

Florida Association of School Administrators 2011 Legislative Platform

Florida's Public School Administrators strongly support measures that allow school districts and schools to focus on their core mission: EDUCATING FLORIDA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN SAFE AND EFFECTIVE CLASSROOMS.

To achieve this goal, we ask Florida's legislative leaders to consider the following recommendations:

Support Providing Statutory Flexibility with the Class Size Amendment

- Limiting definitions and compliance reporting dates
- Eliminating financial penalties that punish schools and students and fully funding the state's responsibility for smaller class sizes
- Ensure equity among all forms of public schools

Protect and Maintain the benefits of the Florida Retirement System

- Ensure any changes made do not impact current employees
- Ensure Florida remains able to compete with border states for all public education personnel
- Allow monies paid into the retirement system for an employee who dies prior to retirement to default to a defined contribution plan and allow for beneficiaries to receive support.

Increase and Stabilize Revenue and School District Budgets

- Maintain the Equity and Integrity of the FEFP
- Adequately identify costs and adequately fund the start up and continuation of any new legislative requirements that have a fiscal impact on local school districts.
- Support a Joint Resolution to participate in the Streamlined Sales Tax Project, allowing for Internet and Catalog sales taxes to be collected according to law.
- Certified Career and Professional Academy courses should continue to receive weighted funding.
- Professional growth and training should be funded by the state for all public education personnel.

Performance Pay Programs Impact all School-based Personnel who support student learning

- Any performance pay program should be developed and implemented along appropriate timelines as recommended by education stakeholders and utilize progressive gains based on statistically reliable and valid measures.
- Funding beyond current FEFP levels is essential to long term stabilization and success of merit pay.
- Administrative and other educational personnel who support student learning outside the classroom should be evaluated appropriately according to their position in the school.