

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Update**  
March 22, 2023

**SUBJECT:** K-12 Public Schools

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

N/A

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

N/A

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

An update will be provided by Mr. Joseph "Joe" Taylor, Superintendent, Washington County School District, and current Chair of the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC), on behalf of FADSS.

Right now, many school districts are enjoying or just ended their spring break, but all 67 superintendents and their teams are preparing for the stretch run for the 2022-23 school year. At the same time, they are also well underway with preparations for next year.

The primary focus in districts today is getting their seniors ready for graduation – the ultimate measure of a school system's success. We are also preparing for the third and final round of progress monitoring as the replacement to the FSA completes its first year of implementation. Superintendents are looking forward to seeing how this process comes to a close this year and how they can use these new tools to help teachers and students focus on their individual needs.

While finishing out this school year strong requires a lot of time and attention, school districts cannot wait until July 1<sup>st</sup> to start planning for the next school year. Our finance teams are already busy at work preparing preliminary budgets for next year, staffing decisions are being made, and principals and HR teams across the state are already interviewing and making job offers to our future teachers.

Finally, on behalf of the smaller school districts, FADSS would like to acknowledge the work of the three education consortia – the North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC), the Heartland Educational Consortium, and the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC), of which I am the current board chairperson. The requirements established in state laws and State Board rules apply to all 67 school districts, regardless of size. The education consortia allow smaller districts to pool their resources and enjoy economies of scale on par with larger districts so that our limited resources remain concentrated in the classrooms and our students get the same worldclass education, or better, as other students across the state.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** N/A

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Mr. Joseph "Joe" Taylor, Superintendent, Washington County School District