

Legislative Priorities

Volusia County School 2016

Areas of Focus: Accountability & Funding

FUNDING REFORM

Fully fund the infrastructure costs and the acquisition of computers for the mandated expansion of computer-based administration of statewide testing and the digital content conversion required by legislation.

Reevaluate the effectiveness of requiring an additional hour of instruction for the lowest 300 performing school, as mandated by legislation. Fully fund the support of the lowest 300.

Provide school districts funding to cover the full cost of offering dual enrollment courses upon successful completion of dual enrollment courses by students.

Restore the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) guaranteed allocation to pre-recession level or greater.

Commission a study to review the state funding formula wages component of the District Cost Differential (DCD) to ensure fair and equitable funding for all school districts.

ACCOUNTABILITY REFORM

Reform the current assessment and accountability system to increase local control:

- Allow school districts more local control in selecting currently used assessments to substitute for the state required assessments and provide the concordant scores;
- Authorize alternate methods for assessing learning and achievement for special populations such as ESE and English Language Learners (ELL) students;
- Provide Florida's statewide assessments in multiple languages as allowed by federal regulations;
- Eliminate the practice of using student performance on a single standardized test as the sole basis of student and school performance.