



FSBA Legislative Committee Report 2019-2020 Mid-Year Report

Chair: Clarence Thacker

Vice Chair: Linda Kobert

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

Dates of meetings and activities:

June 12, 2019 – Legislative Committee Meeting at the FSBA Summer Conference

August 9, 2019 – Platform Priority Workgroup Meeting (via GoToMeeting)

August 30, 2019 – Question & Answer Session on Proposed FSBA Platforms (via GoToMeeting)

September 12, 2019 – FSBA 2020 Legislative and Federal Platform Adoption Meeting

September 20, 2019 – FSBA Legislative Committee Conference Call (via GoToMeeting)

October 18, 2019 – FSBA Legislative Committee Conference Call (via GoToMeeting)

October 25, 2019 – FSBA Legislative Committee Conference Call (via GoToMeeting)

November 9, 2019 – FSBA Legislative Committee Conference Call (via GoToMeeting)

November 15, 2019 – FSBA Legislative Committee Conference Call (via GoToMeeting)

Main actions taken/accomplishments to date:

At the Annual Summer Conference in June, the Committee reviewed and approved proposed FSBA Bylaws and Policy changes that would restructure the Advocacy Subcommittee as a Standing Committee with Legislative and Federal Relations Subcommittees. These changes were forwarded to the FSBA Policy Committee and will be subject to review and possible approval by the FSBA Board of Directors and General Membership at the Annual Joint Conference. (A summary of these proposed changes is available [HERE](#).)

In accordance with the accelerated schedule to complete work on the FSBA 2020 Legislative and Federal Platforms, the Legislative Committee began the process for developing the FSBA 2020 Legislative and Federal Platforms in June with the Platform adoption process to be concluded in September. Platform proposals were due on July 26, 2019. 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 to review the proposals that had been submitted to determine whether each proposal addressed an issue of statewide concern and each proposal was consistent with FSBA's vision, mission, and strategic directions. Based on the Workgroup's review and recommendations, FSBA staff drafted a PROPOSED FSBA 2020 Legislative 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 12, 2019, the Committee met in Kissimmee to debate and adopt the final FSBA 2020 Legislative and Federal Platforms. The adopted Platforms were distributed to school board members in early October. (The 2020 Legislative Platform is attached with this report and may also be accessed [HERE](#).)

Beginning in late September, the Committee resumed the practice of holding weekly conference calls to review and discuss the legislative meetings and events during each week of the Legislature's Interim Committee Meetings and Regular Session. These meetings and events are also summarized in the FSBA Session Spotlight blog. Related materials and information – including FSBA's bill tracking lists, legislative advocacy toolkit, additional bill and budget information, and key committee contact information – is available on the FSBA website on the Legislative Session page. The most recent issue of the Session Spotlight includes an overview of Governor DeSantis' state budget recommendations for fiscal year 2020-2021 and links to FSBA's comparison of 2019-2020 education related funding with the Governor's education related budget recommendations. *(FSBA's budget comparison is attached with this report, the FSBA Session Spotlight may be accessed [HERE](#); and the FSBA Legislative Session page may be accessed [HERE](#).)*

The last week of Legislative Interim Committee Meetings is scheduled for December 9-12, 2019 and the 2020 Legislative Session will convene on January 14, 2020. Legislative Committee members will continue to keep themselves informed of the meetings and events of the Legislature and share that information with their colleagues on their respective school boards. In addition, the 33rd Annual Day in the Legislature and Board of Directors' Meeting is scheduled for January 22-24, 2020. Registration is now open for this important meeting – you may access the tentative agenda, online registration, and hotel information [HERE](#).

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence Thacker, Chair, Legislative Committee
Linda Kobert, Vice Chair, Legislative Committee