



# 2022 Legislative Review

St. Johns County School Board Workshop

June 7, 2022

# Session Overview

- September 20, 2021.....Committees began meeting
- January 11, 2022.....First Day of Session
- March 11, 2022.....Final Day of Session
- Total General Bills filed: 1,753 with 238 bills passed
- Special Sessions
  - April 19-22
  - May 23-27



2022 Legislative Platform

# State Funding



# State Funding

- Maintain 2021-2022 Required Local Effort (RLE) millage rate, resulting in an increase in the Base Student Allocation (BSA)
  - RLE held constant at 3.606 mills
  - BSA increased by \$214.49 per student
- Maintain funding of the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation
  - Funding increased and distribution requirements amended to better address the needs of veteran teachers
  - SJCS D secured \$4.6M in additional funding for this coming year
- High Growth School District Capital Outlay Allocation
  - \$11.4M



2022 Legislative Platform

# State Policy



# State Policy

- Support efforts to reduce barriers to the recruitment and retention of high-quality personnel
  - Teacher salary allocation increase and distribution flexibility
  - Classroom teacher homestead tax exemption
  - \$15 minimum wage increase
  - Military veteran opportunity for streamlined educator certification
- Support legislation that recognizes and preserves the constitutional and local decision-making authority of school boards
  - 12 year term limit enacted



# State Policy

- Support parity for district virtual programs by allowing them to operate with the same calendar freedom as Florida Virtual School by ensuring consistency in funding throughout both the regular and summer terms
  - Included within SB 2524
- Support efforts to remove the intelligent quotient score requirement to qualify a student for the Florida Standards Alternate Assessment
  - No Movement, issue of continuing concern with the Department of Education
- Expand bus transportation eligibility to students living one mile or farther from the school site, to include full funding for additional services
  - Legislation filed by Sen. Hutson & Rep. Stevenson was heard in committee but did not pass into law



2022 Legislative Session

# General Bills





# HB 1: Homestead Tax Exemption

- Proposes an amendment to the state constitution to authorize an additional homestead exemption of \$50,000 for classroom teachers
- Defines a “classroom teacher” as a staff member assigned to the professional activity of instructing K-12 students in courses and classroom situations, including basic instruction, exceptional student education, and career education
- Subject to approval by 60% of Florida voters in the 2022 general election



# HB 7: Individual Freedom

- Specifies that subjecting any individual as a condition of employment to any required activity that espouses, promotes, advances, or compels such individual to believe certain divisive concepts constitutes unlawful discrimination
- Defines individual freedoms based on the fundamental truth that all individuals are equal before the law and have inalienable rights
- Requires students to develop an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping on individual freedoms, and examine what it means to be a responsible and respectful person
- Requires that instruction, instructional materials, and professional development in public schools be consistent with the principles of individual freedom



# HB 173: Care of Students w/ Seizure Disorders

- Creates an individualized seizure action plan (ISAP) which informs school personnel of the unique health care services required by the student and how to respond in emergency situations
- Requires a school to implement an ISAP once a parent submits it to the school principal and school nurse
- Requires a school nurse or an appropriate school employee to:
  - Coordinate the provision of epilepsy and seizure disorder care, including administering medication, as outlined in a student's ISAP; and
  - Verify that school employees, whose duties include regular contact with a student with an ISAP, have completed training in the care of students with epilepsy and seizure disorders



# HB 225: Charter School Charters

- Current law allows for a charter to be modified, including consolidating two or more charter schools, and provides procedures for terminating or non-renewing a charter. This bill revises these provisions to:
  - Specify that a charter may be modified at any time, during any term
  - Require that a request for the consolidation of multiple charters be approved or denied within 60 days after submission of the request
  - Specify that a sponsor provide notice to a charter school of a decision to renew, terminate, or not renew before a vote and at least 90 days before the end of the school year; and
  - Provide for the automatic renewal of a charter if notification does not occur at least 90 days before the end of the school year



# SB 236: Children w/ Developmental Delays

- Modifies the definition of a developmental delay by extending the upper age limit for the identification of a student as having a developmental delay from age 5 to age 9, the maximum age authorized by federal law, or through the completion of 2nd grade, whichever comes first
- Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules for the identification of developmental delays in students up to age 9 or 2nd grade, whichever comes first, who are eligible for admission to public special education programs and for related services



# HB 395: Victims of Communism Day

- Requires the governor to annually issue a proclamation designating November 7th as “Victims of Communism Day” and calls for public schools to observe the day
- Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the bill requires high school students enrolled in the U.S. Government course to receive at least 45 minutes of instruction on “Victims of Communism Day” on topics of communist dictators and how the victims of communism suffered under these regimes
- Requires the State Board of Education to adopt revised social studies standards for the required United States Government course that incorporate educational standards for instruction on “Victims of Communism Day” by April 1, 2023



# HB 461: Bright Futures Student Service Requirements

- Authorizes a student to meet the volunteer service requirements prescribed under each award in the Bright Futures Program through 100 hours of paid work beginning with high school students graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year



# SB 706: School Concurrency

- Provides that school concurrency is deemed satisfied when the developer tenders a written legally binding commitment, rather than actually executes the commitment, to provide mitigation proportionate to the demand created by the development
- A district school board must notify the local government that capacity is available for the development within 30 days after receipt of the developer's commitment
- Provides that such mitigation paid by a developer, rather than being immediately directed toward a school capacity improvement, must be set aside and not spent until an appropriate improvement is identified





# SB 758: Charter School Review Commission

- Provides that a legislator may visit any public school in the member's district without prior notice. The school may not require an escort or limit the duration or scope of the visit
- Creates the Charter School Review Commission within DOE to review and approve applications for charter schools overseen by school boards
  - Requires the school district in which the charter school is located to serve as sponsor following application approval by the commission
- Requires a school district to provide an initial proposed charter contract to a charter school within 30 calendar days after the commission's approval of an application
- Requires that a proportionate share of costs per student station of educational impact fees be designated for the construction of charter school facilities that mitigate student impact



# SB 896: Educator Certification Pathways for Veterans

- Removes the requirement that an applicant for a temporary educator certificate hold a baccalaureate degree if the applicant has completed:
  - At least 48 months of active-duty military service with an honorable discharge or medical separation; and
  - At least 60 college credits with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, as provided by one or more accredited institutions of higher learning or a non-accredited institution of higher learning that the Department of Education has identified as having a quality program resulting in a bachelor's degree or higher



# SB 1048: Student Assessments

- Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, the end-of- year comprehensive progress monitoring assessment will be the statewide, standardized ELA assessment for students in grades 3 through 10 and the statewide, standardized Mathematics assessment for students in grades 3 through 8
- The system must provide results from the first 2 administrations to a student's teacher within 1 week and to the student's parent within 2 weeks of testing
- Provides that the 2022-2023 school grades and district grades shall serve as a baseline for schools and districts
- Due to the absence of learning gains data in the 2022-2023 school year, the initial school grading scale for the 2022-2023 informational baseline grades shall be set so that the percentage of schools that earn an "A," "B," "C," "D," and "F" is statistically equivalent to the 2021- 2022 school grades results



# SB 1054: Personal Financial Literacy

- Beginning with students entering 9th grade in the 2023-2024 school year, each student must earn one-half credit in personal financial literacy and money management
- Requires a student in the CTE graduation pathway that enters 9th grade in the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter to complete 1.5 credits in electives or work-based learning programs and one-half credit in financial literacy



# HB 1421: School Safety

- Requires district school boards and charter school governing boards to adopt a plan that guides family reunification when K-12 public schools are closed or unexpectedly evacuated due to natural or manmade disasters
- Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules setting requirements for emergency drills including timing, frequency, participation, training, notification, and accommodations
- Requires law enforcement responsible for responding to schools in the event of an assailant emergency be physically present and participate in active assailant drills
- Requires safe-school officers that are sworn law enforcement officers to complete mental health crisis intervention training
- Requires school districts to annually certify that at least 80% of school personnel received the mandatory youth mental health awareness training



# HB 1467: Library Materials Review and School Board Term Limits

- Establishes 12 year term limits for district school board members
- Requires certain school district instructional material review committee meetings be noticed and open to the public
- Requires school district personnel who are involved in reviewing and selecting certain instructional materials and library materials to complete training developed by DOE on selecting quality, age-appropriate books, prior to making selections
- Requires school districts to provide access to all instructional materials for public inspection and to publish in a searchable format a list of all instructional materials available to students on the school website



# HB 1467: Library Materials Review (cont'd)

- Requires school districts to adopt and post procedures for developing library media center collections
- Requires material in a school library or grade-level reading list to be selected by a certified educational media specialist
- Requires school districts to provide a public review process for the adoption of all materials and to select, approve, adopt, or purchase materials as a separate line item on a board meeting agenda and provide reasonable opportunity for public comment
- Requires school districts to submit an annual report to DOE identifying materials that received an objection



# HB 1557: Parental Rights in Education

- Requires district school boards to adopt procedures for notifying a student's parent if there is a change in the student's services or monitoring related to the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being
- The procedures must require personnel to discuss issues relating to the student's well-being with his or her parents or to facilitate discussion of the issue with the parent
- School district personnel may not discourage or prohibit parental notification of and involvement in critical decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being
- School districts may still adopt procedures that permit school personnel to withhold such information from the parent if a reasonably prudent person would believe that disclosure would result in abuse, abandonment, or neglect





# HB 1557: Parental Rights in Education (cont'd)

- Provides that classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in kindergarten through 3rd grade or in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards
- Requires parental notification at the beginning of each school year of each healthcare service offered at their student's school and the option to withhold consent or decline any specific service



# HB 1557: Parental Rights in Education (cont'd)

- Requires school districts to adopt procedures for a parent to notify the principal, or designee, regarding concerns under this bill at his or her student's school and the process for resolving those concerns within 7 calendar days after notification by the parent
- Requires that within 30 days after notification by the parent that the concern remains unresolved, the school district must either resolve the concern or provide a statement of the reasons for not resolving the concern
- If a concern is not resolved by the school district, a parent may:
  - Request the Commissioner of Education appoint a special magistrate to determine facts relating to the dispute and render a recommended decision for resolution to the State BOE within 30 days after receipt of the request by the parent. Cost of the magistrate must be borne by the school district, or
  - Bring a civil action against the school district to obtain a declaratory judgment and seek injunctive relief



# SB 2524: Education

- Requires districts and charter schools to make Controlled Open Enrollment capacity determinations by grade level, not just for the school, and update those determinations every 12 weeks
- Specifies teacher evaluation procedures are not a mandatory subject of collective bargaining
- Provides that local virtual school franchises will be funded the same as for students enrolled in Florida Virtual School



# HB 5003: GAA Implementing Bill

- Requires that in order to be awarded school recognition funds, a school must have maintained an A grade or demonstrated improvement, and it also must not have been found in violation of emergency rules promulgated by the Department of Health during the 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 school year



# HB 5007: FRS Contribution Increases

- Establishes the contribution rates paid by employers participating in the Florida Retirement System
- Increases the amount of employer-paid contributions allocated to each active member's investment plan account by three percent of the employee's compensation



# HB 7049: Legal Notices

- Provides a governmental agency the option to publish legal notices on a publicly accessible website of a county instead of in a print newspaper under specified conditions



# HB 7057: Cybersecurity Public Records Exemption

- Provides a general public record exemption for the following information held before, on, or after July 1, 2022:
  - Coverage limits, deductible or self-insurance amounts of insurance or other risk mitigation coverages acquired for the protection of IT systems
  - Information and data related to cybersecurity
- Creates a public meeting exemption for any portion of a meeting that would reveal the confidential and exempt information; however, any portion of an exempt meeting must be recorded and transcribed



# HB 7071: Taxation

- Provides a 14-day “back-to-school” sales tax holiday from July 25, 2022, through August 7, 2022, for certain clothing, school supplies, learning aids and puzzles, and personal computers
- Authorizes school districts to use the school capital outlay surtax for the purchase, lease, or maintenance of school buses
- Increases the authorized amount of discretionary millage that may be used by a school district for purchases of certain vehicles and insurance from \$150 FTE to \$175 FTE under 1011.71(5), F.S.





# Looking Ahead

- Implementation of new laws along with new State Board of Education rules
- 2023 Legislative Platform Development
- Legislative committee work begins mid-December to early January
- Regular Session convenes Tuesday, March 7, 2023



# Questions?

