

## St. Johns County School District

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Superintendent



# St. Johns County School District Legislative Platform 2013 Session

## Funding

- ❖ Restore the optional local capital outlay millage authority to 1.75 and allow the levy of additional critical needs of .25 by a simple majority vote of the school board, without a referendum.
- ❖ Revise the COFTE calculation to include students taking a virtual instruction course on their school's campus.
- ❖ Restore an appropriate share of state PECO dollars for non-charter public schools through changes and enhancements to the PECO program.
- ❖ Develop and use a formula in the distribution of state PECO dollars that takes into consideration the needs of growing districts.
- ❖ For students participating in the Opportunity Scholarship Program, require district levied capital outlay dollars to follow the student from their home school district to the receiving school district.
- ❖ Revise performance-based funding for End-of-Course exams to provide for an extra incentive above the base student allocation rather than a penalty that hurts already financially struggling districts.
- ❖ Support funding, in addition to the FEFP, for technology needs, including infrastructure, hardware, software, training, and portable delivery devices, resulting from the statutory requirements to expand on-line testing, digital and virtual instruction/textbooks and data collection.
- ❖ Provide a per student administrative fee to cover the cost of monitoring and reviewing home education students' evaluations.

## Testing

- ❖ Move the state standardized testing window closer to the end of the school year and decrease the turn-around time of when standardized testing is taken to when the results are provided.
- ❖ Require the Department of Education to develop uniform End-of-Course Exams for all courses and only implement them as they are created.

*The St. Johns County School District will inspire good character and a passion for lifelong learning in all students, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.*

School Board

Beverly Slough  
District 1

Tommy Allen  
District 2

Bill Mignon  
District 3

Bill Fehling  
District 4

Patrick Canan  
District 5

- ❖ Create concordant passing scores on the PERT, PSAT, SAT, and ACT for the state developed EOC exams that are required for graduation and consolidate high school assessments so that one exam can serve multiple purposes, such as college readiness and high school proficiency.
- ❖ Restore the two-year exemption, instead of the current one-year, during which the scores of English-Language-Learners (ELL) students are exempt from the overall FCAT results.
- ❖ Restore the school grading procedures for Exceptional Education Students (ESE) as it relates to proficiency/performance to those in place prior to the Federal ESEA Waiver.

### **Local Authority/ Public School Parity**

- ❖ Allow school district franchise virtual schools to operate with the same calendar freedom of Florida Virtual School by ensuring consistency in funding throughout both the regular and summer terms.
- ❖ Grant local school boards the final decision-making authority over a denial or approval of a charter school application.
- ❖ Allow district operated public schools to be determined in compliance with class size requirements at the school level, rather than the classroom level, as charter schools currently are or remove the penalties for exceeding maximum class size requirements.
- ❖ Revise the Local Instructional Improvement Systems (LIIS) guidelines in order to establish realistic and obtainable standards and expand the implementation timeline.