

2010 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



FUNDING FOR EDUCATION

- Maintain or increase the current level of funding Base Student Allocation of \$6,873.07 per student through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP)
- Maintain the integrity of the FEFP and equity of funding among school districts.
- Develop and implement a plan to phase-out America's Recovery and Reinvestment Act – State Stabilization Funds embedded in the Florida Education Finance Program by 2011-12 with state revenue.
- Establish a long-term, stable and recurring revenue source sufficient to fully fund the state's constitutional requirement of providing adequate uniform, efficient, safe, secure and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education.
- Extend the voter-approved operating millage authority from four (4) years to ten (10) years.

Within the current education budget, prioritize funding to school site level

No new mandates until appropriate funding is available

- Delay the implementation of the new high school grading system until the state fully funds the cost of students participating in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Dual Enrollment, AICE, ACT, PSAT, and SAT.
- Support legislation establishing high academic standards with appropriate funding and implementation timelines

Class Size

- Fully fund and implement class size provisions of the Florida Constitution
- Provide statutory flexibility where appropriate

Common Sense Assessment

- We propose that all forms of mandatory state and county testing not use more than 5% of the instructional year. (approx 9 days)
- Testing has now become intrusive on instructional time and is having a negative impact on instruction. To this point additional testing needs to be limited or come with funding to increase the length of the instructional year.
- We propose that mandated testing be limited to tests that can be proven through research to clearly show student learning gains and provide feedback for teachers to improve teaching for students.

Retirement

- Maintain 100% employer-funded pension without a loss of benefits.

