  
4183 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
4184 State Board of Education by January 1, 2018.

4185 Section 38. Effective upon this act becoming a law,  
4186 subsections (18), (21), and (24) of section 1001.42, Florida  
4187 Statutes, are amended to read:

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4188 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The  
4189 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all  
4190 powers and perform all duties listed below:

4191 (18) IMPLEMENT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—  
4192 Maintain a system of school improvement and education  
4193 accountability as provided by statute and State Board of  
4194 Education rule. This system of school improvement and education  
4195 accountability shall be consistent with, and implemented  
4196 through, the district's continuing system of planning and  
4197 budgeting required by this section and ss. 1008.385, 1010.01,  
4198 and 1011.01. This system of school improvement and education  
4199 accountability shall comply with the provisions of ss. 1008.33,  
4200 1008.34, 1008.345, and 1008.385 and include the following:

4201 (a) *School improvement plans.*—

4202 ~~1.~~ The district school board shall annually approve and  
4203 require implementation of a new, amended, or continuation school  
4204 improvement plan for each school in the district which has a  
4205 school grade of "D" or "F"; ~~— If a school~~ has a significant gap  
4206 in achievement on statewide, standardized assessments  
4207 administered pursuant to s. 1008.22 by one or more student  
4208 subgroups, as defined in the federal Elementary and Secondary  
4209 Education Act (ESEA), 20 U.S.C. s. 6311(b)(2)(C)(v)(II); has not  
4210 significantly increased the percentage of students passing  
4211 statewide, standardized assessments; has not significantly  
4212 increased the percentage of students demonstrating Learning

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4213 Gains, as defined in s. 1008.34 and as calculated under s.  
4214 1008.34(3)(b), who passed statewide, standardized assessments;  
4215 or has significantly lower graduation rates for a subgroup when  
4216 compared to the state's graduation rate. The, that school's  
4217 improvement plan of a school that meets the requirements of this  
4218 paragraph shall include strategies for improving these results.  
4219 The state board shall adopt rules establishing thresholds and  
4220 for determining compliance with this subparagraph.

4221 ~~2. A school that includes any of grades 6, 7, or 8 shall~~  
4222 ~~include annually in its school improvement plan information and~~  
4223 ~~data on the school's early warning system required under~~  
4224 ~~paragraph (b), including a list of the early warning indicators~~  
4225 ~~used in the system, the number of students identified by the~~  
4226 ~~system as exhibiting two or more early warning indicators, the~~  
4227 ~~number of students by grade level that exhibit each early~~  
4228 ~~warning indicator, and a description of all intervention~~  
4229 ~~strategies employed by the school to improve the academic~~  
4230 ~~performance of students identified by the early warning system.~~  
4231 ~~In addition, a school that includes any of grades 6, 7, or 8~~  
4232 ~~shall describe in its school improvement plan the strategies~~  
4233 ~~used by the school to implement the instructional practices for~~  
4234 ~~middle grades emphasized by the district's professional~~  
4235 ~~development system pursuant to s. 1012.98(4)(b)9.~~

4236 (b) *Early warning system.*-

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4237 1. A school that serves any students in kindergarten  
4238 through grade ~~includes any of grades 6, 7, or 8~~ shall implement  
4239 an early warning system to identify students in such grades ~~6,~~  
4240 ~~7, and 8~~ who need additional support to improve academic  
4241 performance and stay engaged in school. The early warning system  
4242 must include the following early warning indicators:

4243 a. Attendance below 90 percent, regardless of whether  
4244 absence is excused or a result of out-of-school suspension.

4245 b. One or more suspensions, whether in school or out of  
4246 school.

4247 c. Course failure in English Language Arts or mathematics  
4248 during any grading period.

4249 d. A Level 1 score on the statewide, standardized  
4250 assessments in English Language Arts or mathematics or, for  
4251 students in kindergarten through grade 3, a substantial reading  
4252 deficiency under s. 1008.25(5)(a).

4253  
4254 A school district may identify additional early warning  
4255 indicators for use in a school's early warning system. The  
4256 system must include data on the number of students identified by  
4257 the system as exhibiting two or more early warning indicators,  
4258 the number of students by grade level who exhibit each early  
4259 warning indicator, and a description of all intervention  
4260 strategies employed by the school to improve the academic  
4261 performance of students identified by the early warning system.

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4262           2. A school-based team responsible for implementing the  
4263 requirements of this paragraph shall monitor the data from the  
4264 early warning system. The team may include a school  
4265 psychologist. When a student exhibits two or more early warning  
4266 indicators, the team, in consultation with the student's parent,  
4267 shall school's child study team under s. 1003.02 or a school-  
4268 based team formed for the purpose of implementing the  
4269 requirements of this paragraph shall convene to determine  
4270 appropriate intervention strategies for the student unless the  
4271 student is already being served by an intervention program at  
4272 the direction of a school-based, multidisciplinary team. Data  
4273 and information relating to a student's early warning indicators  
4274 must be used to inform any intervention strategies provided to  
4275 the student ~~The school shall provide at least 10 days' written~~  
4276 ~~notice of the meeting to the student's parent, indicating the~~  
4277 ~~meeting's purpose, time, and location, and provide the parent~~  
4278 ~~the opportunity to participate.~~

4279           (21) EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITY TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY. ~~May~~  
4280 ~~declare an emergency in cases in which one or more schools in~~  
4281 ~~the district are failing or are in danger of failing and~~  
4282 ~~Negotiate special provisions of its contract with the~~  
4283 ~~appropriate bargaining units to free these schools~~ with a school  
4284 grade of "D" or "F" from contract restrictions that limit the  
4285 school's ability to implement programs and strategies needed to  
4286 improve student performance. The negotiations shall result in a

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4287 memorandum of understanding that addresses the selection,  
4288 placement, and expectations of instructional personnel and  
4289 provides principals with the autonomy described in s.  
4290 1012.28(8). For purposes of this subsection, an educational  
4291 emergency exists in a school district if one or more schools in  
4292 the district have a school grade of "D" or "F."

4293 (24) EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS.—

4294 (a) If a school district enters into a contract or  
4295 employment agreement, or renewal or renegotiation of an existing  
4296 contract or employment agreement, with an officer, agent,  
4297 employee, or contractor which contains a provision for severance  
4298 pay, the contract or employment agreement must include the  
4299 provisions of s. 215.425.

4300 (b) A district school board may not award an annual  
4301 contract on the basis of any contingency or condition not  
4302 expressly authorized in law by the Legislature or alter or limit  
4303 its authority to award or not award an annual contract as  
4304 provided in s. 1012.335. This paragraph applies only to a  
4305 collective bargaining agreement entered into or renewed by a  
4306 district school board on or after the effective date of this  
4307 act.

4308 Section 39. Section 1001.4205, Florida Statutes, is  
4309 created to read:

4310 1001.4205 Visitation of schools by an individual school  
4311 board or charter school governing board member.—An individual

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4312 member of a district school board may, on any day and at any  
4313 time at his or her pleasure, visit any district school in his or  
4314 her school district. An individual charter school governing  
4315 board member may, on any day and at any time at his or her  
4316 pleasure, visit any charter school governed by the charter  
4317 school's governing board. The board member must sign in and sign  
4318 out at the school's main office and wear his or her board  
4319 identification badge at all times while present on school  
4320 premises. The board, the school, or any other person or entity,  
4321 including, but not limited to, the principal of the school, the  
4322 school superintendent, or any other board member, may not  
4323 require the visiting board member to provide notice before  
4324 visiting the school. The school may offer, but may not require,  
4325 an escort to accompany a visiting board member during the visit.  
4326 Another board member or a district employee, including, but not  
4327 limited to, the superintendent, the school principal, or his or  
4328 her designee, may not limit the duration or scope of the visit  
4329 or direct a visiting board member to leave the premises. A  
4330 board, district, or school administrative policy or practice may  
4331 not prohibit or limit the authority granted to a board member  
4332 under this section.

4333 Section 40. The Division of Law Revision and Information  
4334 is directed to replace the phrase "the effective date of this  
4335 act" wherever it occurs in this act with the date the act  
4336 becomes a law.

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4337 Section 41. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section  
4338 1008.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
4339 1008.33 Authority to enforce public school improvement.—  
4340 (3) (a) The academic performance of all students has a  
4341 significant effect on the state school system. Pursuant to Art.  
4342 IX of the State Constitution, which prescribes the duty of the  
4343 State Board of Education to supervise Florida's public school  
4344 system, the state board shall equitably enforce the  
4345 accountability requirements of the state school system and may  
4346 impose state requirements on school districts in order to  
4347 improve the academic performance of all districts, schools, and  
4348 students based upon the provisions of the Florida K-20 Education  
4349 Code, chapters 1000-1013; the federal ESEA and its implementing  
4350 regulations; and the ESEA flexibility waiver approved for  
4351 Florida by the United States Secretary of Education.  
4352 (b) ~~Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year,~~ The  
4353 Department of Education shall annually identify each public  
4354 school in need of intervention and support to improve student  
4355 academic performance. All schools earning a grade of "D" or "F"  
4356 pursuant to s. 1008.34 are schools in need of intervention and  
4357 support.  
4358 (c) The state board shall adopt by rule a differentiated  
4359 matrix of intervention and support strategies for assisting  
4360 traditional public schools identified under this section and  
4361 rules for implementing s. 1002.33(9)(n), relating to charter

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4362 schools. The intervention and support strategies must address  
4363 student performance and may include improvement planning;;  
4364 leadership quality improvement;; educator quality improvement;;  
4365 professional development;; curriculum review, alignment and  
4366 pacing, and alignment across grade levels to improve background  
4367 knowledge in social studies, science, and the arts; and the use  
4368 of continuous improvement and monitoring plans and processes. In  
4369 addition, the state board may prescribe reporting requirements  
4370 to review and monitor the progress of the schools. The rule must  
4371 define the intervention and support strategies for school  
4372 improvement for schools earning a grade of "D" or "F" and the  
4373 roles for the district and department. ~~The rule shall~~  
4374 ~~differentiate among schools earning consecutive grades of "D" or~~  
4375 ~~"F," or a combination thereof, and provide for more intense~~  
4376 ~~monitoring, intervention, and support strategies for these~~  
4377 ~~schools.~~

4378 (4) (a) The state board shall apply intensive ~~the most~~  
4379 ~~intense~~ intervention and support strategies tailored to the  
4380 needs of ~~to~~ schools earning two consecutive grades of "D" or a  
4381 grade of "F." In the first full school year after a school  
4382 initially earns two consecutive grades of "D" or a grade of "F,"  
4383 the school district must immediately implement intervention and  
4384 support strategies prescribed in rule under paragraph (3) (c)  
4385 and, by September 1, provide, ~~select a turnaround option from~~  
4386 ~~those provided in subparagraphs (b)1.-5., and submit a plan for~~

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4387 ~~implementing the turnaround option to the department with the~~  
4388 ~~memorandum of understanding negotiated pursuant to s.~~  
4389 ~~1001.42(21) and, by October 1, a district-managed turnaround~~  
4390 ~~plan for approval by the state board. Upon approval by the state~~  
4391 ~~board, the school district must implement the plan for the~~  
4392 ~~remainder of the school year and continue the plan for 1 full~~  
4393 ~~school year. The state board may allow a school an additional~~  
4394 ~~year of implementation before the school must implement a~~  
4395 ~~turnaround option required under paragraph (b) if it determines~~  
4396 ~~that the school is likely to improve to a grade of "C" or higher~~  
4397 ~~after the first full school year of implementation for approval~~  
4398 ~~by the state board. Upon approval by the state board, the~~  
4399 ~~turnaround option must be implemented in the following school~~  
4400 ~~year.~~

4401 (b) Unless an additional year of implementation is  
4402 provided pursuant to paragraph (a), ~~The turnaround options~~  
4403 ~~available to a school district to address a school that earns~~  
4404 ~~three consecutive grades below a "C" must implement one of the~~  
4405 ~~following a grade of "F" are:~~

4406 ~~1. Convert the school to a district-managed turnaround~~  
4407 ~~school;~~

4408 ~~1.2.~~ Reassign students to another school and monitor the  
4409 progress of each reassigned student;

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4410 ~~2.3.~~ Close the school and reopen the school as one or more  
4411 charter schools, each with a governing board that has a  
4412 demonstrated record of effectiveness; or

4413 ~~3.4.~~ Contract with an outside entity that has a  
4414 demonstrated record of effectiveness to operate the school. An  
4415 outside entity may include a district-managed charter school in  
4416 which all instructional personnel are not employees of the  
4417 school district, but are employees of an independent governing  
4418 board composed of members who did not participate in the review  
4419 or approval of the charter; ~~or~~

4420 ~~5.~~ ~~Implement a hybrid of turnaround options set forth in~~  
4421 ~~subparagraphs 1.-4. or other turnaround models that have a~~  
4422 ~~demonstrated record of effectiveness.~~

4423 (c) ~~A school earning a grade of "F" shall have a planning~~  
4424 ~~year followed by 2 full school years to implement the initial~~  
4425 ~~turnaround option selected by the school district and approved~~  
4426 ~~by the state board. Implementation of the turnaround option is~~  
4427 ~~no longer required if the school improves to a grade of "C" or~~  
4428 ~~higher by at least one letter grade.~~

4429 (d) ~~A school earning a grade of "F" that improves its~~  
4430 ~~letter grade must continue to implement strategies identified in~~  
4431 ~~its school improvement plan pursuant to s. 1001.42(18)(a). The~~  
4432 ~~department must annually review implementation of the school~~  
4433 ~~improvement plan for 3 years to monitor the school's continued~~  
4434 ~~improvement.~~

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4435 ~~(d)-(e)~~ If a school earning two consecutive grades of "D"  
4436 or a grade of "F" does not improve to a grade of "C" or higher  
4437 ~~by at least one letter grade~~ after 2 full school years of  
4438 implementing the turnaround option selected by the school  
4439 district under paragraph (b), the school district must implement  
4440 ~~select a different option and submit~~ another turnaround option  
4441 ~~implementation plan to the department for approval by the state~~  
4442 ~~board.~~ Implementation of the turnaround option approved plan  
4443 must begin the school year following the implementation period  
4444 of the existing turnaround option, unless the state board  
4445 determines that the school is likely to improve to a grade of  
4446 "C" or higher ~~a letter grade~~ if additional time is provided to  
4447 implement the existing turnaround option.

4448 ~~(5) A school that earns a grade of "D" for 3 consecutive~~  
4449 ~~years must implement the district-managed turnaround option~~  
4450 ~~pursuant to subparagraph (4)(b)1. The school district must~~  
4451 ~~submit an implementation plan to the department for approval by~~  
4452 ~~the state board.~~

4453 Section 42. Subsection (5) and paragraph (d) of subsection  
4454 (6) of section 1008.345, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
4455 1008.345 Implementation of state system of school  
4456 improvement and education accountability.—

4457 (5) The commissioner shall annually report to the State  
4458 Board of Education and the Legislature and recommend changes in

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4459 state policy necessary to foster school improvement and  
4460 education accountability. The report shall include:

4461 (a) For each school district:

4462 1. The percentage of students, by school and grade level,  
4463 demonstrating learning growth in English Language Arts and  
4464 mathematics.

4465 2. The percentage of students, by school and grade level,  
4466 in both the highest and lowest quartiles demonstrating learning  
4467 growth in English Language Arts and mathematics.

4468 3. The information contained in the school district's  
4469 annual report required pursuant to s. 1008.25(8).

4470 (b) Intervention and support strategies used by school  
4471 districts ~~boards~~ whose students in both the highest and lowest  
4472 quartiles exceed the statewide average learning growth for  
4473 students in those quartiles.

4474 (c) Intervention and support strategies used by school  
4475 districts ~~boards~~ whose schools provide educational services to  
4476 youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs that  
4477 demonstrate learning growth in English Language Arts and  
4478 mathematics that exceeds the statewide average learning growth  
4479 for students in those subjects.

4480 (d) Based upon a review of each school district's reading  
4481 plan submitted pursuant to s. 1011.62(9), intervention and  
4482 support strategies used by school districts that were effective  
4483 in improving the reading performance of students, as indicated

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4484 by student performance data, who are identified as having a  
4485 substantial reading deficiency pursuant to s. 1008.25(5)(a).

4486

4487 School reports shall be distributed pursuant to this subsection  
4488 and s. 1001.42(18)(c) and according to rules adopted by the  
4489 State Board of Education.

4490 (6)

4491 (d) The commissioner shall assign a community assessment  
4492 team to each school district or governing board with a school  
4493 that earned a grade of "D" or "F" ~~or three consecutive grades of~~  
4494 "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34 to review the school performance data  
4495 and determine causes for the low performance, including the role  
4496 of school, area, and district administrative personnel. The  
4497 community assessment team shall review a high school's  
4498 graduation rate calculated without high school equivalency  
4499 diploma recipients for the past 3 years, disaggregated by  
4500 student ethnicity. The team shall make recommendations to the  
4501 school board or the governing board and to the State Board of  
4502 Education based on the interventions and support strategies  
4503 identified pursuant to subsection (5) to ~~which~~ address the  
4504 causes of the school's low performance and to incorporate the  
4505 strategies ~~and may be incorporated~~ into the school improvement  
4506 plan. The assessment team shall include, but not be limited to,  
4507 a department representative, parents, business representatives,  
4508 educators, representatives of local governments, and community

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4509 activists, and shall represent the demographics of the community  
4510 from which they are appointed.

4511 Section 43. Effective upon this act becoming a law,  
4512 section 1002.333, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

4513 1002.333 Persistently low-performing schools.-

4514 (1) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term:

4515 (a) "Hope operator" means an entity identified by the  
4516 department pursuant to subsection (2).

4517 (b) "Persistently low-performing school" means a school  
4518 that has earned three consecutive grades lower than a "C,"  
4519 pursuant to s. 1008.34, and a school that was closed pursuant to  
4520 s. 1008.33(4) within 2 years after the submission of a notice of  
4521 intent.

4522 (c) "School of hope" means:

4523 1. A charter school operated by a hope operator which  
4524 serves students from one or more persistently low-performing  
4525 schools; is located in the attendance zone of a persistently  
4526 low-performing school or within a 5-mile radius of such school,  
4527 whichever is greater; and is a Title I eligible school; or

4528 2. A school operated by a hope operator pursuant to s.  
4529 1008.33(4)(b)3.

4530 (2) HOPE OPERATOR.-A hope operator is a nonprofit  
4531 organization with tax exempt status under s. 501(c)(3) of the  
4532 Internal Revenue Code that operates three or more charter  
4533 schools that serve students in grades K-12 in Florida or other

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4534 states with a record of serving students from low-income  
4535 families and is designated by the State Board of Education as a  
4536 hope operator based on a determination that:

4537 (a) The past performance of the hope operator meets or  
4538 exceeds the following criteria:

4539 1. The achievement of enrolled students exceeds the  
4540 district and state averages of the states in which the  
4541 operator's schools operate;

4542 2. The average college attendance rate at all schools  
4543 currently operated by the operator exceeds 80 percent, if such  
4544 data is available;

4545 3. The percentage of students eligible for a free or  
4546 reduced price lunch under the National School Lunch Act enrolled  
4547 at all schools currently operated by the operator exceeds 70  
4548 percent;

4549 4. The operator is in good standing with the authorizer in  
4550 each state in which it operates;

4551 5. The audited financial statements of the operator are  
4552 free of material misstatements and going concern issues; and

4553 6. Other outcome measures as determined by the State Board  
4554 of Education;

4555 (b) The operator was awarded a United States Department of  
4556 Education Charter School Program grant for Replication and  
4557 Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools within the preceding 3  
4558 years before applying to be a hope operator;

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4559 (c) The operator receives funding through the National  
4560 Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund to accelerate the growth  
4561 of the nation's best charter schools; or

4562 (d) The operator is selected by a district school board in  
4563 accordance with s. 1008.33.

4564  
4565 An entity that meets the requirements of paragraph (b),  
4566 paragraph (c), or paragraph (d) before the adoption by the state  
4567 board of measurable criteria pursuant to paragraph (a) shall be  
4568 designated as a hope operator. After the adoption of the  
4569 measurable criteria, an entity, including a governing board that  
4570 operates a school established pursuant to s. 1008.33(4)(b)3.,  
4571 shall be designated as a hope operator if it meets the criteria  
4572 of paragraph (a).

4573 (3) DESIGNATION OF HOPE OPERATOR.—Initial status as a hope  
4574 operator is valid for 5 years from the opening of a school of  
4575 hope. If a hope operator seeks the renewal of its status, such  
4576 renewal shall solely be based upon the academic and financial  
4577 performance of all schools established by the operator in the  
4578 state since its initial designation.

4579 (4) ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOLS OF HOPE.—A hope operator  
4580 seeking to open a school of hope must submit a notice of intent  
4581 to the school district in which a persistently low-performing  
4582 school has been identified by the State Board of Education  
4583 pursuant to subsection (10).

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4584 (a) The notice of intent must include:

4585 1. An academic focus and plan.

4586 2. A financial plan.

4587 3. Goals and objectives for increasing student achievement  
4588 for the students from low-income families.

4589 4. A completed or planned community outreach plan.

4590 5. The organizational history of success in working with  
4591 students with similar demographics.

4592 6. The grade levels to be served and enrollment  
4593 projections.

4594 7. The proposed location or geographic area proposed for  
4595 the school and its proximity to the persistently low-performing  
4596 school.

4597 8. A staffing plan.

4598 (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of s. 1002.33, a  
4599 school district shall enter into a performance-based agreement  
4600 with a hope operator to open schools to serve students from  
4601 persistently low-performing schools.

4602 (5) PERFORMANCE-BASED AGREEMENT.—The following shall  
4603 comprise the entirety of the performance-based agreement:

4604 (a) The notice of intent, which is incorporated by  
4605 reference and attached to the agreement.

4606 (b) The location or geographic area proposed for the  
4607 school of hope and its proximity to the persistently low-  
4608 performing school.

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4609 (c) An enumeration of the grades to be served in each year  
4610 of the agreement and whether the school will serve children in  
4611 the school readiness or prekindergarten programs.

4612 (d) A plan of action and specific milestones for student  
4613 recruitment and the enrollment of students from persistently  
4614 low-performing schools, including enrollment preferences and  
4615 procedures for conducting transparent admissions lotteries that  
4616 are open to the public. Students from persistently low-  
4617 performing schools shall be exempt from any enrollment lottery  
4618 to the extent permitted by federal grant requirements.

4619 (e) A delineation of the current incoming baseline  
4620 standard of student academic achievement, the outcomes to be  
4621 achieved, and the method of measurement that will be used.

4622 (f) A description of the methods of involving parents and  
4623 expected levels for such involvement.

4624 (g) The grounds for termination, including failure to meet  
4625 the requirements for student performance established pursuant to  
4626 paragraph (e), generally accepted standards of fiscal  
4627 management, or material violation of terms of the agreement. The  
4628 nonrenewal or termination of a performance-based agreement must  
4629 comply with the requirements of s. 1002.33(8).

4630 (h) A provision allowing the hope operator to open  
4631 additional schools to serve students enrolled in or zoned for a  
4632 persistently low-performing school if the hope operator  
4633 maintains its status under subsection (3).

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4634 (i) A provision establishing the initial term as 5 years.  
4635 The agreement shall be renewed, upon the request of the hope  
4636 operator, unless the school fails to meet the requirements for  
4637 student performance established pursuant to paragraph (e) or  
4638 generally accepted standards of fiscal management or the school  
4639 of hope materially violates the law or the terms of the  
4640 agreement.

4641 (j) A requirement to provide transportation consistent  
4642 with the requirements of ss. 1006.21-1006.27 and s. 1012.45. The  
4643 governing body of the school of hope may provide transportation  
4644 through an agreement or contract with the district school board,  
4645 a private provider, or parents of enrolled students.  
4646 Transportation may not be a barrier to equal access for all  
4647 students residing within reasonable distance of the school.

4648 (k) A requirement that any arrangement entered into to  
4649 borrow or otherwise secure funds for the school of hope from a  
4650 source other than the state or a school district shall indemnify  
4651 the state and the school district from any and all liability,  
4652 including, but not limited to, financial responsibility for the  
4653 payment of the principal or interest.

4654 (l) A provision that any loans, bonds, or other financial  
4655 agreements are not obligations of the state or the school  
4656 district but are obligations of the school of hope and are  
4657 payable solely from the sources of funds pledged by such  
4658 agreement.

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4659 (m) A prohibition on the pledge of credit or taxing power  
4660 of the state or the school district.

4661 (6) STATUTORY AUTHORITY.—

4662 (a) A school of hope may be designated as a local  
4663 education agency, if requested, for the purposes of receiving  
4664 federal funds and, in doing so, accepts the full responsibility  
4665 for all local education agency requirements and the schools for  
4666 which it will perform local education agency responsibilities.  
4667 Students enrolled in a school established by a hope operator  
4668 designated as a local educational agency are not eligible  
4669 students for purposes of calculating the district grade pursuant  
4670 to s. 1008.34(5).

4671 (b) For the purposes of tort liability, the hope operator,  
4672 the school of hope, and its employees or agents shall be  
4673 governed by s. 768.28. The sponsor shall not be liable for civil  
4674 damages under state law for the employment actions or personal  
4675 injury, property damage, or death resulting from an act or  
4676 omission of a hope operator, the school of hope, or its  
4677 employees or agents. This paragraph does not include any for-  
4678 profit entity contracted by the charter school or its governing  
4679 body.

4680 (c) A school of hope may be either a private or a public  
4681 employer. As a public employer, the school of hope may  
4682 participate in the Florida Retirement System upon application  
4683 and approval as a covered group under s. 121.021(34). If a

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4684 school of hope participates in the Florida Retirement System,  
4685 the school of hope's employees shall be compulsory members of  
4686 the Florida Retirement System.

4687 (d) A hope operator may employ school administrators and  
4688 instructional personnel who do not meet the requirements of s.  
4689 1012.56 if the school administrators and instructional personnel  
4690 are not ineligible for such employment under s. 1012.315.

4691 (e) Compliance with s. 1003.03 shall be calculated as the  
4692 average at the school level.

4693 (f) Schools of hope operated by a hope operator shall be  
4694 exempt from chapters 1000-1013 and all school board policies.  
4695 However, a hope operator shall be in compliance with the laws in  
4696 chapters 1000-1013 relating to:

4697 1. The student assessment program and school grading  
4698 system.

4699 2. Student progression and graduation.

4700 3. The provision of services to students with  
4701 disabilities.

4702 4. Civil rights, including s. 1000.05, relating to  
4703 discrimination.

4704 5. Student health, safety, and welfare.

4705 6. Public meetings and records, public inspection, and  
4706 criminal and civil penalties pursuant to s. 286.011. The  
4707 governing board of a school of hope must hold at least two  
4708 public meetings per school year in the school district in which

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4709 the school of hope is located. Any other meetings of the  
4710 governing board may be held in accordance with s. 120.54(5)(b)2.

4711 7. Public records pursuant to chapter 119.

4712 8. The code of ethics for public officers and employees  
4713 pursuant to ss. 112.313(2), (3), (7), and (12) and 112.3143(3).

4714 (g) Each school of hope shall report its students to the  
4715 school district as required in s. 1011.62, and in accordance  
4716 with the definitions in s. 1011.61. The school district shall  
4717 include each charter school's enrollment in the district's  
4718 report of student enrollment. All charter schools submitting  
4719 student record information required by the department shall  
4720 comply with the department's guidelines for electronic data  
4721 formats for such data, and all districts shall accept electronic  
4722 data that complies with the department's electronic format.

4723 (h) A school of hope shall provide the school district  
4724 with a concise, uniform, quarterly financial statement summary  
4725 sheet that contains a balance sheet and a statement of revenue,  
4726 expenditures, and changes in fund balance. The balance sheet and  
4727 the statement of revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund  
4728 balance shall be in the governmental fund format prescribed by  
4729 the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Additionally, a  
4730 school of hope shall comply with the annual audit requirement  
4731 for charter schools in s. 218.39.

4732 (7) FACILITIES.-

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4733        (a) A school of hope shall use facilities that comply with  
4734 the Florida Building Code, except for the State Requirements for  
4735 Educational Facilities. A school of hope that uses school  
4736 district facilities must comply with the State Requirements for  
4737 Educational Facilities only if the school district and the hope  
4738 operator have entered into a mutual management plan for the  
4739 reasonable maintenance of such facilities. The mutual management  
4740 plan shall contain a provision by which the district school  
4741 board agrees to maintain the school facilities in the same  
4742 manner as its other public schools within the district. The  
4743 local governing authority shall not adopt or impose any local  
4744 building requirements or site-development restrictions, such as  
4745 parking and site-size criteria, student enrollment, and occupant  
4746 load, that are addressed by and more stringent than those found  
4747 in the State Requirements for Educational Facilities of the  
4748 Florida Building Code. A local governing authority must treat  
4749 schools of hope equitably in comparison to similar requirements,  
4750 restrictions, and site planning processes imposed upon public  
4751 schools. The agency having jurisdiction for inspection of a  
4752 facility and issuance of a certificate of occupancy or use shall  
4753 be the local municipality or, if in an unincorporated area, the  
4754 county governing authority. If an official or employee of the  
4755 local governing authority refuses to comply with this paragraph,  
4756 the aggrieved school or entity has an immediate right to bring  
4757 an action in circuit court to enforce its rights by injunction.

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4758 An aggrieved party that receives injunctive relief may be  
4759 awarded reasonable attorney fees and court costs.

4760 (b) Any facility, or portion thereof, used to house a  
4761 school of hope shall be exempt from ad valorem taxes pursuant to  
4762 s. 196.1983. Library, community service, museum, performing  
4763 arts, theatre, cinema, church, Florida College System  
4764 institution, college, and university facilities may provide  
4765 space to schools of hope within their facilities under their  
4766 preexisting zoning and land use designations without obtaining a  
4767 special exception, rezoning, or a land use change.

4768 (c) School of hope facilities are exempt from assessments  
4769 of fees for building permits, except as provided in s. 553.80;  
4770 fees for building and occupational licenses; impact fees or  
4771 exactions; service availability fees; and assessments for  
4772 special benefits.

4773 (d) No later than October 1, each school district shall  
4774 annually provide to the Department of Education a list of all  
4775 underused, vacant, or surplus facilities owned or operated by  
4776 the school district. A hope operator establishing a school of  
4777 hope may use an educational facility identified in this  
4778 paragraph at no cost or at a mutually agreeable cost not to  
4779 exceed \$600 per student. A hope operator using a facility  
4780 pursuant to this paragraph may not sell or dispose of such  
4781 facility without the written permission of the school district.  
4782 For purposes of this paragraph, the term "underused, vacant, or

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4783 surplus facility" means an entire facility or portion thereof  
4784 which is not fully used or is used irregularly or intermittently  
4785 by the school district for instructional or program use.

4786 (8) NONCOMPLIANCE.—A school district that does not enter  
4787 into a performance-based agreement within 60 days after receipt  
4788 of a notice of intent shall reduce the administrative fees  
4789 withheld pursuant to s. 1002.33(20) to 1 percent for all charter  
4790 schools operating in the school district. Upon execution of the  
4791 performance-based agreement, the school district may resume  
4792 withholding the full amount of administrative fees, but may not  
4793 recover any fees that would have otherwise accrued during the  
4794 period of noncompliance. Any charter school that had  
4795 administrative fees withheld in violation of this subsection may  
4796 recover attorney fees and costs to enforce the requirements of  
4797 this subsection. A school district subject to the requirements  
4798 of this section shall file a monthly report detailing the  
4799 reduction in the amount of administrative fees withheld.

4800 (9) FUNDING.—

4801 (a) Schools of hope shall be funded in accordance with s.  
4802 1002.33(17).

4803 (b) Schools of hope shall receive priority in the  
4804 department's Public Charter School Grant Program competitions.

4805 (c) Schools of hope shall be considered charter schools  
4806 for purposes of s. 1013.62, except charter capital outlay may

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4807 not be used to purchase real property or for the construction of  
4808 school facilities.

4809 (d) Schools of hope are eligible to receive funds from the  
4810 Schools of Hope Program.

4811 (10) SCHOOLS OF HOPE PROGRAM.—The Schools of Hope Program  
4812 is created within the Department of Education.

4813 (a) A school of hope is eligible to receive funds from the  
4814 Schools of Hope Program for the following expenditures:

4815 1. Preparing teachers, school leaders, and specialized  
4816 instructional support personnel, including costs associated  
4817 with:

4818 a. Providing professional development.

4819 b. Hiring and compensating teachers, school leaders, and  
4820 specialized instructional support personnel for services beyond  
4821 the school day and year.

4822 2. Acquiring supplies, training, equipment, and  
4823 educational materials, including developing and acquiring  
4824 instructional materials.

4825 3. Providing one-time startup costs associated with  
4826 providing transportation to students to and from the charter  
4827 school.

4828 4. Carrying out community engagement activities, which may  
4829 include paying the cost of student and staff recruitment.

4830 5. Providing funds to cover the nonvoted ad valorem  
4831 millage that would otherwise be required for schools and the

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4832 required local effort funds calculated pursuant to s. 1011.62  
4833 when the state board enters into an agreement with a hope  
4834 operator pursuant to subsection (5).

4835 (b) A traditional public school that is required to submit  
4836 a plan for implementation pursuant to s. 1008.33(4) is eligible  
4837 to receive up to \$2,000 per full-time equivalent student from  
4838 the Schools of Hope Program based upon the strength of the  
4839 school's plan for implementation and its focus on evidence-based  
4840 interventions that lead to student success by providing wrap-  
4841 around services that leverage community assets, improve school  
4842 and community collaboration, and develop family and community  
4843 partnerships. Wrap-around services include, but are not limited  
4844 to, tutorial and after-school programs, student counseling,  
4845 nutrition education, parental counseling, and adult education.  
4846 Plans for implementation may also include models that develop a  
4847 culture of attending college, high academic expectations,  
4848 character development, dress codes, and an extended school day  
4849 and school year. At a minimum, a plan for implementation must:

4850 1. Establish wrap-around services that develop family and  
4851 community partnerships.

4852 2. Establish clearly defined and measurable high academic  
4853 and character standards.

4854 3. Increase parental involvement and engagement in the  
4855 child's education.

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4856 4. Describe how the school district will identify,  
4857 recruit, retain, and reward instructional personnel. The state  
4858 board may waive the requirements of s. 1012.22(1)(c)5., and  
4859 suspend the requirements of s. 1012.34, to facilitate  
4860 implementation of the plan.

4861 5. Identify a knowledge-rich curriculum that the school  
4862 will use that focuses on developing a student's background  
4863 knowledge.

4864 6. Provide professional development that focuses on  
4865 academic rigor, direct instruction, and creating high academic  
4866 and character standards.

4867 (c) The state board shall:

4868 1. Provide awards for up to 25 schools and prioritize  
4869 awards for plans submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) that are  
4870 based on whole school transformation and that are developed in  
4871 consultation with the school's principal.

4872 2. Annually report on the implementation of this  
4873 subsection in the report required by s. 1008.345(5), and provide  
4874 summarized academic performance reports of each traditional  
4875 public school receiving funds.

4876 (11) STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AUTHORITY AND OBLIGATIONS.-  
4877 Pursuant to Art. IX of the State Constitution, which prescribes  
4878 the duty of the State Board of Education to supervise the public  
4879 school system, the State Board of Education shall:

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4880 (a) Publish an annual list of persistently low-performing  
4881 schools after the release of preliminary school grades.

4882 (b) Adopt a standard notice of intent and performance-  
4883 based agreement that must be used by hope operators and district  
4884 school boards to eliminate regulatory and bureaucratic barriers  
4885 that delay access to high quality schools for students in  
4886 persistently low-performing schools.

4887 (c) Resolve disputes between a hope operator and a school  
4888 district arising from a performance-based agreement or a  
4889 contract between a charter operator and a school district under  
4890 the requirements of s. 1008.33. The Commissioner of Education  
4891 shall appoint a special magistrate who is a member of The  
4892 Florida Bar in good standing and who has at least 5 years'  
4893 experience in administrative law. The special magistrate shall  
4894 hold hearings to determine facts relating to the dispute and to  
4895 render a recommended decision for resolution to the State Board  
4896 of Education. The recommendation may not alter in any way the  
4897 provisions of the performance-based agreement under subsection  
4898 (5). The special magistrate may administer oaths and issue  
4899 subpoenas on behalf of the parties to the dispute or on his or  
4900 her own behalf. Within 15 calendar days after the close of the  
4901 final hearing, the special magistrate shall transmit a  
4902 recommended decision to the State Board of Education and to the  
4903 representatives of both parties by registered mail, return  
4904 receipt requested. The State Board of Education must approve or

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4905 reject the recommended decision at its next regularly scheduled  
4906 meeting that is more than 7 calendar days and no more than 30  
4907 days after the date the recommended decision is transmitted. The  
4908 decision by the State Board of Education is a final agency  
4909 action that may be appealed to the District Court of Appeal,  
4910 First District in accordance with s. 120.68. A charter school  
4911 may recover attorney fees and costs if the State Board of  
4912 Education determines that the school district unlawfully  
4913 implemented or otherwise impeded implementation of the  
4914 performance-based agreement pursuant to this paragraph.

4915 (d) Provide students in persistently low-performing  
4916 schools with a public school that meets accountability  
4917 standards. The State Board of Education may enter into a  
4918 performance-based agreement with a hope operator when a school  
4919 district has not improved the school after 3 years of the  
4920 interventions and support provided under s. 1008.33 or has not  
4921 complied with the requirements of subsection (4). Upon the State  
4922 Board of Education entering into a performance-based agreement  
4923 with a hope operator, the school district shall transfer to the  
4924 school of hope the proportionate share of state funds allocated  
4925 from the Florida Education Finance Program.

4926 (12) RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules  
4927 pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this section.

4928 Section 44. Section 1001.292, Florida Statutes, is created  
4929 to read:

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1001.292 Schools of Hope Revolving Loan Program.—

(1) The Schools of Hope Revolving Loan Program is established within the Department of Education to provide assistance to hope operators, as defined in s. 1002.333, to meet school building construction needs and pay for expenses related to the startup of a new charter school. The program shall consist of funds appropriated by the Legislature, money received from the repayment of loans made from the program, and interest earned.

(2) Funds provided pursuant to this section may not exceed 25 percent of the total cost of the project, which shall be calculated based on 80 percent of the cost per student station established by s. 1013.64(6)(b) multiplied by the capacity of the facility.

(3) The department may contract with a third-party administrator to administer the program. If the department contracts with a third-party administrator, funds shall be granted to the third-party administrator to create a revolving loan fund for the purpose of financing projects that meet the requirements of subsection (4). The third-party administrator shall report to the department annually. The department shall continue to administer the program until a third-party administrator is selected.

(4) Hope operators that have been designated by the State Board of Education and have executed a performance-based

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4955 agreement pursuant to s. 1002.333 shall be provided a loan of up  
4956 to the amount provided in subsection (2) for projects that are  
4957 located in the attendance area of a persistently low-performing  
4958 school or within a 5-mile radius of such school and primarily  
4959 serve students from the persistently low-performing school. A  
4960 hope operator is not eligible for funding if it operates in  
4961 facilities provided by the school district for a nominal fee, or  
4962 at no charge, or if it is directly or indirectly operated by the  
4963 school district.

4964 (5) The department shall post on its website the projects  
4965 that have received loans, the geographic distribution of the  
4966 projects, the status of the projects, the costs of the program,  
4967 and student outcomes for students enrolled in the school of hope  
4968 receiving funds.

4969 (6) All repayments of principal and interest shall be  
4970 returned to the loan fund and made available for loans to other  
4971 applicants.

4972 (7) Interest on loans provided under this program may be  
4973 used to defray the costs of administration and shall be the  
4974 lower of:

4975 (a) The rate paid on moneys held in the fund; or

4976 (b) A rate equal to 50 percent of the rate authorized  
4977 under the provisions of s. 215.84.

4978 (8) Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351,  
4979 funds allocated for this purpose which are not disbursed by June

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4980 30 of the fiscal year in which the funds are allocated may be  
4981 carried forward for up to 5 years after the effective date of  
4982 the original appropriation.

4983 Section 45. Subsection (5) is added to section 1011.69,  
4984 Florida Statutes, to read:

4985 1011.69 Equity in School-Level Funding Act.—

4986 (5) After providing Title I, Part A, Basic funds to  
4987 schools above the 75 percent poverty threshold, school districts  
4988 shall provide any remaining Title I, Part A, Basic funds  
4989 directly to all eligible schools as provided in this subsection.

4990 For purposes of this subsection, an eligible school is a school  
4991 that is eligible to receive Title I funds, including a charter  
4992 school. The threshold for identifying eligible schools may not  
4993 exceed the threshold established by a school district for the  
4994 2016-2017 school year or the statewide percentage of  
4995 economically disadvantaged students, as determined annually.

4996 (a) Prior to the allocation of Title I funds to eligible  
4997 schools, a school district may withhold funds only as follows:

4998 1. One percent for parent involvement, in addition to the  
4999 one percent the district must reserve under federal law for  
5000 allocations to eligible schools for parent involvement;

5001 2. A necessary and reasonable amount for administration,  
5002 which includes the district's indirect cost rate, not to exceed  
5003 a total of 8 percent; and

5004 3. A reasonable and necessary amount to provide:

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5005 a. Homeless programs;

5006 b. Delinquent and neglected programs;

5007 c. Prekindergarten programs and activities;

5008 d. Private school equitable services; and

5009 e. Transportation for foster care children to their school  
5010 of origin or choice programs.

5011 (b) All remaining Title I funds shall be distributed to  
5012 all eligible schools in accordance with federal law and  
5013 regulation. An eligible school may use funds under this  
5014 subsection to participate in discretionary educational services  
5015 provided by the school district.

5016 Section 46. Subsections (3), (4), (5), and (8) of section  
5017 1012.731, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

5018 1012.731 The Florida Best and Brightest Teacher  
5019 Scholarship Program.—

5020 (3) (a) To be eligible for a scholarship in the amount of  
5021 \$6,000, a classroom teacher must:

5022 1. Have achieved a composite score at or above the 80th  
5023 percentile on either the SAT or the ACT based on the National  
5024 Percentile Ranks in effect when the classroom teacher took the  
5025 assessment and have been evaluated as highly effective pursuant  
5026 to s. 1012.34 in the school year immediately preceding the year  
5027 in which the scholarship will be awarded, unless the classroom  
5028 teacher is newly hired by the district school board and has not  
5029 been evaluated pursuant to s. 1012.34.

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5030 2. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, have achieved  
5031 a composite score at or above the 77th percentile or, if the  
5032 classroom teacher graduated cum laude or higher with a  
5033 baccalaureate degree, the 71st percentile on either the SAT,  
5034 ACT, GRE, LSAT, GMAT, or MCAT based on the National Percentile  
5035 Ranks in effect when the classroom teacher took the assessment;  
5036 and have been evaluated as highly effective pursuant to s.  
5037 1012.34, or have been evaluated as highly effective based on a  
5038 commissioner-approved student learning growth formula pursuant  
5039 to s. 1012.34(8), in the school year immediately preceding the  
5040 year in which the scholarship will be awarded, unless the  
5041 classroom teacher is newly hired by the district school board  
5042 and has not been evaluated pursuant to s. 1012.34.

5043 (b) In order to demonstrate eligibility for an award, an  
5044 eligible classroom teacher must submit to the school district,  
5045 no later than November 1, an official record of his or her  
5046 qualifying assessment ~~SAT or ACT score~~ and, beginning with the  
5047 2020-2021 school year, an official transcript demonstrating that  
5048 he or she graduated cum laude or higher with a baccalaureate  
5049 degree, if applicable ~~the classroom teacher scored at or above~~  
5050 ~~the 80th percentile based on the National Percentile Ranks in~~  
5051 ~~effect when the teacher took the assessment.~~ Once a classroom  
5052 teacher is deemed eligible by the school district, ~~including~~  
5053 ~~teachers deemed eligible in the 2015-2016 fiscal year,~~ the  
5054 teacher shall remain eligible as long as he or she remains

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5055 employed by the school district as a classroom teacher at the  
5056 time of the award and receives an annual performance evaluation  
5057 rating of highly effective pursuant to s. 1012.34 or is  
5058 evaluated as highly effective based on a commissioner-approved  
5059 student learning growth formula pursuant to s. 1012.34(8) for  
5060 the 2019-2020 school year or thereafter.

5061 (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of this subsection,  
5062 for the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 school years, any  
5063 classroom teacher who:

5064 1. Was evaluated as highly effective pursuant to s.  
5065 1012.34 in the school year immediately preceding the year in  
5066 which the scholarship will be awarded shall receive a  
5067 scholarship of \$1200, including a classroom teacher who received  
5068 an award pursuant to paragraph (a).

5069 2. Was evaluated as effective pursuant to s. 1012.34 in  
5070 the school year immediately preceding the year in which the  
5071 scholarship will be awarded a scholarship of up to \$800. If the  
5072 number of eligible classroom teachers under this subparagraph  
5073 exceeds the total allocation, the department shall prorate the  
5074 per-teacher scholarship amount.

5075  
5076 This paragraph expires July 1, 2020.

5077 (4) Annually, by December 1, each school district shall  
5078 submit to the department:

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5079        (a) The number of eligible classroom teachers who qualify  
5080 for the scholarship.

5081        (b) The name and master school identification number  
5082 (MSID) of each school in the district to which an eligible  
5083 classroom teacher is assigned.

5084        (c) The name of the school principal of each eligible  
5085 classroom teacher's school if he or she has served as the  
5086 school's principal for at least 2 consecutive school years  
5087 including the current school year.

5088        (5) Annually, by February 1, the department shall disburse  
5089 scholarship funds to each school district for each eligible  
5090 classroom teacher to receive a scholarship in accordance with  
5091 this section as provided in the General Appropriations Act. A  
5092 scholarship in the amount provided in the General Appropriations  
5093 Act shall be awarded to every eligible classroom teacher. If the  
5094 number of eligible classroom teachers exceeds the total  
5095 appropriation authorized in the General Appropriations Act, the  
5096 department shall prorate the per-teacher scholarship amount.

5097        ~~(8) This section expires July 1, 2017.~~

5098        Section 47. Section 1012.732, Florida Statutes, is created  
5099 to read:

5100        1012.732 The Florida Best and Brightest Principal  
5101 Scholarship Program.—

5102        (1) The Legislature recognizes that the most effective  
5103 school principals establish a safe and supportive school

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5104 environment for students and faculty. Research shows that these  
5105 principals increase student learning by providing opportunities  
5106 for the professional growth, collaboration, and autonomy that  
5107 classroom teachers need to become and remain highly effective  
5108 educational professionals. As a result, these principals are  
5109 able to recruit and retain more of the best classroom teachers  
5110 and improve student outcomes at their schools, including schools  
5111 servicing low-income and high-need student populations. Therefore,  
5112 it is the intent of the Legislature to designate school  
5113 principals whose school faculty has a high percentage of  
5114 classroom teachers who are designated as Florida's best and  
5115 brightest teacher scholars pursuant to s. 1012.731 as Florida's  
5116 best and brightest principals.

5117 (2) There is created the Florida Best and Brightest  
5118 Principal Scholarship Program to be administered by the  
5119 Department of Education. The program shall provide categorical  
5120 funding for scholarships to be awarded to school principals, as  
5121 defined in s. 1012.01(3)(c)1., who have recruited and retained a  
5122 high percentage of best and brightest teachers.

5123 (3) A school principal identified pursuant to s.  
5124 1012.731(4)(c) is eligible to receive a scholarship under this  
5125 section if he or she has served as school principal at his or  
5126 her school for at least 2 consecutive school years including the  
5127 current school year and his or her school has a ratio of best  
5128 and brightest teachers to other classroom teachers that is at

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5129 the 80th percentile or higher for schools within the same grade  
5130 group, statewide, including elementary schools, middle schools,  
5131 high schools, and schools with a combination of grade levels.

5132 (4) Annually, by February 1, the department shall identify  
5133 eligible school principals and disburse funds to each school  
5134 district for each eligible school principal to receive a  
5135 scholarship. A scholarship of \$5,000 must be awarded to every  
5136 eligible school principal assigned to a Title I school and a  
5137 scholarship of \$4,000 to every eligible school principal who is  
5138 not assigned to a Title I school.

5139 (5) Annually, by April 1, each school district must award  
5140 a scholarship to each eligible school principal.

5141 (6) A school district must provide a best and brightest  
5142 principal with the additional authority and responsibilities  
5143 provided in s. 1012.28(8) for a minimum of 2 years.

5144 (7) For purposes of this section, the term "school  
5145 district" includes the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind  
5146 and charter school governing boards.

5147 Section 48. Paragraphs (i) and (j) of subsection (2) of  
5148 section 1002.385, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
5149 paragraphs (j) and (k), respectively, paragraph (d) of  
5150 subsection (2), subsection (5), paragraph (b) of subsection (6),  
5151 subsection (8), paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (11),  
5152 paragraph (j) of subsection (12), and paragraph (a) of

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5153 subsection (13) are amended, and a new paragraph (i) is added to  
5154 subsection (2) of that section, to read:

5155 1002.385 The Gardiner Scholarship.—

5156 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

5157 (d) "Disability" means, for a 3- or 4-year-old child or  
5158 for a student in kindergarten to grade 12, autism spectrum  
5159 disorder, as defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of  
5160 Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, published by the American  
5161 Psychiatric Association; cerebral palsy, as defined in s.  
5162 393.063(6); Down syndrome, as defined in s. 393.063(15); an  
5163 intellectual disability, as defined in s. 393.063(24); Phelan-  
5164 McDermid syndrome, as defined in s. 393.063(28); Prader-Willi  
5165 syndrome, as defined in s. 393.063(29); spina bifida, as defined  
5166 in s. 393.063(40); being a high-risk child, as defined in s.  
5167 393.063(23) (a); muscular dystrophy; and Williams syndrome or  
5168 identification as dual sensory impaired, as defined by rules of  
5169 the State Board of Education and evidenced by reports from the  
5170 local school district.

5171 (i) "Inactive" means that no eligible expenditures have  
5172 been made from an account funded pursuant to paragraph (13) (d).

5173 (5) AUTHORIZED USES OF PROGRAM FUNDS.—Program funds must  
5174 be used to meet the individual educational needs of an eligible  
5175 student and may be spent for the following purposes:

5176 (a) Instructional materials, including digital devices,  
5177 digital periphery devices, and assistive technology devices that

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5178 allow a student to access instruction or instructional content  
5179 and training on the use of and maintenance agreements for these  
5180 devices.

5181 (b) Curriculum as defined in paragraph (2) (b).

5182 (c) Specialized services by approved providers or by a  
5183 hospital in this state that are selected by the parent. These  
5184 specialized services may include, but are not limited to:

5185 1. Applied behavior analysis services as provided in ss.  
5186 627.6686 and 641.31098.

5187 2. Services provided by speech-language pathologists as  
5188 defined in s. 468.1125.

5189 3. Occupational therapy services as defined in s. 468.203.

5190 4. Services provided by physical therapists as defined in  
5191 s. 486.021.

5192 5. Services provided by listening and spoken language  
5193 specialists and an appropriate acoustical environment for a  
5194 child who is deaf or hard of hearing and who has received an  
5195 implant or assistive hearing device.

5196 (d) Enrollment in, or tuition or fees associated with  
5197 enrollment in, a home education program, an eligible private  
5198 school, an eligible postsecondary educational institution or a  
5199 program offered by the institution, a private tutoring program  
5200 authorized under s. 1002.43, a virtual program offered by a  
5201 department-approved private online provider that meets the  
5202 provider qualifications specified in s. 1002.45(2) (a), the

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5203 Florida Virtual School as a private paying student, or an  
5204 approved online course offered pursuant to s. 1003.499 or s.  
5205 1004.0961.

5206 (e) Fees for nationally standardized, norm-referenced  
5207 achievement tests, Advanced Placement Examinations, industry  
5208 certification examinations, assessments related to postsecondary  
5209 education, or other assessments.

5210 (f) Contributions to the Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid  
5211 College Program pursuant to s. 1009.98 or the Florida College  
5212 Savings Program pursuant to s. 1009.981, for the benefit of the  
5213 eligible student.

5214 (g) Contracted services provided by a public school or  
5215 school district, including classes. A student who receives  
5216 services under a contract under this paragraph is not considered  
5217 enrolled in a public school for eligibility purposes as  
5218 specified in subsection (4).

5219 (h) Tuition and fees for part-time tutoring services  
5220 provided by a person who holds a valid Florida educator's  
5221 certificate pursuant to s. 1012.56; a person who holds an  
5222 adjunct teaching certificate pursuant to s. 1012.57; or a person  
5223 who has demonstrated a mastery of subject area knowledge  
5224 pursuant to s. 1012.56(5). As used in this paragraph, the term  
5225 "part-time tutoring services" does not qualify as regular school  
5226 attendance as defined in s. 1003.01(13)(e).

5227 (i) Fees for specialized summer education programs.

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5228 (j) Fees for specialized after-school education programs.

5229 (k) Transition services provided by job coaches.

5230 (l) Fees for an annual evaluation of educational progress  
5231 by a state-certified teacher under s. 1002.41(1)(c), if this  
5232 option is chosen for a home education student.

5233 (m) Tuition and fees associated with programs offered by  
5234 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program providers approved  
5235 pursuant to s. 1002.55 and school readiness providers approved  
5236 pursuant to s. 1002.88.

5237 (n) Fees for services provided at a center that is a  
5238 member of the Professional Association of Therapeutic  
5239 Horsemanship International.

5240 (o) Fees for services provided by a therapist who is  
5241 certified by the Certification Board for Music Therapists or  
5242 credentialed by the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.

5243  
5244 A provider of any services receiving payments pursuant to this  
5245 subsection may not share, refund, or rebate any moneys from the  
5246 Gardiner Scholarship with the parent or participating student in  
5247 any manner. A parent, student, or provider of any services may  
5248 not bill an insurance company, Medicaid, or any other agency for  
5249 the same services that are paid for using Gardiner Scholarship  
5250 funds.

5251 (6) TERM OF THE PROGRAM.—For purposes of continuity of  
5252 educational choice and program integrity:

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5253 (b)1. A student's scholarship account must be closed and  
5254 any remaining funds, including, but not limited to,  
5255 contributions made to the Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid  
5256 College Program or earnings from or contributions made to the  
5257 Florida College Savings Program using program funds pursuant to  
5258 paragraph (5)(f), shall revert to the state after ~~upon~~:

5259 a. Denial or revocation of program eligibility by the  
5260 commissioner for fraud or abuse, including, but not limited to,  
5261 the student or student's parent accepting any payment, refund,  
5262 or rebate, in any manner, from a provider of any services  
5263 received pursuant to subsection (5); ~~or~~

5264 b. ~~After~~ Any period of 3 consecutive years after high  
5265 school completion or graduation during which the student has not  
5266 been enrolled in an eligible postsecondary educational  
5267 institution or a program offered by the institution; or

5268 c. Three consecutive fiscal years in which an account has  
5269 been inactive.

5270 2. The commissioner must notify the parent and the  
5271 organization when a Gardiner Scholarship account is closed and  
5272 program funds revert to the state.

5273 (8) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS.—An  
5274 eligible private school may be sectarian or nonsectarian and  
5275 shall:

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5276 (a) Comply with all requirements for private schools  
5277 participating in state school choice scholarship programs  
5278 pursuant to s. 1002.421.

5279 (b) Provide to the organization, upon request, all  
5280 documentation required for the student's participation,  
5281 including the private school's and student's fee schedules.

5282 (c) Be academically accountable to the parent for meeting  
5283 the educational needs of the student by:

5284 1. At a minimum, annually providing to the parent a  
5285 written explanation of the student's progress.

5286 2. Annually administering or making provision for students  
5287 participating in the program in grades 3 through 10 to take one  
5288 of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the  
5289 Department of Education or the statewide assessments pursuant to  
5290 s. 1008.22. Students with disabilities for whom standardized  
5291 testing is not appropriate are exempt from this requirement. A  
5292 participating private school shall report a student's scores to  
5293 the parent.

5294 3. Cooperating with the scholarship student whose parent  
5295 chooses to have the student participate in the statewide  
5296 assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22 or, if a private school  
5297 chooses to offer the statewide assessments, administering the  
5298 assessments at the school.

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5299 a. A participating private school may choose to offer and  
5300 administer the statewide assessments to all students who attend  
5301 the private school in grades 3 through 10.

5302 b. A participating private school shall submit a request  
5303 in writing to the Department of Education by March 1 of each  
5304 year in order to administer the statewide assessments in the  
5305 subsequent school year.

5306 (d) Employ or contract with teachers who have regular and  
5307 direct contact with each student receiving a scholarship under  
5308 this section at the school's physical location.

5309 (e) Provide a report from ~~Annually contract with~~ an  
5310 independent certified public accountant who performs ~~to perform~~  
5311 the agreed-upon procedures developed under s. 1002.395(6)(o) ~~and~~  
5312 ~~produce a report of the results~~ if the private school receives  
5313 more than \$250,000 in funds from scholarships awarded under this  
5314 section in ~~the 2014-2015 state fiscal year or~~ a state fiscal  
5315 year ~~thereafter~~. A private school subject to this paragraph must  
5316 annually submit the report by September 15, ~~2015,~~ and annually  
5317 ~~thereafter~~ to the organization that awarded the majority of the  
5318 school's scholarship funds. The agreed-upon procedures must be  
5319 conducted in accordance with attestation standards established  
5320 by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

5321  
5322 If ~~The inability of~~ a private school is unable to meet the  
5323 requirements of this subsection or has consecutive years of

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5324 material exceptions listed in the report required under  
5325 paragraph (e), the commissioner may determine that ~~constitutes a~~  
5326 ~~basis for the ineligibility of the private school is ineligible~~  
5327 to participate in the program as ~~determined by the commissioner.~~

5328 (11) PARENT AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROGRAM  
5329 PARTICIPATION.—A parent who applies for program participation  
5330 under this section is exercising his or her parental option to  
5331 determine the appropriate placement or the services that best  
5332 meet the needs of his or her child. The scholarship award for a  
5333 student is based on a matrix that assigns the student to support  
5334 Level III services. If a parent receives an IEP and a matrix of  
5335 services from the school district pursuant to subsection (7),  
5336 the amount of the payment shall be adjusted as needed, when the  
5337 school district completes the matrix.

5338 (e) The parent must annually renew participation in the  
5339 program. Notwithstanding any changes to the student's IEP, a  
5340 student who was previously eligible for participation in the  
5341 program shall remain eligible to apply for renewal. However, for  
5342 a high-risk child to continue to participate in the program in  
5343 the school year after he or she reaches 6 years of age, the  
5344 child's application for renewal of program participation must  
5345 contain documentation that the child has a disability defined in  
5346 paragraph (2) (d) other than high-risk status.

5347 (f) The parent is responsible for procuring the services  
5348 necessary to educate the student. If a parent does not procure

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5349 | the necessary educational services for the student and the  
5350 | student's account has been inactive for 2 consecutive fiscal  
5351 | years, the student is ineligible for additional scholarship  
5352 | payments until the scholarship funding organization verifies  
5353 | that expenditures from the account have occurred. When the  
5354 | student receives a Gardiner Scholarship, the district school  
5355 | board is not obligated to provide the student with a free  
5356 | appropriate public education. For purposes of s. 1003.57 and the  
5357 | Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, a participating  
5358 | student has only those rights that apply to all other  
5359 | unilaterally parentally placed students, except that, when  
5360 | requested by the parent, school district personnel must develop  
5361 | an individual education plan or matrix level of services.

5362

5363 | A parent who fails to comply with this subsection forfeits the  
5364 | Gardiner Scholarship.

5365 | (12) OBLIGATIONS OF SCHOLARSHIP-FUNDING ORGANIZATIONS.—An  
5366 | organization may establish Gardiner Scholarships for eligible  
5367 | students by:

5368 | (j) Documenting each scholarship student's eligibility for  
5369 | a fiscal year before granting a scholarship for that fiscal year  
5370 | pursuant to paragraph (3) (b). A student is ineligible for a  
5371 | scholarship if the student's account has been inactive for 2  
5372 | consecutive fiscal years. However, once an eligible expenditure

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5373 is made pursuant to paragraph (11)(f), the student is eligible  
5374 for a scholarship based on available funds.

5375 (13) FUNDING AND PAYMENT.—

5376 (a)1. The maximum funding amount granted for an eligible  
5377 student with a disability, pursuant to subsection (3), shall be  
5378 equivalent to the base student allocation in the Florida  
5379 Education Finance Program multiplied by the appropriate cost  
5380 factor for the educational program that ~~which~~ would have been  
5381 provided for the student in the district school to which he or  
5382 she would have been assigned, multiplied by the district cost  
5383 differential.

5384 2. In addition, an amount equivalent to a share of the  
5385 guaranteed allocation for exceptional students in the Florida  
5386 Education Finance Program shall be determined and added to the  
5387 amount in subparagraph 1. The calculation shall be based on the  
5388 methodology and the data used to calculate the guaranteed  
5389 allocation for exceptional students for each district in chapter  
5390 2000-166, Laws of Florida. Except as provided in subparagraph  
5391 3., the calculation shall be based on the student's grade, the  
5392 matrix level of services, and the difference between the 2000-  
5393 2001 basic program and the appropriate level of services cost  
5394 factor, multiplied by the 2000-2001 base student allocation and  
5395 the 2000-2001 district cost differential for the sending  
5396 district. The calculated amount must also include an amount  
5397 equivalent to the per-student share of supplemental academic

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5398 instruction funds, instructional materials funds, technology  
5399 funds, and other categorical funds as provided in the General  
5400 Appropriations Act.

5401 3. Beginning with the 2017-2018 fiscal year and each  
5402 fiscal year thereafter, the calculation for a new student  
5403 entering the program shall be based on the student's matrix  
5404 level of services. The funding for a student without a matrix of  
5405 services ~~Except as otherwise provided in subsection (7), the~~  
5406 ~~calculation for all students participating in the program shall~~  
5407 be based on the matrix that assigns the student to support Level  
5408 III of services. If a parent chooses to request and receive a  
5409 matrix of services from the school district, when the school  
5410 district completes the matrix, the amount of the payment shall  
5411 be adjusted as needed.

5412 Section 49. Subsection (6) is added to section 1003.455,  
5413 Florida Statutes, to read:

5414 1003.455 Physical education; assessment.—

5415 (6) In addition to the requirements in subsection (3),  
5416 each district school board shall provide at least 100 minutes of  
5417 supervised, safe, and unstructured free-play recess each week  
5418 for students in kindergarten through grade 5 so that there are  
5419 at least 20 consecutive minutes of free-play recess per day.  
5420 This requirement does not apply to charter schools.

5421 Section 50. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) and subsection  
5422 (11) of section 1002.37, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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5423 1002.37 The Florida Virtual School.—

5424 (8) (a) The Florida Virtual School may provide full-time  
5425 and part-time instruction for students in kindergarten through  
5426 grade 12. ~~To receive part-time instruction in kindergarten~~  
5427 ~~through grade 5, a student must meet at least one of the~~  
5428 ~~eligibility criteria in s. 1002.455(2).~~

5429 ~~(11) The Auditor General shall conduct an operational~~  
5430 ~~audit of the Florida Virtual School, including Florida Virtual~~  
5431 ~~School Global. The scope of the audit shall include, but not be~~  
5432 ~~limited to, the administration of responsibilities relating to~~  
5433 ~~personnel; procurement and contracting; revenue production;~~  
5434 ~~school funds, including internal funds; student enrollment~~  
5435 ~~records; franchise agreements; information technology~~  
5436 ~~utilization, assets, and security; performance measures and~~  
5437 ~~standards; and accountability. The final report on the audit~~  
5438 ~~shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the~~  
5439 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than January~~  
5440 ~~31, 2014.~~

5441 Section 51. Section 1002.455, Florida Statutes, is amended  
5442 to read:

5443 1002.455 Student eligibility for K-12 virtual  
5444 instruction.—

5445 ~~(1)~~ All students, including home education and private  
5446 school students, are eligible to participate in any of the  
5447 following ~~A student may participate in virtual instruction in~~

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5448 ~~the school district in which he or she resides if the student~~  
5449 ~~meets the eligibility criteria in subsection (2).~~

5450 ~~(2) A student is eligible to participate in virtual~~  
5451 ~~instruction if:~~

5452 ~~(a) The student spent the prior school year in attendance~~  
5453 ~~at a public school in the state and was enrolled and reported by~~  
5454 ~~the school district for funding during October and February for~~  
5455 ~~purposes of the Florida Education Finance Program surveys;~~

5456 ~~(b) The student is a dependent child of a member of the~~  
5457 ~~United States Armed Forces who was transferred within the last~~  
5458 ~~12 months to this state from another state or from a foreign~~  
5459 ~~country pursuant to a permanent change of station order;~~

5460 ~~(c) The student was enrolled during the prior school year~~  
5461 ~~in a virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45 or a full-time~~  
5462 ~~Florida Virtual School program under s. 1002.37(8) (a);~~

5463 ~~(d) The student has a sibling who is currently enrolled in~~  
5464 ~~a virtual instruction program and the sibling was enrolled in~~  
5465 ~~that program at the end of the prior school year;~~

5466 ~~(e) The student is eligible to enter kindergarten or first~~  
5467 ~~grade; or~~

5468 ~~(f) The student is eligible to enter grades 2 through 5~~  
5469 ~~and is enrolled full-time in a school district virtual~~  
5470 ~~instruction program, virtual charter school, or the Florida~~  
5471 ~~Virtual School.~~

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5472 ~~(3) The virtual instruction options for which this~~  
5473 ~~eligibility section applies include:~~

5474 (1)(a) School district operated part-time or full-time  
5475 kindergarten through grade 12 virtual instruction programs under  
5476 s. 1002.45(1)(b) ~~for students enrolled in the school district.~~

5477 (2)(b) Full-time virtual charter school instruction  
5478 authorized under s. 1002.33 to students within the school  
5479 district or to students in other school districts throughout the  
5480 state pursuant to s. 1002.31.

5481 (3)(e) Virtual courses offered in the course code  
5482 directory to students within the school district or to students  
5483 in other school districts throughout the state pursuant to s.  
5484 1003.498.

5485 (4) Florida Virtual School instructional services  
5486 authorized under s. 1002.37.

5487 Section 52. Subsection (5) and paragraph (b) of subsection  
5488 (6) of section 1002.45, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
5489 1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

5490 (5) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.—A student may enroll in a virtual  
5491 instruction program provided by the school district or by a  
5492 virtual charter school ~~operated in the district in which he or~~  
5493 ~~she resides if the student meets eligibility requirements for~~  
5494 ~~virtual instruction~~ pursuant to s. 1002.455.

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5495 (6) STUDENT PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS.—Each student  
5496 enrolled in a virtual instruction program or virtual charter  
5497 school must:

5498 (b) Take statewide assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22.  
5499 Statewide assessments may be administered ~~state assessment tests~~  
5500 within the school district in which such student resides, or as  
5501 specified in the contract in accordance with s. 1008.24(3). If  
5502 requested by the approved provider or virtual charter school,  
5503 the district of residence ~~which~~ must provide the student with  
5504 access to the district's testing facilities.

5505 Section 53. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and subsection  
5506 (11) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, are amended,  
5507 paragraph (d) of subsection (2) is redesignated as paragraph  
5508 (e), a new paragraph (d) is added to subsection (2), and a new  
5509 paragraph (m) is added to subsection (3), to read:

5510 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
5511 school students must receive accurate and timely information  
5512 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
5513 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
5514 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
5515 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

5516 (2) ATTENDANCE.—

5517 (c) *Absence for religious purposes.*—A parent of a public  
5518 school student may request and be granted permission for absence  
5519 of the student from school for religious instruction or

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5520 religious holidays, in accordance with the provisions of s.  
5521 1003.21(2)(b)1 ~~1003.21(2)(b)~~.

5522 (d) Absence for treatment of autism spectrum disorder.—A  
5523 parent of a public school student may request and be granted  
5524 permission for absence of the student from school for an  
5525 appointment scheduled to receive a therapy service provided by a  
5526 licensed health care practitioner or behavior analyst certified  
5527 pursuant to s. 393.17 for the treatment of autism spectrum  
5528 disorder pursuant to ss. 1003.21(2)(b)2. and 1003.24(4).

5529 (3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

5530 (m) Sun-protective measures in school.—A student may  
5531 possess and use a topical sunscreen product while on school  
5532 property or at a school-sponsored event or activity without a  
5533 physician's note or prescription if the product is regulated by  
5534 the United States Food and Drug Administration for over-the-  
5535 counter use to limit ultraviolet light-induced skin damage.

5536 (11) STUDENTS WITH READING DEFICIENCIES.—The parent of any  
5537 K-3 student who exhibits a substantial reading deficiency shall  
5538 be immediately notified of the student's deficiency pursuant to  
5539 s. 1008.25(5) and ~~with a description and explanation, in terms~~  
5540 ~~understandable to the parent, of the exact nature of the~~  
5541 ~~student's difficulty in learning and lack of achievement in~~  
5542 ~~reading,~~ shall be consulted in the development of a plan, as  
5543 described in s. 1008.25(4)(b); ~~and shall be informed that the~~  
5544 ~~student will be given intensive reading instruction until the~~

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5545 ~~deficiency is corrected. This subsection operates in addition to~~  
5546 ~~the remediation and notification provisions contained in s.~~  
5547 ~~1008.25 and in no way reduces the rights of a parent or the~~  
5548 ~~responsibilities of a school district under that section.~~

5549 Section 54. Subsection (2) of section 1002.69, Florida  
5550 Statutes, is amended to read:

5551 1002.69 Statewide kindergarten screening; kindergarten  
5552 readiness rates; state-approved prekindergarten enrollment  
5553 screening; good cause exemption.—

5554 (2) The statewide kindergarten screening shall provide  
5555 objective data concerning each student's readiness for  
5556 kindergarten and progress in attaining the performance standards  
5557 adopted by the office under s. 1002.67(1). Data from the  
5558 screening, along with other available data, must be used to  
5559 identify students in need of intervention and support pursuant  
5560 to s. 1008.25(5).

5561 Section 55. Subsection (3), paragraphs (a) and (c) of  
5562 subsection (5), paragraph (b) of subsection (6), subsection (7),  
5563 and paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 1008.25, Florida  
5564 Statutes, are amended, paragraph (c) is added to subsection (4),  
5565 to read:

5566 1008.25 Public school student progression; student  
5567 support; reporting requirements.—

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5568 (3) ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES.—District school boards shall  
5569 allocate remedial and supplemental instruction resources to  
5570 students in the following priority:

5571 (a) Students in kindergarten through grade 3 who have a  
5572 substantial deficiency are deficient in reading as determined in  
5573 paragraph (5) (a) by the end of grade 3.

5574 (b) Students who fail to meet performance levels required  
5575 for promotion consistent with the district school board's plan  
5576 for student progression required in subsection (2) paragraph  
5577 (2) (b).

5578 (4) ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT.—

5579 (c) A student who has a substantial reading deficiency as  
5580 determined in paragraph (5) (a) must be covered by a federally  
5581 required student plan, such as an individual education plan or  
5582 an individualized progress monitoring plan, or both, as  
5583 necessary.

5584 (5) READING DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.—

5585 (a) Any student in kindergarten through grade 3 who  
5586 exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading, based upon  
5587 screening, diagnostic, progress monitoring, or assessment data;  
5588 locally determined or statewide assessments; conducted in  
5589 kindergarten or grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3, or through teacher  
5590 observations, must be provided given intensive, explicit,  
5591 systematic, and multisensory reading interventions instruction  
5592 immediately following the identification of the reading

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5593 deficiency. A school may not wait for a student to receive a  
5594 failing grade at the end of a grading period to identify the  
5595 student as having a substantial reading deficiency and initiate  
5596 intensive reading interventions. The student's reading  
5597 proficiency must be monitored and the intensive interventions  
5598 ~~instruction~~ must continue until the student demonstrates grade  
5599 level proficiency in a manner determined by the district, which  
5600 may include achieving a Level 3 on the statewide, standardized  
5601 English Language Arts assessment. The State Board of Education  
5602 shall identify by rule guidelines for determining whether a  
5603 student in kindergarten through grade 3 has a substantial  
5604 deficiency in reading.

5605 (c) The parent of any student who exhibits a substantial  
5606 deficiency in reading, as described in paragraph (a), must be  
5607 notified in writing of the following:

5608 1. That his or her child has been identified as having a  
5609 substantial deficiency in reading, including a description and  
5610 explanation, in terms understandable to the parent, of the exact  
5611 nature of the student's difficulty in learning and lack of  
5612 achievement in reading.

5613 2. A description of the current services that are provided  
5614 to the child.

5615 3. A description of the proposed intensive interventions  
5616 ~~supplemental instructional services~~ and supports that will be

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5617 provided to the child that are designed to remediate the  
5618 identified area of reading deficiency.

5619 4. That if the child's reading deficiency is not  
5620 remediated by the end of grade 3, the child must be retained  
5621 unless he or she is exempt from mandatory retention for good  
5622 cause.

5623 5. Strategies, including multisensory strategies, through  
5624 a read-at-home plan the parent can for parents to use in helping  
5625 his or her ~~their~~ child succeed in reading ~~proficiency~~.

5626 6. That the statewide, standardized English Language Arts  
5627 assessment is not the sole determiner of promotion and that  
5628 additional evaluations, portfolio reviews, and assessments are  
5629 available to the child to assist parents and the school district  
5630 in knowing when a child is reading at or above grade level and  
5631 ready for grade promotion.

5632 7. The district's specific criteria and policies for a  
5633 portfolio as provided in subparagraph (6)(b)4. and the evidence  
5634 required for a student to demonstrate mastery of Florida's  
5635 academic standards for English Language Arts. A parent of a  
5636 student in grade 3 who is identified anytime during the year as  
5637 being at risk of retention may request that the school  
5638 immediately begin collecting evidence for a portfolio.

5639 8. The district's specific criteria and policies for  
5640 midyear promotion. Midyear promotion means promotion of a

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5641 retained student at any time during the year of retention once  
5642 the student has demonstrated ability to read at grade level.

5643 (6) ELIMINATION OF SOCIAL PROMOTION.—

5644 (b) The district school board may only exempt students  
5645 from mandatory retention, as provided in paragraph (5)(b), for  
5646 good cause. A student who is promoted to grade 4 with a good  
5647 cause exemption shall be provided intensive reading instruction  
5648 and intervention that include specialized diagnostic information  
5649 and specific reading strategies to meet the needs of each  
5650 student so promoted. The school district shall assist schools  
5651 and teachers with the implementation of explicit, systematic,  
5652 and multisensory reading instruction and intervention strategies  
5653 for students promoted with a good cause exemption which research  
5654 has shown to be successful in improving reading among students  
5655 who have reading difficulties. Good cause exemptions are limited  
5656 to the following:

5657 1. Limited English proficient students who have had less  
5658 than 2 years of instruction in an English for Speakers of Other  
5659 Languages program based on the initial date of entry into a  
5660 school in the United States.

5661 2. Students with disabilities whose individual education  
5662 plan indicates that participation in the statewide assessment  
5663 program is not appropriate, consistent with the requirements of  
5664 s. 1008.212.

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5665 3. Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of  
5666 performance on an alternative standardized reading or English  
5667 Language Arts assessment approved by the State Board of  
5668 Education.

5669 4. A student who demonstrates through a student portfolio  
5670 that he or she is performing at least at Level 2 on the  
5671 statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment.

5672 5. Students with disabilities who take the statewide,  
5673 standardized English Language Arts assessment and who have an  
5674 individual education plan or a Section 504 plan that reflects  
5675 that the student has received intensive instruction in reading  
5676 or English Language Arts for more than 2 years but still  
5677 demonstrates a deficiency and was previously retained in  
5678 kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3.

5679 6. Students who have received intensive reading  
5680 intervention for 2 or more years but still demonstrate a  
5681 deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in  
5682 kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of 2  
5683 years. A student may not be retained more than once in grade 3.

5684 ~~7. Students who have received intensive remediation in~~  
5685 ~~reading or English Language Arts for 2 or more years but still~~  
5686 ~~demonstrate a deficiency and who were previously retained in~~  
5687 ~~kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of 2~~  
5688 ~~years. Intensive instruction for students so promoted must~~  
5689 ~~include an altered instructional day that includes specialized~~

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5690 ~~diagnostic information and specific reading strategies for each~~  
5691 ~~student. The district school board shall assist schools and~~  
5692 ~~teachers to implement reading strategies that research has shown~~  
5693 ~~to be successful in improving reading among low-performing~~  
5694 ~~readers.~~

5695 (7) SUCCESSFUL PROGRESSION FOR RETAINED THIRD GRADE  
5696 STUDENTS.—

5697 (a) Students retained under ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph  
5698 (5) (b) must be provided intensive interventions in reading to  
5699 ameliorate the student's specific reading deficiency and prepare  
5700 the student for promotion to the next grade. These  
5701 interventions, as identified by a valid and reliable diagnostic  
5702 assessment. This intensive intervention must include:

5703 1. Evidence-based, explicit, systematic, and multisensory  
5704 reading instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency,  
5705 vocabulary, and comprehension and other strategies prescribed by  
5706 the school district. effective instructional strategies,

5707 2. Participation in the school district's summer reading  
5708 camp, which must incorporate the instructional and intervention  
5709 strategies under subparagraph 1, and appropriate teaching  
5710 methodologies necessary to assist those students in becoming  
5711 successful readers, able to read at or above grade level, and  
5712 ready for promotion to the next grade.

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5713 3. A minimum of 90 minutes of daily, uninterrupted reading  
5714 instruction incorporating the instructional and intervention  
5715 strategies under subparagraph 1. This instruction may include:

5716 ~~(b) Each school district shall:~~

5717 ~~1. Provide third grade students who are retained under the~~  
5718 ~~provisions of paragraph (5) (b) with intensive instructional~~  
5719 ~~services and supports to remediate the identified areas of~~  
5720 ~~reading deficiency, including participation in the school~~  
5721 ~~district's summer reading camp as required under paragraph (a),~~  
5722 ~~and a minimum of 90 minutes of daily, uninterrupted,~~  
5723 ~~scientifically research-based reading instruction which includes~~  
5724 ~~phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and~~  
5725 ~~comprehension and other strategies prescribed by the school~~  
5726 ~~district, which may include, but are not limited to:~~

5727 a. Integration of content-rich texts in science and social  
5728 studies ~~content~~ within the 90-minute block.

5729 b. Small group instruction.

5730 c. Reduced teacher-student ratios.

5731 d. More frequent progress monitoring.

5732 e. Tutoring or mentoring.

5733 f. Transition classes containing 3rd and 4th grade  
5734 students.

5735 g. Extended school day, week, or year.

5736 (b) Each school district shall:

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5737 1.2. Provide written notification to the parent of a  
5738 student who is retained under ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph (5) (b)  
5739 that his or her child has not met the proficiency level required  
5740 for promotion and the reasons the child is not eligible for a  
5741 good cause exemption as provided in paragraph (6) (b). The  
5742 notification must comply with paragraph (5) (c) ~~the provisions of~~  
5743 ~~s. 1002.20(15)~~ and must include a description of proposed  
5744 interventions and supports that will be provided to the child to  
5745 remediate the identified areas of reading deficiency.

5746 2.3. Implement a policy for the midyear promotion of a  
5747 student retained under ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph (5) (b) who  
5748 can demonstrate that he or she is a successful and independent  
5749 reader and performing at or above grade level in reading or,  
5750 upon implementation of English Language Arts assessments,  
5751 performing at or above grade level in English Language Arts.  
5752 Tools that school districts may use in reevaluating a student  
5753 retained may include subsequent assessments, alternative  
5754 assessments, and portfolio reviews, in accordance with rules of  
5755 the State Board of Education. Students promoted during the  
5756 school year after November 1 must demonstrate proficiency levels  
5757 in reading equivalent to the level necessary for the beginning  
5758 of grade 4. The rules adopted by the State Board of Education  
5759 must include standards that provide a reasonable expectation  
5760 that the student's progress is sufficient to master appropriate  
5761 grade 4 level reading skills.

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5762 3.4. Provide students who are retained under ~~the~~  
5763 ~~provisions of paragraph (5) (b),~~ including students participating  
5764 in the school district's summer reading camp under subparagraph  
5765 (a)2., with a highly effective teacher as determined by the  
5766 teacher's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, and,  
5767 beginning July 1, 2020, the teacher must also be certified or  
5768 endorsed in reading.

5769 4.5. Establish at each school, when applicable, an  
5770 intensive reading acceleration course ~~Class~~ for any student  
5771 retained in grade 3 who was previously retained in kindergarten,  
5772 grade 1, or grade 2 students who subsequently score Level 1 on  
5773 ~~the required statewide, standardized assessment identified in s.~~  
5774 ~~1008.22. The focus of the Intensive Acceleration Class shall be~~  
5775 ~~to increase a child's reading and English Language Arts skill~~  
5776 ~~level at least two grade levels in 1 school year. The intensive~~  
5777 reading acceleration course must provide the following ~~Class~~  
5778 ~~shall:~~

5779 a. Uninterrupted reading instruction for the majority of  
5780 student contact time each day and opportunities to master the  
5781 grade 4 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards in other core  
5782 subject areas through content-rich texts.

5783 b. Small group instruction.

5784 c. Reduced teacher-student ratios.

5785 d. The use of explicit, systematic, and multisensory  
5786 reading interventions, including intensive language, phonics,

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5787 and vocabulary instruction, and use of a speech-language  
5788 therapist if necessary, that have proven results in accelerating  
5789 student reading achievement within the same school year.

5790 e. A read-at-home plan.

5791 ~~a. Be provided to a student in grade 3 who scores Level 1~~  
5792 ~~on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment~~  
5793 ~~and who was retained in grade 3 the prior year because of~~  
5794 ~~scoring Level 1.~~

5795 ~~b. Have a reduced teacher-student ratio.~~

5796 ~~c. Provide uninterrupted reading instruction for the~~  
5797 ~~majority of student contact time each day and incorporate~~  
5798 ~~opportunities to master the grade 4 Next Generation Sunshine~~  
5799 ~~State Standards in other core subject areas.~~

5800 ~~d. Use a reading program that is scientifically research-~~  
5801 ~~based and has proven results in accelerating student reading~~  
5802 ~~achievement within the same school year.~~

5803 ~~e. Provide intensive language and vocabulary instruction~~  
5804 ~~using a scientifically research-based program, including use of~~  
5805 ~~a speech-language therapist.~~

5806 (8) ANNUAL REPORT.—

5807 (a) In addition to the requirements in paragraph (5) (b),  
5808 each district school board must annually report to the parent of  
5809 each student the progress of the student toward achieving state  
5810 and district expectations for proficiency in English Language  
5811 Arts, science, social studies, and mathematics. The district

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5812 school board must report to the parent the student's results on  
5813 each statewide, standardized assessment. The evaluation of each  
5814 student's progress must be based upon the student's classroom  
5815 work, observations, tests, district and state assessments,  
5816 response to intensive interventions provided under paragraph  
5817 (5) (a), and other relevant information. Progress reporting must  
5818 be provided to the parent in writing in a format adopted by the  
5819 district school board.

5820 Section 56. Subsection (2) of section 1011.67, Florida  
5821 Statutes, is amended to read:

5822 1011.67 Funds for instructional materials.—

5823 (2) Annually by July 1 and before ~~prior to~~ the release of  
5824 instructional materials funds, each district school  
5825 superintendent shall certify to the Commissioner of Education  
5826 that the district school board has approved a comprehensive  
5827 staff development plan that supports fidelity of implementation  
5828 of instructional materials programs, including. ~~The report shall~~  
5829 ~~include~~ verification that training was provided; and that the  
5830 materials are being implemented as designed; and, beginning July  
5831 1, 2021, for core reading materials and reading intervention  
5832 materials used in kindergarten through grade 5, that the  
5833 materials meet the requirements of s. 1001.215(7). This  
5834 paragraph does not preclude school districts from purchasing or  
5835 using other materials to supplement reading instruction and  
5836 provide additional skills practice.

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5837 Section 57. Subsection (8) is added to section 1002.51,  
5838 Florida Statutes, to read:

5839 1002.51 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

5840 (8) "Public school prekindergarten provider" includes a  
5841 traditional public school or a charter school that is eligible  
5842 to deliver the school-year prekindergarten program under s.  
5843 1002.63 or the summer prekindergarten program under s. 1002.61.

5844 Section 58. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
5845 1003.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

5846 1003.21 School attendance.—

5847 (2)

5848 (b) Each district school board, in accordance with rules  
5849 of the State Board of Education, shall adopt policies  
5850 authorizing a ~~policy that authorizes~~ a parent to request and be  
5851 granted permission for absence of a student from school for:

5852 1. Religious instruction or religious holidays.

5853 2. An appointment scheduled to receive a therapy service  
5854 provided by a licensed health care practitioner or behavior  
5855 analyst certified pursuant to s. 393.17 for the treatment of  
5856 autism spectrum disorder, including, but not limited to, applied  
5857 behavioral analysis, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.

5858 Section 59. Subsection (4) of section 1003.24, Florida  
5859 Statutes, is amended to read:

5860 1003.24 Parents responsible for attendance of children;  
5861 attendance policy.—Each parent of a child within the compulsory

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5862 attendance age is responsible for the child's school attendance  
5863 as required by law. The absence of a student from school is  
5864 prima facie evidence of a violation of this section; however,  
5865 criminal prosecution under this chapter may not be brought  
5866 against a parent until the provisions of s. 1003.26 have been  
5867 complied with. A parent of a student is not responsible for the  
5868 student's nonattendance at school under any of the following  
5869 conditions:

5870 (4) SICKNESS, INJURY, OR OTHER INSURMOUNTABLE CONDITION.—  
5871 Attendance was impracticable or inadvisable on account of  
5872 sickness or injury, as attested to by a written statement of a  
5873 licensed practicing physician, or was impracticable because of  
5874 some other stated insurmountable condition as defined by and  
5875 attested to in accordance with rules of the State Board of  
5876 Education. If a student is continually sick and repeatedly  
5877 absent from school, he or she must be under the supervision of a  
5878 physician, or if the absence is related to the student having  
5879 autism spectrum disorder, receiving services from a licensed  
5880 health care practitioner or behavior analyst certified pursuant  
5881 to s. 393.17, in order to receive an excuse from attendance.  
5882 Such excuse provides that a student's condition justifies  
5883 absence for more than the number of days permitted by the  
5884 district school board.

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5886 Each district school board shall establish an attendance policy  
5887 that includes, but is not limited to, the required number of  
5888 days each school year that a student must be in attendance and  
5889 the number of absences and tardinesses after which a statement  
5890 explaining such absences and tardinesses must be on file at the  
5891 school. Each school in the district must determine if an absence  
5892 or tardiness is excused or unexcused according to criteria  
5893 established by the district school board.

5894 Section 60. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section  
5895 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

5896 1003.4156 General requirements for middle grades  
5897 promotion.—

5898 (1) In order for a student to be promoted to high school  
5899 from a school that includes middle grades 6, 7, and 8, the  
5900 student must successfully complete the following courses:

5901 ~~(c) One course in career and education planning to be~~  
5902 ~~completed in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade. The course may be taught by~~  
5903 ~~any member of the instructional staff. At a minimum, the course~~  
5904 ~~must be Internet-based, easy to use, and customizable to each~~  
5905 ~~student and include research-based assessments to assist~~  
5906 ~~students in determining educational and career options and~~  
5907 ~~goals. In addition, the course must result in a completed~~  
5908 ~~personalized academic and career plan for the student; must~~  
5909 ~~emphasize the importance of entrepreneurship skills; must~~  
5910 ~~emphasize technology or the application of technology in career~~

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5911 ~~fields; and, beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year, must~~  
5912 ~~include information from the Department of Economic~~  
5913 ~~Opportunity's economic security report as described in s.~~  
5914 ~~445.07. The required personalized academic and career plan must~~  
5915 ~~inform students of high school graduation requirements,~~  
5916 ~~including a detailed explanation of the diploma designation~~  
5917 ~~options provided under s. 1003.4285; high school assessment and~~  
5918 ~~college entrance test requirements; Florida Bright Futures~~  
5919 ~~Scholarship Program requirements; state university and Florida~~  
5920 ~~College System institution admission requirements; available~~  
5921 ~~opportunities to earn college credit in high school, including~~  
5922 ~~Advanced Placement courses; the International Baccalaureate~~  
5923 ~~Program; the Advanced International Certificate of Education~~  
5924 ~~Program; dual enrollment, including career dual enrollment; and~~  
5925 ~~career education courses, including career-themed courses and~~  
5926 ~~courses that lead to industry certification pursuant to s.~~  
5927 ~~1003.492 or s. 1008.44.~~

5928  
5929 ~~Each school must inform parents about the course curriculum and~~  
5930 ~~activities. Each student shall complete a personal education~~  
5931 ~~plan that must be signed by the student and the student's~~  
5932 ~~parent. The Department of Education shall develop course~~  
5933 ~~frameworks and professional development materials for the career~~  
5934 ~~and education planning course. The course may be implemented as~~  
5935 ~~a stand-alone course or integrated into another course or~~

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5936 ~~courses. The Commissioner of Education shall collect~~  
5937 ~~longitudinal high school course enrollment data by student~~  
5938 ~~ethnicity in order to analyze course-taking patterns.~~

5939 Section 61. Subsection (3) of section 1003.57, Florida  
5940 Statutes, is amended to read:

5941 1003.57 Exceptional students instruction.-

5942 (3) (a) For purposes of this subsection and subsection (4),  
5943 the term:

5944 1. "Agency" means the Department of Children and Families  
5945 or its contracted lead agency, the Agency for Persons with  
5946 Disabilities, and the Agency for Health Care Administration.

5947 2. "Exceptional student" means an exceptional student, as  
5948 defined in s. 1003.01, who has a disability.

5949 3. "Receiving school district" means the district in which  
5950 a private residential care facility is located.

5951 4. "Placement" means the funding or arrangement of funding  
5952 by an agency for all or a part of the cost for an exceptional  
5953 student to reside in a private residential care facility and the  
5954 placement crosses school district lines.

5955 (b) Within 10 business days after an exceptional student  
5956 is placed in a private residential care facility by an agency,  
5957 the agency or private residential care facility licensed by the  
5958 agency, as appropriate, shall provide written notification of  
5959 the placement to the school district where the student is  
5960 currently counted for funding purposes under s. 1011.62 and the

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5961 receiving school district. The exceptional student shall be  
5962 enrolled in school and receive a free and appropriate public  
5963 education, special education, and related services while the  
5964 notice and procedures regarding payment are pending. This  
5965 paragraph applies when the placement is for the primary purpose  
5966 of addressing residential or other noneducational needs and the  
5967 placement crosses school district lines.

5968 (c) Within 10 business days after receiving the  
5969 notification, the receiving school district must review the  
5970 student's individual educational plan (IEP) to determine if the  
5971 student's IEP can be implemented by the receiving school  
5972 district or by a provider or facility under contract with the  
5973 receiving school district. The receiving school district shall:

- 5974 1. Provide educational instruction to the student;
- 5975 2. Contract with another provider or facility to provide  
5976 the educational instruction; or
- 5977 3. Contract with the private residential care facility in  
5978 which the student resides to provide the educational  
5979 instruction; ~~or~~

5980 ~~4. Decline to provide or contract for educational~~  
5981 ~~instruction.~~

5982  
5983 ~~If the receiving school district declines to provide or contract~~  
5984 ~~for the educational instruction, the school district in which~~  
5985 ~~the legal residence of the student is located shall provide or~~

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5986 ~~contract for the educational instruction to the student.~~ The  
5987 receiving school district providing ~~that provides~~ educational  
5988 instruction or contracting ~~contracts~~ to provide educational  
5989 instruction shall report the student for funding purposes  
5990 pursuant to s. 1011.62.

5991 (d)1. The Department of Education, in consultation with  
5992 the agencies and school districts, shall develop procedures for  
5993 written notification to school districts regarding the placement  
5994 of an exceptional student in a residential care facility. The  
5995 procedures must:

5996 a. Provide for written notification of a placement that  
5997 crosses school district lines; and

5998 b. Identify the entity responsible for the notification  
5999 for each facility that is operated, licensed, or regulated by an  
6000 agency.

6001 2. The State Board of Education shall adopt the procedures  
6002 by rule pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, and the agencies  
6003 shall implement the procedures.

6004

6005 The requirements of paragraphs (c) and (d) do not apply to  
6006 written agreements among school districts which specify each  
6007 school district's responsibility for providing and paying for  
6008 educational services to an exceptional student in a residential  
6009 care facility. However, each agreement must require a school

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6010 district to review the student's IEP within 10 business days  
6011 after receiving the notification required under paragraph (b).

6012 Section 62. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
6013 1006.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

6014 1006.40 Use of instructional materials allocation;  
6015 instructional materials, library books, and reference books;  
6016 repair of books.—

6017 (3) (a) Except for a school district or a consortium of  
6018 school districts that implements an instructional materials  
6019 program pursuant to s. 1006.283 ~~Beginning with the 2015-2016~~  
6020 ~~fiscal year~~, each district school board shall use ~~at least 50~~  
6021 ~~percent of~~ the annual allocation only for the purchase of  
6022 ~~digital or electronic~~ instructional materials that align with  
6023 state standards and are included on the state-adopted list,  
6024 except as otherwise authorized in paragraphs (b) and (c).

6025 Section 63. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 1009.60,  
6026 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

6027 1009.60 Minority teacher education scholars program.—There  
6028 is created the minority teacher education scholars program,  
6029 which is a collaborative performance-based scholarship program  
6030 for African-American, Hispanic-American, Asian-American, and  
6031 Native American students. The participants in the program  
6032 include Florida's Florida College System institutions and its  
6033 public and private universities that have teacher education  
6034 programs.

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6035 (1) The minority teacher education scholars program shall  
6036 provide an annual scholarship in an amount that shall be  
6037 prorated based on available appropriations and may not exceed  
6038 \$4,000 for each approved minority teacher education scholar who  
6039 is enrolled in one of Florida's public or private colleges or  
6040 universities, ~~in the junior year and~~ is admitted into a teacher  
6041 education program, and has not earned more than 18 credit hours  
6042 of upper-division-level courses in education.

6043 (4) A student may receive a scholarship from the program  
6044 for 3 consecutive years if the student remains enrolled full-  
6045 time in the program and makes satisfactory progress toward a  
6046 baccalaureate degree with a major in education or a graduate  
6047 degree with a major in education, leading to initial  
6048 certification.

6049 Section 64. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
6050 1009.605, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

6051 1009.605 Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc.—

6052 (2) (a) The corporation shall submit an annual budget  
6053 projection to the Department of Education to be included in the  
6054 annual legislative budget request. The projection must be based  
6055 on the cost to award up to 350 scholarships to new scholars ~~in~~  
6056 ~~the junior year~~ and up to 350 renewal scholarships ~~to the 350~~  
6057 ~~rising seniors.~~

6058 Section 65. Committee on Early Grade Success.—The  
6059 Committee on Early Grade Success, a committee as defined in s.

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6060 20.03, Florida Statutes, is created within the Department of  
6061 Education to develop a proposal for establishing and  
6062 implementing a coordinated child assessment system for the  
6063 School Readiness Program, the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
6064 Education Program, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment  
6065 and, except as otherwise provided in this section, shall operate  
6066 consistent with s. 20.052, Florida Statutes.

6067 (1) The committee's proposal must include legislative  
6068 recommendations for the design and implementation of a  
6069 coordinated child assessment system, including, but not limited  
6070 to:

6071 (a) The purpose of a child assessment, with a focus on  
6072 developmentally appropriate learning gains.

6073 (b) Attributes for tool selection that provide guidance on  
6074 procurement policies.

6075 (c) An implementation schedule and protocols, including  
6076 the frequency of data collection and a timeline for training to  
6077 ensure reliability of the system.

6078 (d) The methodology for collecting and analyzing data that  
6079 define reporting requirements.

6080 (e) A budget for the system, including cost analyses for  
6081 purchasing materials and the necessary technology, training to  
6082 ensure reliability, and data system management.

6083 (f) Considerations for student privacy and tracking child  
6084 development over time.

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6085 (2) The committee is composed of 17 members who are  
6086 residents of the state and appointed as follows:

6087 (a) Three members appointed by the Governor:

6088 1. One representative from the Office of Early Learning.

6089 2. One representative from the Department of Education.

6090 3. One parent of a child who is 3 to 6 years of age.

6091 (b) Fourteen members jointly appointed by the President of  
6092 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

6093 1. One representative of an urban school district.

6094 2. One representative of a rural school district.

6095 3. One representative of an urban early learning  
6096 coalition.

6097 4. One representative of a rural early learning coalition.

6098 5. One representative of an early learning provider.

6099 6. One representative of a faith-based early learning  
6100 provider.

6101 7. One representative who is a kindergarten teacher with  
6102 at least 5 years of teaching experience.

6103 8. One representative who is an elementary school  
6104 principal.

6105 9. Four representatives with subject matter expertise in  
6106 early learning, early grade success, or child assessments. The  
6107 four representatives may not be direct stakeholders within the  
6108 early learning or public school systems or potential recipients  
6109 of a contract resulting from the committee's proposal.

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6110 10. One member of the Senate.

6111 11. One member of the House of Representatives.

6112 (3) The committee shall elect a chair and vice chair. The  
6113 chair must be one of the four members with subject matter  
6114 expertise in early learning, early grade success, or child  
6115 assessments. The vice chair must be a member appointed by the  
6116 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
6117 Representatives, who is not one of the four members who are  
6118 subject matter experts in early learning, early grade success,  
6119 or child assessments. Members of the committee shall serve  
6120 without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per  
6121 diem and travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061, Florida  
6122 Statutes.

6123 (4) The committee must meet at least three times and shall  
6124 meet by teleconference or other electronic means, if possible,  
6125 to reduce costs.

6126 (5) A majority of the members constitutes a quorum.

6127 (6) The University of Florida Lastinger Center for  
6128 Learning shall provide the committee with staff necessary to  
6129 assist the committee in the performance of its duties.

6130 (7) The committee shall submit a report of its findings  
6131 and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the  
6132 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by  
6133 December 1, 2017. Upon submission of the report, the committee  
6134 shall expire.

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6135 (8) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to  
6136 implement and administer this section.

6137 Section 66. Section 1013.101, Florida Statutes, is created  
6138 to read:

6139 1013.101 Shared use agreements.-

6140 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.-The Legislature finds  
6141 that greater public access to recreation and sports facilities  
6142 is needed to reduce the impact of obesity, diabetes, and other  
6143 chronic diseases on personal health and health care  
6144 expenditures. Public schools are equipped with taxpayer-funded  
6145 indoor and outdoor recreation facilities that offer easily  
6146 accessible opportunities for physical activity for residents of  
6147 the community. The Legislature also finds that it is the policy  
6148 of the state for district school boards to allow the shared use  
6149 of school buildings and property by adopting policies allowing  
6150 for shared use and implementing shared use agreements with local  
6151 governmental entities and nonprofit organizations. The  
6152 Legislature intends to increase the number of school districts  
6153 that open their playground facilities to community use outside  
6154 of school hours.

6155 (2) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term:

6156 (a) "High-need communities" means communities in which at  
6157 least 50 percent of children are eligible to receive free or  
6158 reduced-price meals at the school that will be the subject of  
6159 the shared use agreement.

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6160 (b) "Shared use" means allowing access to school  
6161 playground facilities by community members for recreation or  
6162 another purpose of importance to the community through a shared  
6163 use agreement or a school district or school policy that opens  
6164 school facilities, including, but not limited to charter schools  
6165 and Florida College System institutions, for use by government  
6166 or nongovernmental entities or the public.

6167 (c) "Shared use agreement" means a written agreement  
6168 between a school district, a charter school, or a Florida  
6169 College System institution, and a government or nongovernmental  
6170 entity which defines the roles, responsibilities, terms, and  
6171 conditions for community use of a school-owned facility for  
6172 recreation or other purposes.

6173 (3) PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY USE OF SHARED FACILITIES.—The  
6174 department shall provide technical assistance to school  
6175 districts, including, but not limited to, individualized  
6176 assistance, the creation of a shared use technical assistance  
6177 toolkit containing useful information for school districts, and  
6178 the development of a publicly accessible online database of  
6179 shared use resources and existing shared use agreements.

6180 Section 67. Shared Use Task Force.—The Shared Use Task  
6181 Force, a task force as defined in s. 20.03, Florida Statutes, is  
6182 created within the Department of Education. The task force is  
6183 created to identify barriers in creating shared use agreements

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6184 and to make recommendations to facilitate the shared use of  
6185 school facilities generally and in high-need communities.

6186 (1) The task force is composed of seven members appointed  
6187 by the department, as follows:

6188 (a) Two representatives from school districts, including  
6189 one representative from school districts 1 through 33 and one  
6190 representative from school districts 34 through 67;

6191 (b) One representative from a public health department;

6192 (c) Two representatives from community-based programs in  
6193 high-need communities; and

6194 (d) Two representatives from recreational organizations.

6195 (2) The task force shall elect a chair and vice chair. The  
6196 chair and vice chair may not be representatives from the same  
6197 member category. Members of the task force shall serve without  
6198 compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and  
6199 travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

6200 (3) The task force shall meet by teleconference or other  
6201 electronic means, if possible, to reduce costs.

6202 (4) The department shall provide the task force with staff  
6203 necessary to assist the task force in the performance of its  
6204 duties.

6205 (5) The task force shall submit a report of its findings  
6206 and recommendations to the President of the Senate and the  
6207 Speaker of the House of Representatives by June 30, 2018. Upon  
6208 submission of the report, the task force shall expire.

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Amendment No.

6209 Section 68. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
6210 125.901, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

6211 125.901 Children's services; independent special district;  
6212 council; powers, duties, and functions; public records  
6213 exemption.—

6214 (1) Each county may by ordinance create an independent  
6215 special district, as defined in ss. 189.012 and 200.001(8)(e),  
6216 to provide funding for children's services throughout the county  
6217 in accordance with this section. The boundaries of such district  
6218 shall be coterminous with the boundaries of the county. The  
6219 county governing body shall obtain approval, by a majority vote  
6220 of those electors voting on the question, to annually levy ad  
6221 valorem taxes which shall not exceed the maximum millage rate  
6222 authorized by this section. Any district created pursuant to the  
6223 provisions of this subsection shall be required to levy and fix  
6224 millage subject to the provisions of s. 200.065. Once such  
6225 millage is approved by the electorate, the district shall not be  
6226 required to seek approval of the electorate in future years to  
6227 levy the previously approved millage.

6228 (b) However, any county as defined in s. 125.011(1) may  
6229 instead have a governing body consisting of 33 members,  
6230 including: the superintendent of schools, or his or her  
6231 designee; two representatives of public postsecondary education  
6232 institutions located in the county; the county manager or the  
6233 equivalent county officer; the district administrator from the

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6234 appropriate district of the Department of Children and Families,  
6235 or the administrator's designee who is a member of the Senior  
6236 Management Service or the Selected Exempt Service; the director  
6237 of the county health department or the director's designee; the  
6238 state attorney for the county or the state attorney's designee;  
6239 the chief judge assigned to juvenile cases, or another juvenile  
6240 judge who is the chief judge's designee and who shall sit as a  
6241 voting member of the board, except that the judge may not vote  
6242 or participate in setting ad valorem taxes under this section;  
6243 an individual who is selected by the board of the local United  
6244 Way or its equivalent; a member of a locally recognized faith-  
6245 based coalition, selected by that coalition; a member of the  
6246 local chamber of commerce, selected by that chamber or, if more  
6247 than one chamber exists within the county, a person selected by  
6248 a coalition of the local chambers; a member of the early  
6249 learning coalition, selected by that coalition; a representative  
6250 of a labor organization or union active in the county; a member  
6251 of a local alliance or coalition engaged in cross-system  
6252 planning for health and social service delivery in the county,  
6253 selected by that alliance or coalition; a member of the local  
6254 Parent-Teachers Association/Parent-Teacher-Student Association,  
6255 selected by that association; a youth representative selected by  
6256 the local school system's student government; a local school  
6257 board member appointed by the chair of the school board; the  
6258 mayor of the county or the mayor's designee; one member of the

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6259 county governing body, appointed by the chair of that body; a  
6260 member of the state Legislature who represents residents of the  
6261 county, selected by the chair of the local legislative  
6262 delegation; an elected official representing the residents of a  
6263 municipality in the county, selected by the county municipal  
6264 league; and 4 members-at-large, appointed to the council by the  
6265 majority of sitting council members. The remaining 7 members  
6266 shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with procedures  
6267 set forth in paragraph (a), except that the Governor may remove  
6268 a member for cause or upon the written petition of the council.  
6269 Appointments by the Governor must, to the extent reasonably  
6270 possible, represent the geographic and demographic diversity of  
6271 the population of the county. Members who are appointed to the  
6272 council by reason of their position are not subject to the  
6273 length of terms and limits on consecutive terms as provided in  
6274 this section. The remaining appointed members of the governing  
6275 body shall be appointed to serve 2-year terms, except that those  
6276 members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to serve 4-  
6277 year terms, and the youth representative and the legislative  
6278 delegate shall be appointed to serve 1-year terms. A member may  
6279 be reappointed; however, a member may not serve for more than  
6280 three consecutive terms. A member is eligible to be appointed  
6281 again after a 2-year hiatus from the council.

6282 Section 69. Section 1003.481, Florida Statutes, is created  
6283 to read:

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Amendment No.

6284 1003.481 Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot  
6285 Program.—

6286 (1) Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the Early  
6287 Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program is created  
6288 within the Department of Education for a period of 3 school  
6289 years. The purpose of the pilot program is to assist selected  
6290 school districts in implementing comprehensive music education  
6291 programs for students in kindergarten through grade 2.

6292 (2) In order for a school district to be eligible for  
6293 participation in the pilot program, the superintendent must  
6294 certify to the Commissioner of Education, in a format prescribed  
6295 by the department, that each elementary school within the  
6296 district has established a comprehensive music education program  
6297 that:

6298 (a) Includes all students at the school enrolled in  
6299 kindergarten through grade 2.

6300 (b) Is staffed by certified music educators.

6301 (c) Provides music instruction for at least 30 consecutive  
6302 minutes 2 days a week.

6303 (d) Complies with class size requirements under s.

6304 1003.03.

6305 (e) Complies with the department's standards for early  
6306 childhood music education programs for students in kindergarten  
6307 through grade 2.

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6308       (3) (a) The commissioner shall select school districts for  
6309 participation in the pilot program, subject to legislative  
6310 appropriation, based on the school district's proximity to the  
6311 University of Florida and needs-based criteria established by  
6312 the State Board of Education. Selected school districts shall  
6313 annually receive \$150 per full-time equivalent student in  
6314 kindergarten through grade 2 who is enrolled in a comprehensive  
6315 music education program.

6316       (b) To maintain eligibility for participation in the pilot  
6317 program, a selected school district must annually certify to the  
6318 commissioner, in a format prescribed by the department, that  
6319 each elementary school within the district provides a  
6320 comprehensive music education program that meets the  
6321 requirements of subsection (2). If a selected school district  
6322 fails to provide the annual certification for a fiscal year, the  
6323 school district must return all funds received through the pilot  
6324 program for that fiscal year.

6325       (4) The University of Florida's College of Education shall  
6326 evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot program by measuring  
6327 student academic performance and the success of the program. The  
6328 evaluation must include, but is not limited to, a quantitative  
6329 analysis of student achievement and a qualitative evaluation of  
6330 students enrolled in the comprehensive music education programs.

6331       (5) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to  
6332 administer this section.

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6333 (6) This section expires June 30, 2020.

6334 Section 70. If any provision of this act or its  
6335 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
6336 invalidity does not affect the remaining provisions or  
6337 applications of the act which can be given effect without the  
6338 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions  
6339 of this act are severable.

6340 Section 71. For the 2017-2018 fiscal year, \$413,950,000 in  
6341 recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund and \$5 million in  
6342 nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund are  
6343 appropriated to the Department of Education to implement this  
6344 act. Of these funds, \$233,950,000 shall be used to implement the  
6345 Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program pursuant to s.  
6346 1012.731, Florida Statutes, and the Best and Brightest Principal  
6347 Scholarship Program pursuant to s. 1012.732, Florida Statutes,  
6348 \$30 million shall be used to implement the Gardiner Scholarship  
6349 Program pursuant to s. 1002.385, Florida Statutes, and \$10  
6350 million in recurring funds and \$5 million in nonrecurring funds  
6351 shall be used to implement the provisions of this act relating  
6352 to statewide student assessments. The remaining funds shall be  
6353 used to implement the remaining provisions of this act, except  
6354 for the implementation of the Early Childhood Music Education  
6355 Incentive Pilot Program, as created by s. 1003.481, Florida  
6356 Statutes, the Committee on Early Grade Success, as created by

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6357 section 65 of this act, and the Shared Use Task Force, as  
6358 created by section 67 of this act.

6359 Section 72. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
6360 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon  
6361 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,  
6362 2017.

6363  
6364 -----

**T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

6366 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

6367 A bill to be entitled

6368 An act relating to education; amending s. 11.45, F.S.;  
6369 requiring the Auditor General to conduct annual audits  
6370 of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind;  
6371 amending s. 1002.71, F.S.; revising the deadline for  
6372 the amendment of a student enrollment count for  
6373 specified purposes; amending s. 1003.52, F.S.;  
6374 deleting provisions relating to the Florida School for  
6375 Boys in Okeechobee; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.;  
6376 revising requirements for the recalculation of  
6377 specified funds; requiring that the lowest-performing  
6378 elementary schools be determined by specified  
6379 assessment results; deleting provisions relating to  
6380 caps imposed on the amounts of bonuses awarded to  
6381 teachers based on student performance on certain

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6382 course examinations and certifications; requiring a  
6383 specified amount of funds generated by a certain bonus  
6384 be allocated to the school program that generated the  
6385 funds; providing for the allocation of supplemental  
6386 academic instruction funds; revising the requirements  
6387 to be considered a small, isolated school; revising  
6388 the requirements for an independent college or  
6389 university to participate in specified programs;  
6390 providing an alternate district sparsity index  
6391 calculation for certain school districts; revising  
6392 provisions relating to the research-based reading  
6393 instruction allocation and the use of such funds;  
6394 revising provisions relating to the Florida digital  
6395 classrooms allocation and the use of such funds;  
6396 deleting provisions relating to a required district  
6397 digital classrooms plan; revising the federally  
6398 connected student supplement; revising the calculation  
6399 of the exempt property allocation; providing for the  
6400 recalculation of the supplement; creating the safe  
6401 schools allocation and providing the purpose of the  
6402 allocation; providing that under allocations of state  
6403 funds may not be the basis for a positive allocation  
6404 adjustment in the current year; conforming provisions  
6405 to changes by the act; amending s. 1013.738, F.S. ;  
6406 revising the purposes for which the High Growth

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6407 District Capital Outlay Assistance Grant Program funds  
6408 may be used; revising the school district  
6409 qualification criteria for the grant; revising the  
6410 funding methodology; amending s. 1011.78, F.S.;;  
6411 revising school district and charter school  
6412 requirements to qualify for a standard student attire  
6413 incentive payment; creating s. 1003.631, F.S.;;  
6414 creating the Schools of Excellence Program; providing  
6415 for designation as a School of Excellence; providing  
6416 requirements for a School of Excellence; providing for  
6417 redesignation; authorizing Schools of Excellence to  
6418 have specified administrative flexibilities; amending  
6419 s. 1012.56, F.S.;; requiring the Department of  
6420 Education to issue a temporary educator certificate  
6421 within a specified period; requiring the department to  
6422 provide electronic notice of the issuance of a  
6423 temporary certificate to specified entities; requiring  
6424 the department to provide the applicant an official  
6425 statement of status of eligibility upon issuance of a  
6426 temporary certificate; providing content requirements  
6427 for the statement of status of eligibility; revising  
6428 the criteria instructional personnel must meet to be  
6429 issued a professional certificate; requiring the  
6430 department to provide electronic notification of the  
6431 expiration of a temporary educator certificate;

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6432 requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules  
6433 providing for the extension of a temporary educator  
6434 certificate for a specified period under certain  
6435 circumstances; providing that an applicant for  
6436 professional certification is not required to take or  
6437 pass a specified examination under certain  
6438 circumstances; authorizing charter schools and charter  
6439 management organizations to develop a professional  
6440 development certification and education competency  
6441 program; revising program requirements; requiring the  
6442 department to adopt standards for the approval of such  
6443 programs by a specified date; providing requirements  
6444 for such standards; requiring each school district and  
6445 charter school to submit its program for approval by a  
6446 specified date; providing that certification  
6447 requirements may not be met in a program that is not  
6448 approved by the department after a specified date;  
6449 amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; revising core curricula  
6450 requirements for certain teacher preparation programs  
6451 to include certain reading instruction and  
6452 interventions; amending s. 1004.85, F.S.; requiring  
6453 certain educator preparation institutes to provide  
6454 evidence of specified reading instruction as a  
6455 condition of program approval and continued approval;  
6456 amending s. 1012.585, F.S.; revising requirements for

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6457 renewal of professional teaching certificates;  
6458 amending s. 1012.586, F.S.; authorizing the department  
6459 to recommend consolidation of endorsement areas and  
6460 requirements for endorsements for teacher  
6461 certificates; requiring the department to review and  
6462 make recommendations regarding certain subject  
6463 coverage or endorsement requirements; providing  
6464 construction; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; revising the  
6465 activities designed to implement the school community  
6466 professional development act to include specified  
6467 training relating to a professional development  
6468 certification and education competency program;  
6469 revising requirements for school district professional  
6470 development systems; requiring the department to  
6471 disseminate professional development programs that  
6472 meet specified criteria; creating s. 683.1455, F.S.;  
6473 designating the month of September annually as  
6474 "American Founders' Month"; authorizing the Governor  
6475 to annually issue a proclamation containing specified  
6476 information; amending s. 1000.03, F.S.; revising the  
6477 priorities of Florida's K-20 education system to  
6478 include civic literacy; amending s. 1001.215, F.S.;  
6479 revising the duties of the Just Read, Florida! Office;  
6480 amending s. 1003.44, F.S.; encouraging public schools  
6481 to coordinate certain instruction with American

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6482 Founders' Month; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; requiring  
6483 postsecondary students to demonstrate competency in  
6484 civic literacy and providing requirements therefor;  
6485 providing for the appointment of a faculty committee;  
6486 requiring the committee to develop or revise certain  
6487 courses and establish specified course competencies;  
6488 amending ss. 943.22 and 1001.64, F.S.; conforming  
6489 cross-references; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.;

6490 conforming provisions to changes by the act; revising  
6491 the charter school application process; revising the  
6492 appeals process for a denied charter school  
6493 application; requiring the use of the standard charter  
6494 contract by specified entities; revising eligibility  
6495 requirements for charter school students enrolled in  
6496 blended learning courses; revising the criteria for  
6497 certain charter schools that must follow corrective  
6498 actions; authorizing a charter school to be exempt  
6499 from provisions relating to controlled open enrollment  
6500 under certain circumstances; clarifying provisions  
6501 relating to charter schools and tort liability;  
6502 revising the purpose of charter school cooperatives;  
6503 authorizing the use of unrestricted assets for  
6504 specified charter schools; requiring such funds to be  
6505 used in accordance with specified provisions;  
6506 prohibiting the adoption or imposition of specified

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6507 requirements by specified entities for charter  
6508 schools; revising the public information disclosures  
6509 of charter schools; authorizing certain entities to  
6510 share facilities with charter schools without  
6511 additional approval; providing charter schools are  
6512 eligible for capital outlay funds pursuant to  
6513 specified provisions; revising the administrative fees  
6514 that a district may withhold from charter schools;  
6515 requiring charter schools to complete and submit an  
6516 annual survey; deleting a requirement that the  
6517 Department of Education compare certain data; revising  
6518 eligibility criteria for designated local educational  
6519 agency status; authorizing the governing board of a  
6520 charter school system to be designated a local  
6521 educational agency for certain schools; revising State  
6522 Board of Education duties; amending 1002.3305, F.S.;  
6523 revising the definition for the term "eligible  
6524 student" for purposes of the College-preparatory  
6525 Boarding Academy Pilot Program; amending s. 1002.331,  
6526 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the  
6527 act; authorizing a high-performing charter school to  
6528 establish more than one charter school in any year  
6529 under certain circumstances; amending s. 1002.332,  
6530 F.S.; authorizing a high-performing charter school  
6531 system to replicate its schools in any school district

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6532 and providing application requirements therefor;  
6533 providing that certain procedures apply in specified  
6534 circumstances; conforming cross-references; amending  
6535 s. 1003.498, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements  
6536 for students enrolled in blended learning courses;  
6537 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
6538 amending s. 1007.35, F.S.; revising the name of an ACT  
6539 assessment for specified purposes; amending s.  
6540 1008.34, F.S.; revising the student performance data  
6541 to be included in school grades; amending s. 1008.341,  
6542 F.S.; including concordant scores in the calculation  
6543 of an alternative school's school improvement rating;  
6544 amending s. 1011.71, F.S.; providing that charter  
6545 schools are eligible for school districts  
6546 discretionary millage for specified purposes; revising  
6547 the approved uses of the discretionary millage;  
6548 authorizing the acquisition of enterprise resource  
6549 software through specified means; amending s. 1013.54,  
6550 F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s.  
6551 1013.62, F.S.; providing that charter school capital  
6552 outlay funds shall consist of specified funds;  
6553 revising charter school eligibility criteria for  
6554 capital outlay funds; revising the calculation  
6555 methodology for state funds appropriated for charter  
6556 school capital outlay; providing the calculation

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6557 methodology for the distribution of specified revenue  
6558 to eligible charter schools; revising the authorized  
6559 uses of charter school capital outlay funds; amending  
6560 s. 1013.64, F.S.; revising the calculation of capital  
6561 outlay membership for allocations to school districts  
6562 from the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt  
6563 Service Trust Fund; authorizing a district school  
6564 board to use funds from any source for the new  
6565 construction of educational plant space under certain  
6566 circumstances; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; deleting a  
6567 provision requiring certain students to take the  
6568 Algebra II end-of-course assessment; revising the  
6569 options that a district school board or charter school  
6570 governing board may offer for a student to satisfy  
6571 certain online course requirements; removing a  
6572 requirement that a student participating in  
6573 interscholastic sports pass a competency test on  
6574 personal fitness to satisfy the physical education  
6575 credit requirement for high school graduation;  
6576 amending s. 1003.4285, F.S.; deleting a provision  
6577 requiring students to pass the Algebra II end-of-  
6578 course assessment in order to earn a Scholar  
6579 designation; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; deleting a  
6580 provision requiring the Algebra II end-of-course  
6581 assessment to be administered; revising requirements

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6582 relating to the administration and format of  
6583 assessments; providing requirements for administration  
6584 of the statewide, standardized English Language Arts  
6585 and mathematics assessments in specified grades;  
6586 revising provisions relating to reporting requirements  
6587 for school district-required local assessments;  
6588 providing reporting requirements for certain student  
6589 assessment results; requiring the Department of  
6590 Education to publish certain assessments on its  
6591 website; providing requirements for such publication;  
6592 requiring the department to provide materials  
6593 regarding assessment information on its website;  
6594 conforming cross-references; defining the term  
6595 "secondary education"; amending s. 1012.34, F.S.;  
6596 revising personnel evaluation procedures and criteria;  
6597 requiring independent analysis of student learning  
6598 growth data; authorizing, rather than requiring, a  
6599 school district to use certain formulas developed by  
6600 the commissioner; requiring the Commissioner of  
6601 Education to contract for an independent study to  
6602 determine whether specified college entrance  
6603 examinations may be administered in lieu of certain  
6604 state-required assessments; requiring the commissioner  
6605 to submit a report on the results of such study to the  
6606 Governor, Legislature, and State Board of Education by

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6607 a specified date; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; revising  
6608 provisions relating to school improvements plans;  
6609 requiring only specified schools to submit a school  
6610 improvement plan; deleting a requirement that certain  
6611 information be included in the improvement plans of  
6612 certain schools; revising the grade levels required to  
6613 implement an early warning system; revising the  
6614 required content of an early warning system; requiring  
6615 a specified team to monitor specified data;  
6616 authorizing a psychologist to be a member of the team;  
6617 revising what constitutes an educational emergency and  
6618 establishing duties of district school boards relating  
6619 to such emergency; prohibiting a district school board  
6620 from awarding specified contracts based on certain  
6621 contingency or conditions; providing applicability;  
6622 providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision  
6623 and Information; creating s. 1001.4205, F.S.;;  
6624 authorizing an individual district school board member  
6625 to visit any district school in his or her school  
6626 district; authorizing an individual charter school  
6627 governing board member to visit any charter school  
6628 governed by the charter school's governing board;  
6629 providing requirements and restrictions; amending s.  
6630 1008.33, F.S.; providing requirements the intervention  
6631 and support strategies must meet; providing for

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6632 | tailored intervention and support services for  
6633 | specified schools; revising the required timeline for  
6634 | the implementation of a district-managed turnaround  
6635 | plan; providing turnaround options available to school  
6636 | districts meeting specified criteria; amending s.  
6637 | 1008.345, F.S.; revising reporting requirements of the  
6638 | Commissioner of Education relating to the state system  
6639 | of school improvement and education accountability;  
6640 | revising the criteria a school must meet to have a  
6641 | community assessment team; revising the duties of a  
6642 | community assessment team; creating s. 1002.333, F.S.,  
6643 | relating to persistently low-performing schools;  
6644 | providing definitions; providing eligibility criteria  
6645 | for hope operators; providing for the designation and  
6646 | redesignation of a hope operator; authorizing hope  
6647 | operators to establish schools of hope in specified  
6648 | areas; providing the process for the establishment of  
6649 | a school of hope; providing the requirements for a  
6650 | performance-based agreement; authorizing a school of  
6651 | hope to be designated as a local education agency;  
6652 | providing that a sponsor is not liable for specified  
6653 | damages; providing that a school of hope may be a  
6654 | private or public employer; authorizing a school of  
6655 | hope to participate in the Florida Retirement System;  
6656 | authorizing a hope operator to employ certain staff;

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6657 providing specific statutory exemptions for schools of  
6658 hope; requiring a school of hope to report its  
6659 students for specified purposes; requiring a school  
6660 district to include specified students in the  
6661 district's report of student enrollment; requiring  
6662 certain schools to comply with specified reporting  
6663 guidelines; requiring a school of hope to provide the  
6664 school district with a financial statement summary  
6665 sheet that meets certain requirements; providing  
6666 requirements for facilities used by schools of hope;  
6667 requiring districts to annually provide a list of  
6668 specified property to the department; requiring  
6669 certain school districts that do not enter into  
6670 specified agreements within a certain timeframe to  
6671 reduce specified fees; providing for attorney fees  
6672 under certain circumstances; providing that schools of  
6673 hope shall be funded through the Florida Education  
6674 Finance Program; creating the Schools of Hope Program;  
6675 providing that schools of hope are eligible for funds  
6676 through the program; providing guidelines for the use  
6677 of such funds; providing that certain traditional  
6678 public schools are eligible for such funds; providing  
6679 duties of the State Board of Education; providing a  
6680 mechanism to address school district noncompliance;  
6681 providing authority and obligations of the State Board

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6682 of Education; providing a mechanism for the resolution  
6683 of disputes; providing for rulemaking; creating s.  
6684 1001.291, F.S.; establishing the Schools of Hope  
6685 Revolving Loan Program; providing criteria for  
6686 administration of the program; amending s. 1011.69,  
6687 F.S.; requiring school districts to provide specified  
6688 funds directly to schools eligible to receive such  
6689 funds; providing a definition; authorizing school  
6690 districts to withhold certain funds for specified  
6691 purposes; authorizing eligible schools to use funds to  
6692 participate in certain services; amending s. 1012.731,  
6693 F.S.; providing the scholarship amount for the Florida  
6694 Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program;  
6695 revising the future eligibility criteria for the  
6696 program; providing additional scholarships to certain  
6697 teachers for specified school years; providing for  
6698 retention of a classroom teacher's scholarship  
6699 eligibility under certain circumstances; requiring  
6700 each school district to annually submit certain  
6701 information to the Department of Education; deleting  
6702 the scheduled expiration of the section; creating s.  
6703 1012.732, F.S.; creating the Florida Best and  
6704 Brightest Principal Scholarship Program; providing  
6705 legislative intent; providing for funding of the  
6706 program; providing for certain school principals to

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6707 receive a scholarship under the program; providing  
6708 eligibility requirements; providing scholarship  
6709 amounts; requiring the department to annually identify  
6710 eligible school principals and disburse funds to  
6711 school districts by a specified date; requiring each  
6712 eligible school principal to receive a scholarship;  
6713 requiring school districts to annually award  
6714 scholarships to eligible school principals by a  
6715 specified date; requiring school districts to provide  
6716 best and brightest principals with specified  
6717 additional authority and responsibilities; defining  
6718 the term "school district"; amending s. 1002.385,  
6719 F.S.; revising a definition for the Gardiner  
6720 Scholarship Program; defining the term "inactive" for  
6721 the purposes of the program; authorizing program funds  
6722 to be used for specified purposes and by specified  
6723 entities; prohibiting billing of certain entities for  
6724 services paid for through the program; revising  
6725 private school eligibility requirements; providing  
6726 that consecutive years of certain material exceptions  
6727 constitutes program ineligibility for certain private  
6728 schools; prohibiting certain students from receiving  
6729 additional scholarship payments until certain  
6730 conditions are met; revising funding calculations;  
6731 amending s. 1003.455, F.S.; requiring district school

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6732 boards to provide a specified amount of recess to  
6733 certain students; amending s. 1002.37, F.S.; revising  
6734 eligibility requirements for specified students to  
6735 receive part-time instruction at the Florida Virtual  
6736 School; removing provisions requiring the Auditor  
6737 General to conduct an operational audit of the Florida  
6738 Virtual School; amending s. 1002.455, F.S.;  
6739 authorizing all students, including home education and  
6740 private school students, to participate in specified  
6741 virtual instruction options; deleting the eligibility  
6742 criteria for a student to participate in virtual  
6743 instruction; amending s. 1002.45, F.S.; revising  
6744 student eligibility and participation requirements for  
6745 virtual instruction programs; amending s. 1002.20,  
6746 F.S.; revising requirements for notifying a parent of  
6747 a student with a substantial reading deficiency;  
6748 authorizing a parent to request and be granted  
6749 permission for a student's absence from school for  
6750 treatment of autism spectrum disorder by a licensed  
6751 health care practitioner; authorizing a student to  
6752 possess and use a topical sunscreen while on school  
6753 property or at a school-sponsored event or activity  
6754 under certain circumstances; amending s. 1002.69,  
6755 F.S.; requiring data from the statewide kindergarten  
6756 screening to be used to identify certain students;

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6757 amending s. 1008.25, F.S.; requiring district school  
6758 boards to allocate certain instruction resources to  
6759 certain students deficient in reading; revising  
6760 criteria and requiring the State Board of Education to  
6761 identify guidelines for determining whether certain  
6762 students have a substantial deficiency in reading;  
6763 providing that students with a substantial reading  
6764 deficiency must be covered by certain plans; revising  
6765 the parental notification requirements for students  
6766 with a substantial deficiency in reading; requiring  
6767 the Department of Education to develop or contract  
6768 with another entity to develop a handbook containing  
6769 specific information for parents of students with a  
6770 substantial reading deficiency; defining the terms  
6771 "dyslexia" and "dyscalculia"; requiring schools to  
6772 provide certain instruction to students who received a  
6773 good cause exemption from retention; revising grounds  
6774 for such good cause exemption; revising intervention  
6775 requirements for certain retained students; revising  
6776 provisions relating to the Intensive Acceleration  
6777 Class for retained students in certain grades;  
6778 revising student progress evaluation requirements;  
6779 amending s. 1011.67, F.S.; revising the contents of a  
6780 comprehensive staff development plan required for each  
6781 school district to receive instructional materials

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6782 funds; amending s. 1002.51, F.S.; defining the term  
6783 "public school prekindergarten provider"; amending s.  
6784 1003.21, F.S.; requiring each district school board to  
6785 adopt an attendance policy authorizing a student's  
6786 absence for treatment of autism spectrum disorder;  
6787 amending s. 1003.24, F.S.; revising an exemption  
6788 relating to parental responsibility for nonattendance  
6789 of a student to include treatment for autism spectrum  
6790 disorder; amending s. 1003.4156, F.S.; deleting  
6791 requirements relating to the career and education  
6792 planning course for middle grades promotion; amending  
6793 s. 1003.57, F.S.; prohibiting certain school districts  
6794 from declining to provide or contract for certain  
6795 students' educational instruction; providing for  
6796 funding of such students; amending s. 1006.40, F.S.;  
6797 providing an exception from the required uses of a  
6798 specified allocation for certain school districts;  
6799 amending s. 1009.60, F.S.; revising eligibility  
6800 criteria for receipt of a minority teacher education  
6801 scholarship; amending s. 1009.605, F.S.; revising the  
6802 scholar awards on which the Florida Fund for Minority  
6803 Teachers, Inc.'s, budget projection must be based;  
6804 creating the Committee on Early Grade Success within  
6805 the Department of Education; specifying committee  
6806 purpose; requiring the committee to develop a proposal

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6807 for specified purposes; providing proposal  
6808 requirements; providing for membership of the  
6809 committee; providing requirements for electing a  
6810 committee chair and vice chair; providing committee  
6811 meeting requirements; requiring the University of  
6812 Florida Lastinger Center for Learning to provide  
6813 necessary staff for the committee; requiring the  
6814 committee to submit a report by a specified date;  
6815 providing for the expiration of the committee;  
6816 authorizing rulemaking; creating s. 1013.101, F.S.;  
6817 providing legislative findings and intent; defining  
6818 terms; requiring the Department of Education to  
6819 provide specified assistance to school districts;  
6820 creating the Shared Use Task Force within the  
6821 department; specifying the purpose and membership of  
6822 the task force; providing requirements for electing a  
6823 task force chair and vice chair and conducting its  
6824 meetings; requiring the department to provide the task  
6825 force with necessary staff; requiring the task force  
6826 to submit a report to the Legislature by a specified  
6827 date; providing for expiration of the task force;  
6828 amending s. 125.901, F.S.; providing that the  
6829 membership of the governing body of certain  
6830 independent special districts in specified counties  
6831 may include the designee of the superintendent of

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6832 schools in lieu of the superintendent; creating s.  
6833 1003.481, F.S.; creating the Early Childhood Music  
6834 Education Incentive Pilot Program within the  
6835 Department of Education for a specified period;  
6836 providing for school district eligibility; providing  
6837 comprehensive music education program requirements;  
6838 providing for school district selection, funding, and  
6839 program payments; requiring selected school districts  
6840 to annually provide a specified certification to the  
6841 Commissioner of Education; requiring a selected school  
6842 district to return funds under certain circumstances;  
6843 requiring the University of Florida's College of  
6844 Education to perform an evaluation; authorizing the  
6845 State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing for  
6846 expiration of the pilot program; providing for  
6847 severability; providing appropriations; providing  
6848 effective dates.

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