



## District's Issues of Continuing Concern 2020

In addition to the adopted School Board Legislative Platform, the District continues to advocate for change to the following issues of continuing concern:

### **ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Remove the statutory sunset of the Competency-Based Education Pilot Program so that PBCSD's accelerated elementary math program may continue. Advocate for school grade weighting for students that test above grade level.

Advocate for continued state funding for the Principal Autonomy Program Initiative annual salary supplements, which provide funding to PBCSD pilot programs at the following schools: Lakeshore Middle School, Barton Elementary School and West Riviera Beach Elementary School.

Extend Schools of Hope timeframe to improve failing schools (DD, DDD, and F schools). Currently, new principals are appointed to the most at-risk schools and have only one year to complete a positive change. Turnaround requires more time in order to make long-term improvements.

Allow students to take alternative assessments, such as portfolio assessments, to replace End of Course Exams, which will lead to increased graduation rates and a reduced reliance on test scores.

Allow Grade 9-10 FSA ELA to begin testing by April 15 for FSA ELA and EOC courses to decrease testing fatigue for students, particularly those in high school settings.

### **FUNDING**

Advocate for a local legislative budget request to establish an African American History Museum at the Historic Roosevelt High School.

Additional grants for the Glades-area Career and Technical Education Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship programs.

Continue to monitor the legislature's initiative to study the DCD, and support changes that would allow the DCD to increase proportionally with the cost of living.

Increase funding for transportation, especially in light of Palm Beach County's large geographic size (larger cost of transportation compared to other counties).

Increase funding for ESE/Special Ed Students.

No retroactive sharing of sales tax or millage with charter schools.

Increase funding of categorical dollars to allow for IB Middle Years Program/AICE/and AP instructional materials to be purchased to allow for increased enrollment in advanced courses and ensures students have access to required instructional materials.

Remove restriction on school districts to set Title I eligibility determination threshold no higher than 16-17 rates, or the state's poverty average, to allow the districts to exercise the flexibility set forth in federal law (ESSA), i.e., serve schools as low as 35% or serve schools beginning at 75%.

Increase the percentage of Title I funds districts may reserve at the district level to provide education services to district schools in accordance with the approved Title I plan from 1% to 2% or greater to afford the District an opportunity to provide a menu of support services to Title I schools that leverages resources and takes advantage of economies of scale found at the district level.

## **OTHER**

If universities and colleges are given the authority to become alternate charter authorizers, ensure they also are held responsible for the compliance of the charters they authorize (including safety and security mandates).

Eliminate the requirement that school districts must pay tuition or administrative fees to state colleges and universities for dual enrollment.

Clarify Hope Scholarship Act to require bullying incidents be "substantiated" in order to be eligible for scholarship funds.

Florida Statute 1012.31(b)(1) currently prohibits the District from placing any item in a personnel file unless it was "reduced to writing within 45 days, exclusive of the summer vacation period, of the school system administration becoming aware of the facts reflected in the materials." Revise the statute to give employers more flexibility (suggested language: "reduced to writing within 45 business days, exclusive of any student vacation period, of the school system administration becoming aware of the facts reflected in the materials. Such timeline will be extended to 60 business days if the item to be placed in the personnel file is related to a disciplinary action of a suspension or termination of employment.")