

SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE

HB 7069 creates S. 1003.631 F.S. Schools of Excellence to:

- Establish the Schools of Excellence program to provide administrative flexibility to the state's top schools.
- Allow schools to retain this designation for up to three years and provide renewal criteria.
- Allow exemption from any law that requires a minimum period of reading instruction.
- Allow Principal autonomy as provided under s. 1012.28 (8).
 - Public school personnel; duties of school principals
 - Give Schools of Excellence 90% of Funds per FEFP based upon F.S. 1011.69
- Allow Principal authority to select qualified instructional personnel for placement or refusal to accept the placement or transfer of instructional personnel by the superintendent.
- Provide exemption from compliance with district policies or procedures that establish times for the start and completion of the school day.
- Calculate class size based on the average number of students at the school level.
- Principal must annually provide to the superintendent and school board a budget for the operation of the participating school that identifies how funds provided pursuant to s. 1011.69(2) are allocated.
- Give Principal authority to deploy financial resources to school programs to help improve student achievement as defined in s.1008.34(1), a.
- Schools of Excellence list approved by the State Board of Education on October 18, 2017 (attached).

PROCESS CHANGES:

- FINANCE
 - Schools will be responsible for providing annual budget for the operation of the school to the superintendent and identify how funds are allocated.
 - Schools will be accountable for monitoring and spending funds to insure they don't exceed the revenues earned.
- HUMAN RESOURCES
 - Staffing Allocations/Positions
 - Staffing Process
- INTEGRATED INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
 - District Adopted Curriculum
 - Principals will have autonomy to move away from District Adopted Curriculum and select materials that will act as a driver to increase student outcomes.
 - Instructional Materials Allocation
- IT DEPARTMENT
 - Purchases made outside of District Policy?
 - Digital Technology Allocation
- SAFETY AND SECURITY
 - Safe School Allocation
- TRANSPORTATION
 - Student Transportation Allocation



2017-18 Schools of Excellence - Sarasota County



Legend for School Types: 01=Elementary; 02=Middle; 03=High; 04=Combination
 Section 1003.631, Florida Statutes, requires the State Board of Education to designate a school as a School of Excellence if the school's percentage of possible points earned in its school grade calculation is in the 80th percentile or higher for schools comprised of the same grade groupings (elementary, middle, high, and combination) for at least two of the last three school years if the school meets the qualifying criteria.

Elementary															
58	SARASOTA	0071	BAY HAVEN SCHOOL OF BASICS PLUS	66	A	83	01	65	A	87	01	79	A	94	01
58	SARASOTA	0100	SARASOTA SUNCOAST ACADEMY	65	A	81	01	59	B	73	01	79	A	94	01
58	SARASOTA	0121	ENGLEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	61	B	70	01	66	A	89	01	75	A	90	01
58	SARASOTA	0131	FRUITVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	68	A	87	01	64	A	85	01	79	A	94	01
58	SARASOTA	0171	PHILIPPI SHORES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	72	A	93	01	69	A	93	01	78	A	93	01
58	SARASOTA	0191	SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	80	A	99	01	70	A	93	01	86	A	99	01
58	SARASOTA	0211	VENICE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	71	A	92	01	63	A	84	01	67	A	79	01
58	SARASOTA	0271	GULF GATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	65	A	81	01	59	B	73	01	68	A	81	01
58	SARASOTA	0301	ASHTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	72	A	93	01	73	A	96	01	82	A	96	01
58	SARASOTA	0471	LAKEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	81	A	99	01	77	A	98	01	86	A	99	01
58	SARASOTA	0491	TAYLOR RANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	67	A	85	01	67	A	90	01	74	A	89	01
58	SARASOTA	1231	TOLEDO BLADE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	58	B	60	01	64	A	85	01	70	A	84	01
58	SARASOTA	1271	CRANBERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	62	A	72	01	67	A	90	01	68	A	81	01
58	SARASOTA	1282	TATUM RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	74	A	95	01	68	A	92	01	83	A	97	01

Middle															
58	SARASOTA	31	SARASOTA MIDDLE SCHOOL	68	A	86	02	70	A	92	02	71	A	84	02
58	SARASOTA	83	SARASOTA SCHOOL OF ARTS/SCIENCES	65	A	79	02	65	A	82	02	72	A	87	02
58	SARASOTA	110	SKY ACADEMY VENICE	66	A	83	02	62	A	78	02	69	A	80	02

High															
58	SARASOTA	0181	RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL	65	A	83	03	62	A	83	03	73	A	83	03
58	SARASOTA	0221	VENICE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	67	A	86	03	62	A	83	03	74	A	84	03
58	SARASOTA	1391	SUNCOAST POLYTECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL	74	A	93	03	70	A	92	03	82	A	93	03

Other															
58	SARASOTA	0021	PINE VIEW SCHOOL	93	A	100	04	93	A	100	04	99	A	100	04
58	SARASOTA	1211	LAUREL NOKOMIS SCHOOL	69	A	82	04	69	A	87	04	75	A	85	04

MATTHEWS, EASTMOORE, HARDY, CRAWFELS & GARCIA, P.A.
1626 MAIN STREET, SUITE 300
SARASOTA, FL 34236
(941) 366-8888

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Dr. Todd Bordan

FROM: Art Hardy

RE: Schools of Excellence

DATE: October 17, 2017

During the 2017 session, the Florida Legislature enacted Section 1003.631, Florida Statutes, creating the "Schools of Excellence Program." The following is information about the Program.

According to the legislation, the Schools of Excellence Program is designed to provide top performing schools with administrative flexibility to assist staff in those schools to increase student learning. The statute requires the State Board of Education to designate a school as a School of Excellence if the school's percentage of possible points earned in its school grade calculation is in the 80th percentile or higher for schools comprised of the same grade levels for at least 2 of the last 3 school years. The school must have data for each applicable school grade component to be eligible for the designation. The school shall retain the designation for up to 3 years (it will lose the designation if its school grade falls below "B" during the 3 year period) and the designation may be renewed after the initial 3 years if certain benchmarks are maintained.

Section 1003.631(2) lists the "administrative flexibility" a School of Excellence must be provided:

- a) Exemption from any provision of law or rule that expressly requires a minimum period of daily or weekly instruction in reading.
- b) Principal autonomy as provided under Section 1012.28(8) (this statute details the additional authority given to the principal of a school participating in the

Principal Autonomy Pilot Program). Section 1012.28(8) grants a principal the authority: (1) to select qualified instructional personnel for placement or to refuse to accept the placement or transfer of instructional personnel by the district school superintendent, (2) to deploy financial resources to school programs at the principal's discretion to help improve student achievement, and (3) to annually provide to the superintendent and school board a budget for the operation of the school that identifies how funds provided pursuant to Section 1011.69(2) (the "Equity in School-Level Funding Act") are allocated, which budget must be included in the annual report provided to the State Board of Education pursuant to Section 1011.6202(6) (which involves the Principal Autonomy Pilot Program Initiative not previously involving the Sarasota School District).

- c) For instructional personnel, the substitution of 1 school year of employment at a School of Excellence for 20 inservice points toward the renewal of a professional certificate up to 60 inservice points in a 5-year cycle.
- d) Exemption from compliance with district policies or procedures that establish times for the start and completion of the school day.
- e) Calculation for compliance with maximum class size based on the average number of students at the school level.

Please let me know if you would like any further information.

Select Year:

The 2017 Florida Statutes

Title XLVIII
K-20 EDUCATION CODE

Chapter 1003
PUBLIC K-12 EDUCATION

[View Entire Chapter](#)

1003.631 Schools of Excellence.—The Schools of Excellence Program is established to provide administrative flexibility to the state's top schools so that the instructional personnel and administrative staff at such schools can continue to serve their communities and increase student learning to the best of their professional ability.

(1) DESIGNATION.—

(a) The State Board of Education shall designate a school as a School of Excellence if the school's percentage of possible points earned in its school grade calculation is in the 80th percentile or higher for schools comprised of the same grade groupings, including elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and schools with a combination of grade levels, for at least 2 of the last 3 school years. The school must have data for each applicable school grade component pursuant to s. [1008.34\(3\)](#) to be eligible for designation as a School of Excellence. A qualifying school shall retain the designation as a School of Excellence for up to 3 years, at the end of which time the school may renew the designation, if:

1. The school was in the 80th percentile or higher pursuant to this subsection for 2 of the previous 3 years; and

2. The school did not receive a school grade lower than "B" pursuant to s. [1008.34](#) during any of the previous 3 years.

(b) A school that earns a school grade lower than "B" pursuant to s. [1008.34](#) during the 3-year period may not continue to be designated as a School of Excellence during the remainder of that 3-year period and loses the administrative flexibilities provided in subsection (2).

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE FLEXIBILITIES.—A School of Excellence must be provided the following administrative flexibilities:

(a) Exemption from any provision of law or rule that expressly requires a minimum period of daily or weekly instruction in reading.

(b) Principal autonomy as provided under s. [1012.28\(8\)](#).

(c) For instructional personnel, the substitution of 1 school year of employment at a School of Excellence for 20 inservice points toward the renewal of a professional certificate, up to 60 inservice points in a 5-year cycle, pursuant to s. [1012.585\(3\)](#).

(d) Exemption from compliance with district policies or procedures that establish times for the start and completion of the school day.

(e) Calculation for compliance with maximum class size pursuant to s. [1003.03\(4\)](#) based on the average number of students at the school level.

History.—s. 7, ch. 2017-116.

Select Year:

The 2017 Florida Statutes

Title XLVIII
K-20 EDUCATION CODE

Chapter 1012
PERSONNEL

[View Entire Chapter](#)

1012.28 Public school personnel; duties of school principals.—

(1) Public school principals shall supervise public school personnel as the district school board determines necessary.

(2) The school principal is responsible for recommending to the district school superintendent the employment of instructional personnel to be assigned to the school to which the principal is assigned.

(3) Each school principal is responsible for the performance of all personnel employed by the district school board and assigned to the school to which the principal is assigned. The school principal shall faithfully and effectively apply the personnel evaluation system approved pursuant to s. [1012.34](#).

(4) Each school principal shall assist the teachers within the school to use student assessment data, as measured by student learning gains pursuant to s. [1008.22](#), for self-evaluation.

(5) Each school principal shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the district school superintendent, pursuant to the rules of the district school board. Such rules shall include, but are not limited to, rules relating to administrative responsibility, instructional leadership in implementing the Sunshine State Standards and the overall educational program of the school to which the school principal is assigned, submission of personnel recommendations to the district school superintendent, administrative responsibility for records and reports, administration of corporal punishment, and student suspension.

(6) A principal may refuse to accept the placement or transfer of instructional personnel by the district school superintendent to his or her school unless the instructional personnel has a performance rating of effective or highly effective under s. [1012.34](#).

(7) A school principal who fails to comply with this section shall be ineligible for any portion of the performance pay and differentiated pay under s. [1012.22](#).

(8) The principal of a school participating in the Principal Autonomy Pilot Program Initiative under s. [1011.6202](#) has the following additional authority and responsibilities:

(a) In addition to the authority provided in subsection (6), the authority to select qualified instructional personnel for placement or to refuse to accept the placement or transfer of instructional personnel by the district school superintendent. Placement of instructional personnel at a participating school in a participating school district does not affect the employee's status as a school district employee.

(b) The authority to deploy financial resources to school programs at the principal's discretion to help improve student achievement, as defined in s. [1008.34\(1\)](#), and meet performance goals identified in the principal autonomy proposal submitted pursuant to s. [1011.6202](#).

(c) To annually provide to the district school superintendent and the district school board a budget for the operation of the participating school that identifies how funds provided pursuant to s. [1011.69\(2\)](#)

are allocated. The school district shall include the budget in the annual report provided to the State Board of Education pursuant to s. [1011.6202\(6\)](#).

History.—s. 703, ch. 2002-387; s. 59, ch. 2006-74; s. 12, ch. 2011-1; s. 3, ch. 2016-223.

Copyright © 1995-2018 The Florida Legislature • [Privacy Statement](#) • [Contact Us](#)

Select Year:

The 2017 Florida Statutes

Title XLVIII
K-20 EDUCATION CODE

Chapter 1011
PLANNING AND BUDGETING

[View Entire Chapter](#)

1011.69 Equity in School-Level Funding Act.—

(1) This section may be cited as the “Equity in School-Level Funding Act.”

(2) Beginning in the 2003-2004 fiscal year, district school boards shall allocate to schools within the district an average of 90 percent of the funds generated by all schools and guarantee that each school receives at least 80 percent, except schools participating in the Principal Autonomy Pilot Program Initiative under s. 1011.6202 are guaranteed to receive at least 90 percent, of the funds generated by that school based upon the Florida Education Finance Program as provided in s. 1011.62 and the General Appropriations Act, including gross state and local funds, discretionary lottery funds, and funds from the school district’s current operating discretionary millage levy. Total funding for each school shall be recalculated during the year to reflect the revised calculations under the Florida Education Finance Program by the state and the actual weighted full-time equivalent students reported by the school during the full-time equivalent student survey periods designated by the Commissioner of Education. If the district school board is providing programs or services to students funded by federal funds, any eligible students enrolled in the schools in the district shall be provided federal funds.

(3) Funds allocated to a school pursuant to this section that are unused at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert to the district, but shall remain with the school. These carryforward funds may be used for any purpose provided by law at the discretion of the principal of the school.

(4) The following funds are excluded from the school-level allocation under this section: Funds appropriated in the General Appropriations Act for supplemental academic instruction to be used for the purposes described in s. 1011.62(1)(f).

(5) After providing Title I, Part A, Basic funds to schools above the 75 percent poverty threshold, school districts shall provide any remaining Title I, Part A, Basic funds directly to all eligible schools as provided in this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, an eligible school is a school that is eligible to receive Title I funds, including a charter school. The threshold for identifying eligible schools may not exceed the threshold established by a school district for the 2016-2017 school year or the statewide percentage of economically disadvantaged students, as determined annually.

(a) Prior to the allocation of Title I funds to eligible schools, a school district may withhold funds only as follows:

1. One percent for parent involvement, in addition to the one percent the district must reserve under federal law for allocations to eligible schools for parent involvement;
2. A necessary and reasonable amount for administration, which includes the district’s indirect cost rate, not to exceed a total of 8 percent; and
3. A reasonable and necessary amount to provide:
 - a. Homeless programs;
 - b. Delinquent and neglected programs;

- c. Prekindergarten programs and activities;
- d. Private school equitable services; and
- e. Transportation for foster care children to their school of origin or choice programs.

(b) All remaining Title I funds shall be distributed to all eligible schools in accordance with federal law and regulation. An eligible school may use funds under this subsection to participate in discretionary educational services provided by the school district.

History.—s. 661, ch. 2002-387; s. 16, ch. 2003-391; s. 32, ch. 2009-59; s. 27, ch. 2010-70; s. 2, ch. 2016-223; s. 45, ch. 2017-116.