



Florida School Boards Association

*The voice of education in Florida.*

## 2020 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

LEARN MORE AT [WWW.FSBA.ORG](http://WWW.FSBA.ORG)

### COMPETE FOR THE NATION'S BEST TEACHERS

***Florida should strive to be #1 in attracting the most qualified and talented personnel.***

FSBA supports legislative efforts to:

- Increase teacher salaries to a level that puts Florida in the top quartile nationally to empower the recruitment and retention of the nation's best teachers.
- Eliminate any lengthy delay or penalty for the re-employment of high-quality personnel after retirement.
- Provide incentives to encourage skilled educators and support personnel to join teams in high need areas, low performing schools, alternative sites, and career and technical education centers.

### STRONG FUTURES FOR FLORIDA'S YOUNGEST LEARNERS

***Pre-K programs provide foundations for students and families to succeed.***

FSBA supports legislative efforts to:

- Provide more robust funding for Florida's pioneering Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Programs in order to:
  - Attract and retain highly qualified instructional personnel;
  - Improve the quality of the curriculum; and
  - Extend the length of the school day.
- Implement a developmentally appropriate assessment tool that provides a more accurate measure of a child's progress and the program's effectiveness.

### KEEP FLORIDA'S SCHOOLS SAFE

***Florida should build upon the investments in safe schools, infrastructure, and mental health services to provide a safe, secure, and supportive environment for students to grow and learn.***

FSBA supports legislative efforts to:

- Expand access to school and community based mental health services for students and families.
- Increase mental health awareness, wrap-around services, and training for students and staff.
- Support safe schools funding and grant programs that make both operating and capital funding available with the flexibility necessary to meet unique local needs.

### VALUE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

***All students deserve equal access to post-secondary education and career opportunities.***

FSBA supports legislative efforts to:

- Adjust the weight of statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in calculating a student's final course grade so that students who are required to take these statewide exams are not placed at a disadvantage in comparison to students who are not required to take them.