



Florida School Boards Association

The voice of education in Florida.

FSBA Legislative Committee Report 2018-2019 Mid-Year Report

Chair: Jane Goodwin

Vice Chair: Chris Cowart

Members: (See Committee membership list at <https://fsba.org/membership/fsba-committees/>)

Dates of meetings and activities:

June 19, 2018 – Beginning of FSBA Platform development process

August 9, 2018 – Platform Priority Workgroup Meeting (via GoToMeeting)

September 7, 2017 – Question & Answer Session on Proposed FSBA Platforms (via GoToMeeting)

September 20, 2018 – FSBA 2019 Legislative and Federal Platform Adoption Meeting

November 16, 2018 – FSBA Legislative Committee Meeting (via GoToMeeting)

Main actions taken/accomplishments to date:

In accordance with the revised schedule and procedures for the development of the FSBA Platforms, the Legislative Committee began the process for developing the FSBA 2018 Legislative and Federal Platforms in June, rather than July. FSBA members were sent a list of ideas to stimulate discussion of new proposals for the 2019 Legislative Platforms. Platform proposals were due on July 27, 2018.

In August, the Platform Priority Workgroup – comprised of the executive officers and the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Committee, Advocacy Subcommittee, and Federal Relations Subcommittee – met via GoToMeeting to review the proposals that had been submitted for inclusion in the FSBA 2019 Legislative and Federal Platforms to determine whether each proposal addressed an issue of statewide concern and each proposal was consistent with FSBA's vision, mission, and strategic directions. In addition, the Workgroup recommended several of the submitted proposals as possible priorities for the 2019 Platforms. Based on the Workgroup's review and recommendations, FSBA staff drafted a PROPOSED FSBA 2019 Legislative Platform and Platform which were distributed to all school board members. Board members were strongly encouraged to review the proposed platforms and to express any suggestions or concerns to their designated representatives and/or their alternates on the FSBA Legislative Committee. In addition, an online Question & Answer Session was held to provide board members the opportunity to ask any questions they had about the Proposed Platforms or about the platform adoption process.

On September 20, 2018, the Committee met in Kissimmee to debate and adopt the Final 2019 Platforms. The adopted Platforms were distributed to school board members on September 27. School Board members were encouraged to review the Platforms and to seek opportunities to discuss them with the members of their legislative and congressional delegations.

On November 16, 2018, the Committee met via GoToMeeting to discuss, among other things, the outcome of the 2018 elections, to set a schedule for regular Committee meetings before and during the 2019 Legislative Session, and to move forward with proposing the addition of an item relating to Workforce Education to the FSBA Legislative Platform for consideration by the FSBA Board of Directors and general membership. These and other issues will also be on the agenda for discussion at the Legislative Committee meeting during the Annual Joint Conference.

In addition to these meetings, throughout the 2018 election cycle, the Committee closely monitored the governor and cabinet, legislative, and congressional elections. In addition, the Committee monitored the outcome of proposed local referenda and proposed constitutional amendments. Reports were posted on the FSBA website after the qualifying period, Primary Election, and General Election.

Upcoming Business:

- The Committee intends to provide specific training to the members of Committee on the legislative process, key issues, and expectations for their involvement in the Committee.
- The Committee intends to maintain the practice of holding regular teleconference meetings at least monthly during Interim Legislative Committee meetings and weekly during the Legislative Session.
- The Committee intends to modify elements of the Day in the Legislature Conference, particularly with regard to the initial Legislative Briefing.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Goodwin, Chair, Legislative Committee
Chris Cowart, Vice Chair, Legislative Committee