

Sarasota County Public Schools

Draft 2018 Legislative Issues

(from School Board discussion 6/20/17)

- Increase the Base Student Allocation (BSA) in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) to cover enrollment growth, workload and state programmatic changes, and inflation; and calculate the Required Local Effort (RLE) in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) to include new construction added to annual county tax rolls;
- Provide for hiring of instructional personnel as substitute teachers one month after termination without penalty to their state retirement pension;
- Continue to streamline and reduce the amount of state required student assessment to bring it in line with requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), also ensuring the FLDOE concordance with SAT/ACT exams with FSA is completed; modify the waiver for certain special education students from state assessment requirements (Florida Standards Assessment in particular) so that students enrolled in ESE programs, except gifted, are exempt unless the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) provides for such assessment;
- Strengthen teacher training standards and curriculum for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) programs to assure all participating children are ready for kindergarten; as part, obtain flexibility and resources for Sarasota Schools to fully implement a summer learning program for educationally vulnerable children and their parents with emphasis on grade 3 (specifics TBA) in partnership with groups such as the Florida Chamber of Commerce;