

Commissioner Horne's Recommended Legislative Agenda to the State Board of Education



Miami, Florida

01/21/03

Mission of Florida's K-20 Education System

1008.31(3), F.S.

“ To increase the proficiency of all students within one seamless, efficient system, by allowing them the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through learning opportunities and research valued by students, parents, and communities, and to maintain and accountability system that measures student progress toward the state's education goals.”

Florida's K-20 Education System Goals

Highest Student Achievement

Seamless Articulation

Skilled Workforce and Economic Development

Quality Efficient Services

Looking Back in Time: 2002 Florida Board of Education's Legislative Agenda

- **Transition the Education Governance Structure and Delivery Systems to reflect Florida's new Education System**
- **Consolidate/Revise and Clarify the Florida School Code to reflect the new governance structure**
- **Provide Maximum Funding Flexibility with Accountability to Local Education Boards**
- **Support the Governor's budget initiatives to provide additional funding for Florida's K-20 education system**

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#1: Increasing the Supply of Highly Qualified K-12 Instructors

- Create prestigious Florida Teaching Fellows program
- Develop innovative teacher education programs with accelerated paths to the classroom
- Streamline certification reciprocity agreement
- Establish framework for school districts to use differentiated pay and staffing models
- Create a Teacher First Response System
- Re-engineer Education Practice Commission process to achieve effectiveness and cost-efficiency

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#2: Applying Existing Academic Standards Consistently at All Levels

- No Legislation anticipated at this time

#3: Increasing Rates of Learning and Completion at All Levels

- Expand option for ESE students who are in need of extraordinary accommodations to earn a high school diploma
- Clarify in Florida statutes that students with disabilities, who do not graduate with at standard diploma, are eligible to remain in school until their 22nd birthday.

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#3: Increasing Rates of Learning and Completion at All Levels (continued)

- Create the “Care to Learn” program to promote parental involvement and to empower parents in all aspects of their children’s educational program and service choices.
- Require schools to provide parents the following information:
 - What should the parent expect as a customer?
 - Opportunities for parental involvement
 - Copy of Sunshine State Standards for appropriate grade level
 - How course selection impacts student progression

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#4: Improving the Quality of School Leadership at All Levels

- Create “Read to Lead” program to provide educational leadership coursework on the latest reading research and the school administrator’s role as a successful leader in school reading reform efforts.
- Require school districts to establish alternate path programs for aspiring school administrators
- Create an “Executive Principal Training Program”
- Create the Commissioner of Education’s K-20 Leadership Training Academies

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#5: Setting and Aligning Academic Standards at Every Level of the K-20 Education System

- Rename a “certificate of completion” to more accurately reflect the student’s accomplishments in high school.
- Authorize the Department to be assigned the responsibility of establishing guidelines for GPA calculation with stakeholder input to provide uniform weighting policies.

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#6: Appropriately aligning the Workforce's Education With the Skill Requirements of the New Economy

- No Legislation needed at this time

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#7 Aligning Financial Resources with Performance Expectations at Each Level of the K-20 Education System

- Implement the recommendations of the K-20 Accountability Advisory Council
- Base performance funding on new K-20 accountability measures
- Amend time-frame to implement performance funding for all K-20 sectors rather than phasing in sector-by-sector. In 2003-04 collect data to establish progress, rewards, and sanctions. In 2004-05, implement for all sectors.

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#7 Aligning Financial Resources with Performance Expectations at Each Level of the K-20 Education System

- Create a Charter School Funding and Accountability Authority to oversee allocation of capital outlay funds and to develop criteria for high performing charter schools.
- Allow postsecondary public institutions to sponsor charter schools
- Modify School Recognition eligibility criteria and use of funds

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

#8: Achieving World-Class, Nationally Recognized Institutions of Higher Learning by Improving Access, Funding, Performance and Accountability

- Reform Bright Futures Scholarship Program
- Reform Pre-Paid College Program (honor existing contracts)
- Allow University Tuition and Fee Flexibility
 - Allow differential tuition
 - Link tuition flexibility to accountability system (higher the institution performs the greater tuition flexibility granted)

2003 Proposed Legislative Agenda

Other Issues:

- It is not anticipated that legislation will not be needed to ensure that Florida is in compliance with the “No Child Left Behind” federal legislation.
- Implementing legislation for Amendment 11 – Staggered Terms
- Confidentiality of FCAT
- School Code Glitch Bill