2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

1415

1617

18

19

20

21

22

23

2425

2627

28

29

FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Education Pre-K -12

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

A bill to be entitled An act relating to deregulation of public schools/instructional, administrative, and support personnel; amending s. 1002.451, F.S.; requiring innovation schools of technology to comply with specified provisions of law relating to instructional multiyear contracts for instructional personnel in addition to annual contracts; amending s. 1002.55, F.S.; requiring newly hired prekindergarten instructors to complete specified training within a specified timeframe; deleting obsolete language; amending s. 1004.88, F.S.; authorizing the Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation to develop a professional learning system; amending s. 1011.6202, F.S.; requiring schools participating in the Principal Autonomy Program Initiative to comply with specified provisions of law relating to instructional multiyear contracts for instructional personnel in addition to annual contracts; amending s. 1012.05, F.S.; authorizing, rather than requiring, district school boards to base certain polices on guidelines from the Department of Education; revising the frequency with which school districts must submit certain information to the department; amending s. 1012.07, F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to develop written strategies to address critical teacher shortages; making a technical change; amending s. 1012.22, F.S.; deleting a prohibition on district school boards using advanced degrees to set salary

31

32

33 34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43 44

45 46

47

48 49

50

51

52

53

54

5556

57

58

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

schedules for instructional personnel and school administrators hired after a specified date; deleting requirements relating to annual salary adjustments; providing that collective bargaining may not preclude a district school board from carrying out specified duties; providing that if a superintendent appears before the State Board of Education for a specified purpose, the president of the school district bargaining unit also must appear; making technical changes; amending s. 1012.2315, F.S.; providing that provisions of law relating to the assignment of teachers apply to inexperienced teachers instead of temporarily certified teachers; defining the term "inexperienced teacher"; providing that a school district may still provide specified incentives to teachers despite collective bargaining provisions; making technical changes; amending s. 1012.335, F.S.; defining the term "instructional multiyear contract"; providing requirements for the award of an instructional multiyear contract; requiring that an employee awarded an instructional multiyear contract be returned to an annual contract under certain conditions; making conforming and technical changes; amending s. 1012.34, F.S.; requiring that procedures and requirements established by the district school superintendent for performance evaluations be approved by the district school board; requiring the district school superintendent to submit evaluation systems to the department under certain circumstances; deleting a

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67 68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

8485

86

87

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

requirement for the department to approve and monitor each school district's evaluation systems; revising the portion of a performance evaluation that is based on student performance; deleting requirements for performance evaluations; providing that student performance may not be the sole determinant for incentive pay for instructional personnel or school administrators; amending s. 1012.39, F.S.; revising an occupational experience qualification requirement for nondegreed teachers of career programs; deleting a training requirement for full-time nondegreed teachers of career programs; amending s. 1012.42, F.S.; providing that a teacher is considered in-field under certain circumstances; defining the term "selfcontained classroom"; amending s. 1012.45, F.S.; revising requirements for school bus drivers; authorizing district school boards to adopt additional requirements for school bus drivers; requiring school bus drivers and school bus attendants to complete training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid; requiring school districts to maintain documentation of such training; requiring district school boards to provide training to school bus drivers and school bus attendants relating to students with disabilities; deleting a requirement for the State Board of Education to adopt rules relating to school bus drivers; amending s. 1012.555, F.S.; revising requirements for individuals to participate in the Teacher Apprenticeship Program; amending s.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

1012.56, F.S.; adding an additional method for an individual seeking an educator certification to demonstrate a mastery of general knowledge; authorizing school districts and consortia of school districts to issue temporary certificates under certain conditions; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 1012.57, F.S.; deleting a provision relating to adjunct teaching certificates; amending s. 1012.575, F.S.; providing that certain provisions relating to alternative teacher preparation programs also apply to the Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation; amending s. 1012.585, F.S.; revising the validity period for professional certificates; providing eligibility requirements for 5-year and 10year professional certificates; revising requirements for the renewal of professional certificates; authorizing certain private school teachers to extend the expiration date of a professional certificate; repealing s. 1012.72, F.S., relating to the Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing that provisions relating to the development of a professional learning system apply to the Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation; making technical changes; amending ss. 1004.04, 1004.85, and 1012.586, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

114115116

88

89

90

91 92

93 94

95

96 97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

112113

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

117

118

119120

121

122123

124

125

126127

128

129

130131

132

133

134

135

136

137

138139

140

141142

143

144

145

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 1002.451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.451 District innovation school of technology program.-

- (5) EXEMPTION FROM STATUTES.—
- (a) An innovation school of technology is exempt from chapters 1000-1013. However, an innovation school of technology shall comply with the following provisions of those chapters:
 - 1. Laws pertaining to the following:
 - a. Schools of technology, including this section.
 - b. Student assessment program and school grading system.
 - c. Services to students who have disabilities.
- d. Civil rights, including s. 1000.05, relating to discrimination.
 - e. Student health, safety, and welfare.
- 2. Laws governing the election and compensation of district school board members and election or appointment and compensation of district school superintendents.
- 3. Section 1003.03, governing maximum class size, except that the calculation for compliance pursuant to s. 1003.03 is the average at the school level.
- 4. Sections 1012.22(1)(c) and 1012.27(2), relating to compensation and salary schedules.
- 5. Section 1012.33(5), relating to workforce reductions, for annual contracts for instructional personnel. This subparagraph does not apply to at-will employees.
- 6. Section 1012.335, relating to contracts with instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011, for annual or instructional multiyear contracts for instructional

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

personnel. This subparagraph does not apply to at-will employees.

- 7. Section 1012.34, relating to requirements for performance evaluations of instructional personnel and school administrators.
- Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 1002.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by private prekindergarten providers.—
- (3) To be eligible to deliver the prekindergarten program, a private prekindergarten provider must meet each of the following requirements:
- (c) The private prekindergarten provider must have, for each prekindergarten class of 11 children or fewer, at least one prekindergarten instructor who meets each of the following requirements:
- 1. The prekindergarten instructor must hold, at a minimum, one of the following credentials:
- a. A child development associate credential issued by the National Credentialing Program of the Council for Professional Recognition; or
- b. A credential approved by the Department of Children and Families as being equivalent to or greater than the credential described in sub-subparagraph a.
- The Department of Children and Families may adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which provide criteria and procedures for approving equivalent credentials under sub-subparagraph b.
 - 2. The prekindergarten instructor must successfully

176

177

178

179

180

181

182

183184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199200

201

202

203

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

complete three emergent literacy training courses that include developmentally appropriate and experiential learning practices for children and a student performance standards training course approved by the department as meeting or exceeding the minimum standards adopted under s. 1002.59. A newly hired prekindergarten instructor must complete the three emergent literacy training courses within 30 calendar days after being hired if the instructor has not previously completed the courses. The prekindergarten instructor must complete an emergent literacy training course at least once every 5 years after initially completing the three emergent literacy training courses. The courses in this subparagraph must be recognized as part of the informal early learning and career pathway identified by the department under s. 1002.995(1)(b). The requirement for completion of the standards training course shall take effect July 1, 2022. The courses must be made available online or in person.

Section 3. Present subsections (3) and (4) of section 1004.88, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4) and (5), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

1004.88 Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation.-

(3) The institute may develop a professional learning system pursuant to s. 1012.98(7).

Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 1011.6202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.6202 Principal Autonomy Program Initiative.—The Principal Autonomy Program Initiative is created within the Department of Education. The purpose of the program is to

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

provide a highly effective principal of a participating school with increased autonomy and authority to operate his or her school, as well as other schools, in a way that produces significant improvements in student achievement and school management while complying with constitutional requirements. The State Board of Education may, upon approval of a principal autonomy proposal, enter into a performance contract with the district school board for participation in the program.

- (3) EXEMPTION FROM LAWS.-
- (b) A participating school or a school operated by a principal pursuant to subsection (5) shall comply with the provisions of chapters 1000-1013, and rules of the state board that implement those provisions, pertaining to the following:
- 1. Those laws relating to the election and compensation of district school board members, the election or appointment and compensation of district school superintendents, public meetings and public records requirements, financial disclosure, and conflicts of interest.
- 2. Those laws relating to the student assessment program and school grading system, including chapter 1008.
- 3. Those laws relating to the provision of services to students with disabilities.
- 4. Those laws relating to civil rights, including s. 1000.05, relating to discrimination.
- 5. Those laws relating to student health, safety, and welfare.
- 6. Section 1001.42(4)(f), relating to the uniform opening date for public schools.
 - 7. Section 1003.03, governing maximum class size, except

234

235236

237

238

239

240

241242

243

244

245246

247

248

249

250

251

252

253

254

255

256257

258

259

260

261

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

that the calculation for compliance pursuant to s. 1003.03 is the average at the school level for a participating school.

- 8. Sections 1012.22(1) (c) and 1012.27(2), relating to compensation and salary schedules.
- 9. Section 1012.33(5), relating to workforce reductions for annual contracts for instructional personnel. This subparagraph does not apply to at-will employees.
- 10. Section 1012.335, relating to annual <u>or instructional</u> <u>multiyear</u> contracts for instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011. This subparagraph does not apply to at-will employees.
- 11. Section 1012.34, relating to personnel evaluation procedures and criteria.
- 12. Those laws pertaining to educational facilities, including chapter 1013, except that s. 1013.20, relating to covered walkways for relocatables, and s. 1013.21, relating to the use of relocatable facilities exceeding 20 years of age, are eligible for exemption.
- 13. Those laws pertaining to participating school districts, including this section and ss. 1011.69(2) and 1012.28(8).
- Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 1012.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 1012.05 Teacher recruitment and retention.-
- (3) (a) Each school board shall adopt policies relating to mentors and support for first-time teachers which may include the based upon guidelines issued by the Department of Education.
- (b) By September 15 and February 15 each school year, each school district shall electronically submit accurate public

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

272273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

school e-mail addresses for all instructional and administrative personnel, as identified in s. 1012.01(2) and (3), to the Department of Education.

Section 6. Section 1012.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.07 Identification of critical teacher shortage areas.-The term "critical teacher shortage area" means high-need content areas and high-priority location areas identified by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 necessary to annually identify critical teacher shortage areas. The state board must consider current and emerging educational requirements and workforce demands in determining critical teacher shortage areas. School grade levels may also be designated critical teacher shortage areas. Individual district school boards may identify and submit other critical teacher shortage areas. Such submissions must be aligned to current and emerging educational requirements and workforce demands in order to be approved by the State Board of Education. High-priority location areas must shall be in high-density, low-economic urban schools; low-density, low-economic rural schools; and schools that earned a grade of "F" or three consecutive grades of "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34. The State Board of Education shall develop written strategies to address the critical teacher shortages identified.

Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 1012.22, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of the

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

district school board.—The district school board shall:

- (1) Designate positions to be filled, prescribe qualifications for those positions, and provide for the appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of this chapter:
 - (c) Compensation and salary schedules.-
 - 1. Definitions.—As used in this paragraph:
- a. "Adjustment" means an addition to the base salary schedule that is not a bonus and becomes part of the employee's permanent base salary and shall be considered compensation under s. 121.021(22).
- b. "Grandfathered salary schedule" means the salary schedule or schedules adopted by a district school board before July 1, 2014, pursuant to subparagraph 3 4.
- c. "Instructional personnel" means instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d), excluding substitute teachers.
- d. "Performance salary schedule" means the salary schedule or schedules adopted by a district school board pursuant to subparagraph 4 5.
- e. "Salary schedule" means the schedule or schedules used to provide the base salary for district school board personnel.
- f. "School administrator" means a school administrator as defined in s. 1012.01(3)(c).
- g. "Supplement" means an annual addition to the base salary for the term of the negotiated supplement as long as the employee continues his or her employment for the purpose of the supplement. A supplement does not become part of the employee's

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

continuing base salary but shall be considered compensation under s. 121.021(22).

- 2. Cost-of-living adjustment.—A district school board may provide a cost-of-living salary adjustment if the adjustment:
- a. Does not discriminate among comparable classes of employees based upon the salary schedule under which they are compensated.
- b. Does not exceed 50 percent of the annual adjustment provided to instructional personnel rated as effective.
- 3. Advanced degrees.—A district school board may not use advanced degrees in setting a salary schedule for instructional personnel or school administrators hired on or after July 1, 2011, unless the advanced degree is held in the individual's area of certification and is only a salary supplement.
 - 4. Grandfathered salary schedule.-
- a. The district school board shall adopt a salary schedule or salary schedules to be used as the basis for paying all school employees hired before July 1, 2014. Instructional personnel on annual contract as of July 1, 2014, shall be placed on the performance salary schedule adopted under subparagraph 4.

 5. Instructional personnel on continuing contract or professional service contract may opt into the performance salary schedule if the employee relinquishes such contract and agrees to be employed on an annual contract under s. 1012.335. Such an employee shall be placed on the performance salary schedule and may not return to continuing contract or professional service contract status. Any employee who opts into the performance salary schedule may not return to the grandfathered salary schedule.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

b. In determining the grandfathered salary schedule for instructional personnel, a district school board must base a portion of each employee's compensation upon performance demonstrated under s. 1012.34 and shall provide differentiated pay for both instructional personnel and school administrators based upon district-determined factors, including, but not limited to, additional responsibilities, school demographics, critical shortage areas, and level of job performance difficulties.

- 4.5. Performance salary schedule.—By July 1, 2014, the district school board shall adopt a performance salary schedule that provides annual salary adjustments for instructional personnel and school administrators based upon performance determined under s. 1012.34. Employees hired on or after July 1, 2014, or employees who choose to move from the grandfathered salary schedule to the performance salary schedule shall be compensated pursuant to the performance salary schedule once they have received the appropriate performance evaluation for this purpose.
- a. Base salary.—The base salary shall be established as follows:
- (I) The base salary for instructional personnel or school administrators who opt into the performance salary schedule shall be the salary paid in the prior year, including adjustments only.
- (II) Instructional personnel or school administrators new to the district, returning to the district after a break in service without an authorized leave of absence, or appointed for the first time to a position in the district in the capacity of

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

instructional personnel or school administrator shall be placed on the performance salary schedule.

- b. Salary adjustments.—Salary adjustments for highly effective or effective performance shall be established as follows:
- (I) The annual salary adjustment under the performance salary schedule for an employee rated as highly effective must be at least 25 percent greater than the highest annual salary adjustment available to an employee of the same classification through any other salary schedule adopted by the district.
- (II) The annual salary adjustment under the performance salary schedule for an employee rated as effective must be equal to at least 50 percent and no more than 75 percent of the annual adjustment provided for a highly effective employee of the same classification.
- $\underline{\text{(II)}}$ A salary schedule $\underline{\text{may shall}}$ not provide an annual salary adjustment for an employee who receives a rating other than highly effective or effective for the year.
- c. Salary supplements.—In addition to the salary adjustments, each district school board shall provide for salary supplements for activities that must include, but are not limited to:
 - (I) Assignment to a Title I eligible school.
- (II) Assignment to a school that earned a grade of "F" or three consecutive grades of "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34 such that the supplement remains in force for at least 1 year following improved performance in that school.
- (III) Certification and teaching in critical teacher shortage areas. Statewide critical teacher shortage areas shall

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

be identified by the State Board of Education under s. 1012.07. However, the district school board may identify other areas of critical shortage within the school district for purposes of this sub-sub-subparagraph and may remove areas identified by the state board which do not apply within the school district.

(IV) Assignment of additional academic responsibilities.

If budget constraints in any given year limit a district school board's ability to fully fund all adopted salary schedules, the performance salary schedule <u>may shall</u> not be reduced on the basis of total cost or the value of individual awards in a manner that is proportionally greater than reductions to any other salary schedules adopted by the district. Any compensation for longevity of service awarded to instructional personnel who are on any other salary schedule must be included in calculating the salary adjustments required by sub-subparagraph b.

(3) (a) Collective bargaining.—Notwithstanding provisions of chapter 447 related to district school board collective bargaining, collective bargaining may not preclude a district school board from carrying out its constitutional and statutory duties related to the following:

1. Providing incentives to highly effective teachers.

 2. Implementing school improvement plans under s. 1008.33 to address the causes of low student performance and improve student academic performance and attendance.

3. Implementing student discipline provisions required by law, including a review of a student's abilities, past performance, behavior, and needs.

4. Implementing school safety plans and requirements.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

- 5. Implementing staff and student recognition programs.
- 6. Distributing correspondence to parents, teachers, and community members related to the daily operation of schools and the district.
- 7. Providing any required notice or copies of information related to the district school board or district operations which is readily available on the school district's website.
 - 8. The school district's calendar.
- 9. The award of instructional multiyear contracts under s. 1012.335.
- (b) Appearances before the board.—If a district school superintendent appears before the state board to provide an update under s. 1011.62(14)(e), the state board must require that the president of the school district bargaining unit also must appear.
- Section 8. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 1012.2315, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 1012.2315 Assignment of teachers.-
- (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—The Legislature finds disparities between teachers assigned to teach in a majority of schools that do not need improvement and schools that do need improvement pursuant to s. 1008.33. The disparities may be found in the assignment of inexperienced temporarily certified teachers, teachers in need of improvement, and out-of-field teachers and in the performance of the students. It is the intent of the Legislature that district school boards have flexibility through the collective bargaining process to assign teachers more equitably across the schools in the district.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

- (2) ASSIGNMENT TO SCHOOLS GRADED "D" OR "F".-
- (a) A school district may not assign a higher percentage than the school district average of <u>inexperienced</u> temporarily certified teachers, teachers in need of improvement, or out-of-field teachers to schools graded "D" or "F" pursuant to s. 1008.34. As used in this section, the term "inexperienced teacher" means a teacher who has been teaching for 2 years or less.
- (b)1. A school district may assign an individual newly hired as instructional personnel to a school that has earned a grade of "F" in the previous year or any combination of three consecutive grades of "D" or "F" in the previous 3 years pursuant to s. 1008.34 if the individual:
- a. Has received an effective rating or highly effective rating in the immediate prior year's performance evaluation pursuant to s. 1012.34;
- b. Has successfully completed or is enrolled in a teacher preparation program pursuant to s. 1004.04, s. 1004.85, or s. 1012.56, or a teacher preparation program specified in State Board of Education rule, is provided with high quality mentoring during the first 2 years of employment, holds a certificate issued pursuant to s. 1012.56, and holds a probationary contract pursuant to s. 1012.335(2)(a); or
- c. Holds a probationary contract pursuant to s. 1012.335(2)(a), holds a certificate issued pursuant to s. 1012.56, and has successful teaching experience, and if, in the judgment of the school principal, students would benefit from the placement of that individual.
 - 2. As used in this paragraph, the term "mentoring" includes

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

the use of student achievement data combined with at least monthly observations to improve the educator's effectiveness in improving student outcomes. Mentoring may be provided by a school district, a teacher preparation program approved pursuant to s. 1004.04, s. 1004.85, or s. 1012.56, or a teacher preparation program specified in State Board of Education rule.

Each school district shall annually certify to the Commissioner of Education that the requirements in this subsection have been met. If the commissioner determines that a school district is not in compliance with this subsection, the State Board of Education <u>must shall</u> be notified and <u>must shall</u> take action pursuant to s. 1008.32 in the next regularly scheduled meeting to require compliance.

- (4) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.-
- (a) Notwithstanding provisions of chapter 447 relating to district school board collective bargaining, collective bargaining provisions may not preclude a school district from providing incentives to high-quality teachers and assigning such teachers to low-performing schools, including incentives in s. 1011.69(4).

Section 9. Present paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of section 1012.335, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is added to that subsection, paragraphs (d) and (e) are added to subsection (2) of that section, and subsections (3) and (4) of that section are amended, to read:

1012.335 Contracts with instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011.—

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

- (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (b) "Instructional multiyear contract," beginning July 1, 2025, means an employment contract for a period not to exceed 3 years which the district school board may choose to award upon completion of a probationary contract and at least one annual contract.
 - (2) EMPLOYMENT.—
- (d) An instructional multiyear contract may be awarded, beginning July 1, 2025, only if the employee:
- 1. Holds an active professional certificate or temporary certificate issued pursuant to s. 1012.56 and rules of the State Board of Education;
- 2. Has been recommended by the district school superintendent for the instructional multiyear contract based upon the individual's evaluation under s. 1012.34 and approved by the district school board; and
- 3. Has not received an annual performance evaluation rating of unsatisfactory or needs improvement under s. 1012.34.
- (e) An employee awarded an instructional multiyear contract who receives an annual performance evaluation rating of unsatisfactory or needs improvement under s. 1012.34 must be returned to an annual contract in the following school year.

 Such evaluation rating must be included with the evaluation ratings under subsequent annual contracts for determinations of just cause under s. 1012.33.
- (3) VIOLATION OF ANNUAL <u>OR INSTRUCTIONAL MULTIYEAR</u>
 CONTRACT.—Instructional personnel who accept a written offer from the district school board and who leave their positions without prior release from the district school board are subject

553554

555

556

557

558

559

560

561

562

563

564

565

566567

568569

570

571

572

573

574

575

576

577

578

579

580

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

to the jurisdiction of the Education Practices Commission.

(4) SUSPENSION OR DISMISSAL OF INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL ON ANNUAL OR INSTRUCTIONAL MULTIYEAR CONTRACT. - Any instructional personnel with an annual or instructional multiyear contract may be suspended or dismissed at any time during the term of the contract for just cause as provided in subsection (5). The district school board shall notify the employee in writing whenever charges are made and may suspend such person without pay. However, if the charges are not sustained, the employee must shall be immediately reinstated and his or her back pay must shall be paid. If the employee wishes to contest the charges, he or she must, within 15 days after receipt of the written notice, submit a written request for a hearing to the district school board. A direct hearing must shall be conducted by the district school board or a subcommittee thereof within 60 days after receipt of the written appeal. The hearing must shall be conducted in accordance with ss. 120.569 and 120.57. A majority vote of the membership of the district school board shall be required to sustain the district school superintendent's recommendation. The district school board's determination is final as to the sufficiency or insufficiency of the grounds for suspension without pay or dismissal. Any such decision adverse to the employee may be appealed by the employee pursuant to s. 120.68.

Section 10. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1012.34, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (c) is added to subsection (7) of that section, to read:

1012.34 Personnel evaluation procedures and criteria.-

582

583584

585

586

587

588

589

590

591

592

593

594

595

596

597

598

599

600

601

602

603

604

605

606

607

608 609 581-00791A-24 20247000pb

(1) EVALUATION SYSTEM APPROVAL AND REPORTING.-

- (a) For the purpose of increasing student academic performance by improving the quality of instructional, administrative, and supervisory services in the public schools of this the state, the district school superintendent shall establish procedures for evaluating the performance of duties and responsibilities of all instructional, administrative, and supervisory personnel employed by the school district. The procedures and requirements in subsection (3) must be established by the district school superintendent and approved by the district school board, must set the standards of service to be offered to the public within the meaning of s. 447.209, and are not subject to collective bargaining. The district school superintendent shall provide instructional personnel the opportunity to review their class rosters for accuracy and to correct any mistakes. The district school superintendent shall report accurate class rosters for the purpose of calculating district and statewide student performance and annually report the evaluation results of instructional personnel and school administrators to the Department of Education in addition to the information required under subsection (5).
- (b) The district school superintendent must submit the district instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems to the department whenever the evaluation systems in subsection (2) are amended department must approve each school district's instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems. The department shall monitor each district's implementation of its instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems for compliance with

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

the requirements of this section.

- (3) EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA.—Instructional personnel and school administrator performance evaluations must be based upon the performance of students assigned to their classrooms or schools, as provided in this section. Pursuant to this section, a school district's performance evaluation system is not limited to basing unsatisfactory performance of instructional personnel and school administrators solely upon student performance, but may include other criteria to evaluate instructional personnel and school administrators' performance, or any combination of student performance and other criteria. Evaluation procedures and criteria must comply with, but are not limited to, the following:
- (a) A performance evaluation must be conducted for each employee at least once a year, except that a classroom teacher, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, who is newly hired by the district school board must be observed and evaluated at least twice in the first year of teaching in the school district. The performance evaluation must be based upon sound educational principles and contemporary research in effective educational practices. The evaluation criteria must include:
- 1. Performance of students.—At least <u>one-half</u> one-third of a performance evaluation must be based upon data and indicators of student performance, as determined by each school district.

 This portion of the evaluation must include growth or achievement data of the teacher's students or, for a school administrator, the students attending the school over the course of at least 3 years. If less than 3 years of data are available,

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

the years for which data are available must be used. The proportion of growth or achievement data may be determined by instructional assignment.

- 2. Instructional practice. For instructional personnel, at least one-third of the performance evaluation must be based upon instructional practice. Evaluation criteria used when annually observing classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, must include indicators based upon each of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices adopted by the State Board of Education. For instructional personnel who are not classroom teachers, evaluation criteria must be based upon indicators of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices and may include specific job expectations related to student support. This section does not preclude a school administrator from visiting and observing classroom teachers throughout the school year for purposes of providing mentorship, training, instructional feedback, or professional learning.
- 3. Instructional leadership.—For school administrators, at least one—third of the performance evaluation must be based on instructional leadership. Evaluation criteria for instructional leadership must include indicators based upon each of the leadership standards adopted by the State Board of Education under s. 1012.986, including performance measures related to the effectiveness of classroom teachers in the school, the administrator's appropriate use of evaluation criteria and procedures, recruitment and retention of effective and highly effective classroom teachers, improvement in the percentage of instructional personnel evaluated at the highly effective or effective level, and other leadership practices that result in

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

student learning growth. The system may include a means to give parents and instructional personnel an opportunity to provide input into the administrator's performance evaluation.

- 4. Other indicators of performance.—For instructional personnel and school administrators, the remainder of a performance evaluation may include, but is not limited to, professional and job responsibilities as recommended by the State Board of Education or identified by the district school board and, for instructional personnel, peer reviews, objectively reliable survey information from students and parents based on teaching practices that are consistently associated with higher student achievement, and other valid and reliable measures of instructional practice.
 - (7) MEASUREMENT OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE.
- (c) The measurement of student learning growth under paragraph (a) may not be the sole determinant for any incentive pay for instructional personnel or school administrators.
- Section 11. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 1012.39, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1012.39 Employment of substitute teachers, teachers of adult education, nondegreed teachers of career education, and career specialists; students performing clinical field experience.—
- (1) Notwithstanding ss. 1012.32, 1012.55, 1012.56, and 1012.57, or any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, each district school board shall establish the minimal qualifications for:
- (c) Part-time and full-time nondegreed teachers of career programs. Qualifications must be established for nondegreed

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

teachers of career and technical education courses for program clusters that are recognized in the state and are based primarily on successful occupational experience rather than academic training. The qualifications for such teachers must require:

- 1. The filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as required by s. 1012.32. Faculty employed solely to conduct postsecondary instruction may be exempted from this requirement.
- 2. Documentation of education and successful occupational experience including documentation of:
 - a. A high school diploma or the equivalent.
- b. Completion of a minimum level, established by the district school board, 3 years of full-time successful occupational experience or the equivalent of part-time experience in the teaching specialization area. The district school board may establish alternative qualifications for teachers with an industry certification in the career area in which they teach.
- c. For full-time teachers, completion of professional education training in teaching methods, course construction, lesson planning and evaluation, and teaching special needs students. This training may be completed through coursework from an accredited or approved institution or an approved district teacher education program, or the local school district inservice master plan.
- $\ensuremath{\text{d.}}$ Documentation of industry certification when state or national industry certifications are available and applicable.
 - Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 1012.42, Florida

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.42 Teacher teaching out-of-field.

(1) ASSISTANCE.-

- (a) Each district school board shall adopt and implement a plan to assist any teacher teaching out-of-field, and priority consideration in professional development activities shall be given to a teacher who is teaching out-of-field. The district school board shall require that the teacher participate in a certification or staff development program designed to provide the teacher with the competencies required for the assigned duties. The board-approved assistance plan must include duties of administrative personnel and other instructional personnel to provide students with instructional services.
- (b) A teacher who holds an educator certificate in exceptional student education is considered in-field if he or she is teaching in a self-contained classroom. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "self-contained classroom" means a classroom of exceptional students as defined in s. 1003.01 taught by an educator who holds a certificate in exceptional student education and who is responsible for instruction of all academic subjects.

Section 13. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 1012.45, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.45 School bus drivers; requirements and duties.-

(1) Each school bus driver must be of good moral character, of good vision and hearing, able-bodied, free from communicable disease, mentally alert, and sufficiently strong physically to handle the bus with ease, and <u>must meet</u> he or she must possess other qualifications prescribed by the Commissioner of

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

Education, including those qualifications described in 49 C.F.R. s. 391, relating to physical qualifications and examinations, and 49 C.F.R. part 40 and part 382, relating to controlled substance and alcohol use and testing, and he or she must hold a valid commercial driver license with a passenger endorsement.

- bus drivers and school bus attendants complete a certified cardiopulmonary resuscitation course and first aid training before being employed as a school bus driver or a school bus attendant. The school district shall maintain documentation of the completion of the cardiopulmonary resuscitation course and first aid training. Each district school board must also provide training to school bus drivers and school bus attendants for students with disabilities under s. 1003.57. Each district school board may adopt additional The State Board of Education shall adopt rules outlining requirements that school bus drivers must meet to be before they are employed by district school boards.
- Section 14. Subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1012.555, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

 1012.555 Teacher Apprenticeship Program.—
- (2)(a) An individual must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements to participate in the apprenticeship program:
- 1. Be enrolled in or have completed Have received an associate degree program at $\frac{1}{1}$ an accredited postsecondary institution.
- 2. Have earned a cumulative grade point average of $\underline{2.5}$ $\overline{3.0}$ in that degree program.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

3. Have successfully passed a background screening as provided in s. 1012.32.

- 4. Have received a temporary apprenticeship certificate as provided in s. 1012.56(7)(d).
- (b) As a condition of participating in the program, an apprentice teacher must commit to spending <u>at least</u> the first 2 years in the classroom of a mentor teacher using team teaching strategies identified in s. 1003.03(5)(b) and fulfilling the onthe-job training component of the registered apprenticeship and its associated standards.
 - (c) An apprentice teacher must do both of the following:
- 1. Complete <u>at least</u> 2 years in an apprenticeship before being eligible to apply for a professional certificate established in s. 1012.56(7)(a). Completion of the Teacher Apprenticeship Program does not exempt an apprentice teacher from the requirements of s. 1012.56(2)(c).
 - 2. Receive related instruction as provided in s. 446.051.
- (d) An apprentice teacher must be appointed by the district school board as an education paraprofessional and must be paid in accordance with s. 446.032 and rules adopted by the State Board of Education.
- (e) An apprentice teacher may change schools or districts after the first year of his or her apprenticeship if the hiring school or district has agreed to fund the remaining year of the apprenticeship.
- (3) A teacher who serves as a mentor in the apprenticeship program shall mentor his or her apprentice teacher using team teaching strategies and must, at a minimum, meet all of the following requirements:

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

(a) Have at least $\underline{5}$ 7 years of teaching experience in this state.

Section 15. Subsections (3) and (7) and paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.-

- (3) MASTERY OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of general knowledge are:
- (a) Achievement of passing scores on the general knowledge examination required by state board rule;
- (b) Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching certificate issued by another state;
- (c) Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education;
- (d) Documentation of two semesters of successful, full-time or part-time teaching in a Florida College System institution, state university, or private college or university that awards an associate or higher degree and is an accredited institution or an institution of higher education identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program;
- (e) Achievement of passing scores, identified in state board rule, on national or international examinations that test comparable content and relevant standards in verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning skills, including, but not limited to, the verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning portions of the Graduate Record Examination. Passing scores identified in state board rule must be at approximately

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

the same level of rigor as is required to pass the general knowledge examinations; $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$

- (f) Documentation of receipt of a master's or higher degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution that the Department of Education has identified as having a quality program resulting in a baccalaureate degree or higher; or
- (g) Documentation of a rating of effective or highly effective under s. 1012.34 in each year of the validity period of the temporary certificate.

A school district that employs an individual who does not achieve passing scores on any subtest of the general knowledge examination must provide information regarding the availability of state-level and district-level supports and instruction to assist him or her in achieving a passing score. Such information must include, but need not be limited to, state-level test information guides, school district test preparation resources, and preparation courses offered by state universities and Florida College System institutions. The requirement of mastery of general knowledge shall be waived for an individual who has been provided 3 years of supports and instruction and who has been rated effective or highly effective under s. 1012.34 for each of the last 3 years.

- (7) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION. -
- (a) The Department of Education shall issue a professional certificate for a period not to exceed 5 years to any applicant who fulfills one of the following:
- 1. Meets all the applicable requirements outlined in subsection (2).

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

2. For a professional certificate covering grades 6 through12:

- a. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)-(h).
- b. Holds a master's or higher degree in the area of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.
- c. Teaches a high school course in the subject of the advanced degree.
- d. Is rated highly effective as determined by the teacher's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, based in part on student performance as measured by a statewide, standardized assessment or an Advanced Placement, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or International Baccalaureate examination.
- e. Achieves a passing score on the Florida professional education competency examination required by state board rule.
- 3. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)(h) and completes a professional learning certification program approved by the department pursuant to paragraph (8)(b) or an educator preparation institute approved by the department pursuant to s. 1004.85. An applicant who completes one of these programs and is rated highly effective as determined by his or her performance evaluation under s. 1012.34 is not required to take or achieve a passing score on the professional education competency examination in order to be awarded a professional certificate.
- (b) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to any applicant who:
 - 1. Completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

(2) (a)-(f) and completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5) and holds an accredited degree or a degree approved by the Department of Education at the level required for the subject area specialization in state board rule;

- 2. For a subject area specialization for which the state board otherwise requires a bachelor's degree, documents 48 months of active-duty military service with an honorable discharge or a medical separation; completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a), (b), and (d)-(f); completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5); and documents completion of 60 college credits with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, as provided by one or more accredited institutions of higher learning or a nonaccredited institution of higher learning identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program resulting in a bachelor's degree or higher; or
- 3. Is enrolled in a state-approved teacher preparation program under s. 1004.04; is actively completing the required program field experience or internship at a public school; completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a), (b), and (d)-(f); completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5); and documents completion of 60 college credits with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, as provided by one or more accredited institutions of higher learning or a nonaccredited

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

institution of higher learning identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program resulting in a bachelor's degree or higher.

- (c) The department shall issue one nonrenewable 2-year temporary certificate and one nonrenewable 5-year professional certificate to a qualified applicant who holds a bachelor's degree in the area of speech-language impairment to allow for completion of a master's degree program in speech-language impairment.
- (d) The department shall issue a temporary apprenticeship certificate to any applicant who:
- 1. Meets the requirements of paragraphs (2)(a), (b), and (d)-(f).
- 2. Completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge as provided in subsection (5).
- (e) A person who is issued a temporary certificate under paragraph (b) must be assigned a teacher mentor for a minimum of 2 school years after commencing employment. Each teacher mentor selected by the school district, charter school, or charter management organization must:
- 1. Hold a valid professional certificate issued pursuant to this section;
- 2. Have earned at least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12; and
- 3. Have earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior year's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34.
- (f)1. A temporary certificate is valid for 5 school fiscal years, is limited to a one-time issuance, and is nonrenewable.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

2. A temporary apprenticeship certificate issued under paragraph (d) is valid for 5 school years, may be issued only once, and is nonrenewable.

(g) A school district or a consortium of school districts may issue temporary certificates based on the requirements in paragraph (b). School districts or a consortium of school districts must report the number of such certificates issued, and any additional information to the department, based on reporting requirements adopted by the State Board of Education.

967968

969

970

971

972

973

958

959

960

961

962

963

964

965

966

At least 1 year before an individual's <u>department-issued</u> temporary certificate is set to expire, the department shall electronically notify the individual of the date on which his or her certificate will expire and provide a list of each method by which the qualifications for a professional certificate can be completed.

(a) The Department of Education shall develop and each

974975

(8) PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.-

976977

organization may provide a cohesive competency-based professional learning certification program by which

school district, charter school, and charter management

978979980

instructional staff may satisfy the mastery of professional preparation and education competence requirements specified in

981 982

Participants must hold a state-issued temporary certificate. A

983 984

organization that implements the program shall provide a

competency-based certification program developed by the

school district, charter school, or charter management

subsection (6) and rules of the State Board of Education.

985 986

Department of Education or developed by the district, charter

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

school, or charter management organization and approved by the Department of Education. These entities may collaborate with other supporting agencies or educational entities for implementation. The program shall include the following:

- 1. A teacher mentorship and induction component.
- a. Each individual selected by the district, charter school, or charter management organization as a mentor:
- (I) Must hold a valid professional certificate issued pursuant to this section;
- (II) Must have earned at least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12;
- (III) Must have completed training in clinical supervision and participate in ongoing mentor training provided through the coordinated system of professional learning under s. 1012.98(4);
- (IV) Must have earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior year's performance evaluation; and
- (V) May be a peer evaluator under the district's evaluation system approved under s. 1012.34.
- b. The teacher mentorship and induction component must, at a minimum, provide routine opportunities for mentoring and induction activities, including ongoing professional learning as described in s. 1012.98 targeted to a teacher's needs, opportunities for a teacher to observe other teachers, coteaching experiences, and reflection and follow-up followup discussions. Professional learning must meet the criteria established in s. 1012.98(3). Mentorship and induction activities must be provided for an applicant's first year in the program and may be provided until the applicant attains his or her professional certificate in accordance with this section.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

2. An assessment of teaching performance aligned to the district's, charter school's, or charter management organization's system for personnel evaluation under s. 1012.34 which provides for:

- a. An initial evaluation of each educator's competencies to determine an appropriate individualized professional learning plan.
- b. A summative evaluation to assure successful completion of the program.
- 3. Professional education preparation content knowledge, which must be included in the mentoring and induction activities under subparagraph 1., that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- a. The state academic standards provided under s. 1003.41, including scientifically researched and evidence-based reading instructional strategies grounded in the science of reading, content literacy, and mathematical practices, for each subject identified on the temporary certificate. Reading instructional strategies for foundational skills shall include phonics instruction for decoding and encoding as the primary instructional strategy for word reading. Instructional strategies may not employ the three-cueing system model of reading or visual memory as a basis for teaching word reading. Instructional strategies may include visual information and strategies which improve background and experiential knowledge, add context, and increase oral language and vocabulary to support comprehension, but may not be used to teach word reading.
 - b. The educator-accomplished practices approved by the

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

1045 state board.

4. Required achievement of passing scores on the subject area and professional education competency examination required by State Board of Education rule. Mastery of general knowledge must be demonstrated as described in subsection (3).

5. Beginning with candidates entering a program in the 2022-2023 school year, a candidate for certification in a coverage area identified pursuant to $\underline{s.\ 1012.585(3)(g)}$ $\underline{s.\ 1012.585(3)(g)}$ must successfully complete all competencies for a reading endorsement, including completion of the endorsement practicum.

Section 16. Subsection (4) of section 1012.57, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.57 Certification of adjunct educators.

(4) Each adjunct teaching certificate is valid through the term of the annual contract between the educator and the school district or charter school. An additional annual certification and an additional annual contract may be awarded by the district or charter school at the district's or charter school's discretion but only if the applicant is rated effective or highly effective under s. 1012.34 during each year of teaching under adjunct teaching certification. A school district and charter school may issue an adjunct teaching certificate for a part-time or full-time teaching position; however, an adjunct teaching certificate issued for a full-time teaching position is valid for no more than 5 years and is nonrenewable.

Section 17. Section 1012.575, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.575 Alternative preparation programs for certified

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

teachers to add additional coverage.—A district school board, exam organization of private schools, examination of charter schools with an approved professional learning system as described in s. 1012.98(7), or the Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation may design alternative teacher preparation programs to enable persons already certificated to add an additional coverage to their certificates. Each alternative teacher preparation program shall be reviewed and approved by the Department of Education to ensure assure that persons who complete the program are competent in the necessary areas of subject matter specialization. Two or more school districts may jointly participate in an alternative preparation program for teachers.

Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2), subsections (3) and (4), and paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1012.585, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.585 Process for renewal of professional certificates.—
(2)(a) All professional certificates, except a nonrenewable professional certificate, are shall be renewable for successive periods not to exceed 10 5 years after the date of submission of documentation of completion of the requirements for renewal provided in subsection (3). Only one renewal may be granted during each 5-year or 10-year validity period of a professional certificate.

1. A teacher who is rated highly effective, pursuant to s.

1012.34, in at least 4 years of the 5-year validity period of

his or her professional certificate is eligible for a

professional certificate valid for 10 years. A teacher must be

issued at least one 5-year professional certificate to be

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

eligible for a 10-year professional certificate. A teacher who
does not meet the requirement of this subparagraph is eligible
to renew his or her 5-year professional certificate.

- 2. A teacher who is rated effective or highly effective, pursuant to s. 1012.34, for the entirety of the 10-year validity period of his or her professional certificate is eligible to renew a professional certificate valid for 10 years. A teacher issued a 10-year professional certificate who does not meet the requirement of this subparagraph is eligible for a professional certificate valid for 5 years.
- (3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the following requirements must be met:
 - (a) The applicant must:
- 1. Earn a minimum of 6 college credits or 120 inservice points or a combination thereof for a certificate valid for 5 years. The district school board may reduce the requirements by 1 college credit or 20 inservice points for an applicant rated highly effective, pursuant to s. 1012.34, in at least 3 of the 5 years of the 5-year validity period of his or her initial professional certificate.
- 2. Earn a minimum of 9 college credits or 180 inservice points or a combination thereof for a professional certificate valid for 10 years.
- (b) For each area of specialization to be retained on a certificate, the applicant must earn at least 3 of the required credit hours or equivalent inservice points in the specialization area. Education in "clinical educator" training pursuant to s. 1004.04(5)(b); participation in mentorship and induction activities, including as a mentor, pursuant to s.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

1132 1012.56(8)(a); and credits or points that provide training in 1133 the area of scientifically researched, knowledge-based reading 1134 literacy grounded in the science of reading, including explicit, 1135 systematic, and sequential approaches to reading instruction, 1136 developing phonemic awareness, and implementing multisensory intervention strategies, and computational skills acquisition, 1137 1138 exceptional student education, normal child development, and the 1139 disorders of development may be applied toward any specialization area. Credits or points that provide training in 1140 1141 the areas of drug abuse, child abuse and neglect, strategies in 1142 teaching students having limited proficiency in English, or 1143 dropout prevention, or training in areas identified in the 1144 educational goals and performance standards adopted pursuant to ss. 1000.03(5) and 1008.345 may be applied toward any 1145 1146 specialization area, except specialization areas identified by 1147 State Board of Education rule that include reading instruction 1148 or intervention for any students in kindergarten through grade 1149 6. Each district school board shall include in its inservice 1150 master plan the ability for teachers to receive inservice points 1151 for supporting students in extracurricular career and technical education activities, such as career and technical student 1152 1153 organization activities outside of regular school hours and 1154 training related to supervising students participating in a 1155 career and technical student organization. Credits or points 1156 earned through approved summer institutes may be applied toward 1157 the fulfillment of these requirements. Inservice points may also 1158 be earned by participation in professional growth components 1159 approved by the State Board of Education and specified pursuant 1160 to s. 1012.98 in the district's approved master plan for

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

inservice educational training; however, such points may not be used to satisfy the specialization requirements of this paragraph.

(c) (b) In lieu of college course credit or inservice points, the applicant may renew a subject area specialization by passage of a state board approved Florida-developed subject area examination or, if a Florida subject area examination has not been developed, a standardized examination specified in state board rule.

(d) (e) If an applicant wishes to retain more than two specialization areas on the certificate, the applicant <u>must</u> shall be permitted two successive validity periods for renewal of all specialization areas, but must earn no fewer than 6 college course credit hours or the equivalent <u>inservice points</u> in any one validity period. If an applicant with an initial professional certificate qualifies for reduced requirements under paragraph (a), he or she must earn no fewer than 5 college course credit hours or 100 inservice points in any one validity period.

(e) (d) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the expanded use of training for renewal of the professional certificate for educators who are required to complete training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities and training in the teaching of reading as follows:

1. A teacher who holds a professional certificate may use college credits or inservice points earned through training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities and training in the teaching of reading in

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

excess of 6 semester hours during one certificate-validity period toward renewal of the professional certificate during the subsequent validity periods.

- 2. A teacher who holds a temporary certificate may use college credits or inservice points earned through training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities and training in the teaching of reading toward renewal of the teacher's first professional certificate. Such training must not have been included within the degree program, and the teacher's temporary and professional certificates must be issued for consecutive school years.
- (f) (e) Beginning July 1, 2014, an applicant for renewal of a professional certificate must earn a minimum of one college credit or the equivalent inservice points in the area of instruction for teaching students with disabilities. The requirement in this paragraph may not add to the total hours required by the department for continuing education or inservice training.
- (g)(f) An applicant for renewal of a professional certificate in any area of certification identified by State Board of Education rule that includes reading instruction or intervention for any students in kindergarten through grade 6, with a beginning validity date of July 1, 2020, or thereafter, must earn a minimum of 2 college credits or the equivalent inservice points in evidence-based instruction and interventions grounded in the science of reading specifically designed for students with characteristics of dyslexia, including the use of explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to reading instruction, developing phonological and phonemic awareness,

training.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

decoding, and implementing multisensory intervention strategies. Such training must be provided by teacher preparation programs under s. 1004.04 or s. 1004.85 or approved school district professional development systems under s. 1012.98. The requirements in this paragraph may not add to the total hours required by the department for continuing education or inservice

- (h) (g) An applicant for renewal of a professional certificate in educational leadership from a Level I program under s. 1012.562(2) or Level II program under s. 1012.562(3), with a beginning validity date of July 1, 2025, or thereafter, must earn a minimum of 1 college credit or 20 inservice points in Florida's educational leadership standards, as established in rule by the State Board of Education. The requirement in this paragraph may not add to the total hours required by the department for continuing education or inservice training.
- (i) (h) A teacher may earn inservice points only once during each 5-year validity period for any mandatory training topic that is not linked to student learning or professional growth.
- (4) (a) When any person who holds a valid temporary certificate or professional certificate is called into or volunteers for actual wartime service or required peacetime military service training, the certificate shall be renewed for a period of time equal to the time spent in military service if the person makes proper application and presents substantiating evidence to the department or the employing school district regarding such military service.
- (b) A teacher who has taught in a private school during the 5-year validity period of his or her professional certificate

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

and is subsequently reemployed to teach in a school district may extend the expiration date of the certificate for a duration equivalent to the number of years taught at a private school, up to a maximum of 3 years. This extension is granted in order for the teacher to submit documentation for his or her completion of the requirements outlined in subsection (3). The teacher must submit documentation of employment in a school district or in a private school in a format determined by the department.

- (5) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to allow the reinstatement of expired professional certificates. The department may reinstate an expired professional certificate if the certificateholder:
- (b) Documents completion of 6 college credits during the 5 years immediately preceding reinstatement of the expired certificate, completion of 120 inservice points, or a combination thereof, in an area specified in paragraph (3)(b) (3)(a) to include the credit required under paragraph (3)(f)

The requirements of this subsection may not be satisfied by subject area examinations or college credits completed for issuance of the certificate that has expired.

Section 19. <u>Section 1012.72</u>, <u>Florida Statutes</u>, <u>is repealed</u>. Section 20. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) and subsection (7) of section 1012.98, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.98 School Community Professional Learning Act.-

(5) The Department of Education, school districts, schools, Florida College System institutions, and state universities share the responsibilities described in this section. These

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

responsibilities include the following:

- (b) Each school district shall develop a professional learning system as specified in subsection (4). The system shall be developed in consultation with teachers, teacher-educators of Florida College System institutions and state universities, business and community representatives, and local education foundations, consortia, and professional organizations. The professional learning system must:
- 1. Be reviewed and approved by the department for compliance with s. 1003.42(3) and this section. Effective March 1, 2024, the department shall establish a calendar for the review and approval of all professional learning systems. A professional learning system must be reviewed and approved every 5 years. Any substantial revisions to the system <u>must shall</u> be submitted to the department for review and approval. The department shall establish a format for the review and approval of a professional learning system.
- 2. Be based on analyses of student achievement data and instructional strategies and methods that support rigorous, relevant, and challenging curricula for all students. Schools and districts, in developing and refining the professional learning system, shall also review and monitor school discipline data; school environment surveys; assessments of parental satisfaction; performance appraisal data of teachers, managers, and administrative personnel; and other performance indicators to identify school and student needs that can be met by improved professional performance.
- 3. Provide inservice activities coupled with <u>follow-up</u> followup support appropriate to accomplish district-level and

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

school-level improvement goals and standards. The inservice activities for instructional and school administrative personnel shall focus on analysis of student achievement data, ongoing formal and informal assessments of student achievement, identification and use of enhanced and differentiated instructional strategies that emphasize rigor, relevance, and reading in the content areas, enhancement of subject content expertise, integrated use of classroom technology that enhances teaching and learning, classroom management, parent involvement, and school safety.

- 4. Provide inservice activities and support targeted to the individual needs of new teachers participating in the professional learning certification and education competency program under s. 1012.56(8)(a).
- 5. Include a professional learning catalog for inservice activities, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, for all district employees from all fund sources. The catalog must shall be updated annually by September 1, must be based on input from teachers and district and school instructional leaders, and must use the latest available student achievement data and research to enhance rigor and relevance in the classroom. Each district inservice catalog must be aligned to and support the school-based inservice catalog and school improvement plans pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). Each district inservice catalog must provide a description of the training that middle grades instructional personnel and school administrators receive on the district's code of student conduct adopted pursuant to s. 1006.07; integrated digital instruction and competency-based instruction and CAPE Digital Tool

1336

1337

1338

1339

1340

1341

1342

13431344

1345

1346

1347

1348

1349

1350

1351

1352

1353

1354

1355

1356

1357

13581359

1360

1361

1362

1363

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

certificates and CAPE industry certifications; classroom management; student behavior and interaction; extended learning opportunities for students; and instructional leadership. District plans must be approved by the district school board annually in order to ensure compliance with subsection (1) and to allow for dissemination of research-based best practices to other districts. District school boards shall must submit verification of their approval to the Commissioner of Education no later than October 1, annually. Each school principal may establish and maintain an individual professional learning plan for each instructional employee assigned to the school as a seamless component to the school improvement plans developed pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). An individual professional learning plan must be related to specific performance data for the students to whom the teacher is assigned, define the inservice objectives and specific measurable improvements expected in student performance as a result of the inservice activity, and include an evaluation component that determines the effectiveness of the professional learning plan.

- 6. Include inservice activities for school administrative personnel, aligned to the state's educational leadership standards, which that address updated skills necessary for instructional leadership and effective school management pursuant to s. 1012.986.
- 7. Provide for systematic consultation with regional and state personnel designated to provide technical assistance and evaluation of local professional learning programs.
- 8. Provide for delivery of professional learning by distance learning and other technology-based delivery systems to

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

reach more educators at lower costs.

- 9. Provide for the continuous evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of professional learning programs in order to eliminate ineffective programs and strategies and to expand effective ones. Evaluations must consider the impact of such activities on the performance of participating educators and their students' achievement and behavior.
 - 10. For all grades, emphasize:
- a. Interdisciplinary planning, collaboration, and instruction.
- b. Alignment of curriculum and instructional materials to the state academic standards adopted pursuant to s. 1003.41.
- c. Use of small learning communities; problem-solving, inquiry-driven research and analytical approaches for students; strategies and tools based on student needs; competency-based instruction; integrated digital instruction; and project-based instruction.

Each school that includes any of grades 6, 7, or 8 <u>shall</u> <u>must</u> include in its school improvement plan, required under s. 1001.42(18), a description of the specific strategies used by the school to implement each item listed in this subparagraph.

11. Provide training to reading coaches, classroom teachers, and school administrators in effective methods of identifying characteristics of conditions such as dyslexia and other causes of diminished phonological processing skills; incorporating instructional techniques into the general education setting which are proven to improve reading performance for all students; and using predictive and other

13941395

1396

1397

1398

1399

1400

14011402

1403

1404

1405

1406

1407

1408

1409

1410

1411 1412

14131414

1415

1416

1417

1418

1419

14201421

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

data to make instructional decisions based on individual student needs. The training must help teachers integrate phonemic awareness; phonics, word study, and spelling; reading fluency; vocabulary, including academic vocabulary; and text comprehension strategies into an explicit, systematic, and sequential approach to reading instruction, including multisensory intervention strategies. Such training for teaching foundational skills must shall be based on the science of reading and include phonics instruction for decoding and encoding as the primary instructional strategy for word reading. Instructional strategies included in the training may not employ the three-cueing system model of reading or visual memory as a basis for teaching word reading. Such instructional strategies may include visual information and strategies which improve background and experiential knowledge, add context, and increase oral language and vocabulary to support comprehension, but may not be used to teach word reading. Each district must provide all elementary grades instructional personnel access to training sufficient to meet the requirements of s. 1012.585(3)(g) s. 1012.585(3)(f).

(7) An organization of private schools or consortium of charter schools which has no fewer than 10 member schools in this state, which publishes and files with the Department of Education copies of its standards, and the member schools of which comply with the provisions of part II of chapter 1003, relating to compulsory school attendance; or a public or private college or university with a teacher preparation program approved pursuant to s. 1004.04; or the Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation, may also develop a professional

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

learning system that includes a professional learning catalog for inservice activities. The system and inservice catalog must be submitted to the commissioner for approval pursuant to state board rules.

Section 21. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1004.04, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for teacher preparation programs.—

- (2) UNIFORM CORE CURRICULA AND CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT.-
- (c) Each candidate must receive instruction and be assessed on the uniform core curricula in the candidate's area or areas of program concentration during course work and field experiences. Beginning with candidates entering a teacher preparation program in the 2022-2023 school year, a candidate for certification in a coverage area identified pursuant to \underline{s} . $\underline{1012.585(3)(g)} \ \underline{s}. \ \underline{1012.585(3)(f)} \ \text{must successfully complete all competencies for a reading endorsement, including completion of the endorsement practicum through the candidate's field experience under subsection (5), in order to graduate from the program.$
- (5) PRESERVICE FIELD EXPERIENCE.—All postsecondary instructors, school district personnel and instructional personnel, and school sites preparing instructional personnel through preservice field experience courses and internships shall meet special requirements. District school boards may pay student teachers during their internships.
- (b)1. All school district personnel and instructional personnel who supervise or direct teacher preparation students

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

during field experience courses or internships taking place in this state in which candidates demonstrate an impact on student learning growth must have:

- a. Evidence of "clinical educator" training;
- b. A valid professional certificate issued pursuant to s. 1456 1012.56;
 - c. At least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12;
 - d. Earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior year's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34 or be a peer evaluator under the district's evaluation system approved under s. 1012.34; and
 - e. Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, for all such personnel who supervise or direct teacher preparation students during internships in kindergarten through grade 3 or who are enrolled in a teacher preparation program for a certificate area identified pursuant to $\underline{s.\ 1012.585(3)(g)}\ \underline{s.\ 1012.585(3)(f)}$, a certificate or endorsement in reading.

The State Board of Education shall approve the training requirements.

2. All instructional personnel who supervise or direct teacher preparation students during field experience courses or internships in another state, in which a candidate demonstrates his or her impact on student learning growth, through a Florida online or distance program must have received "clinical educator" training or its equivalent in that state, hold a valid professional certificate issued by the state in which the field experience takes place, and have at least 3 years of teaching

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

experience in prekindergarten through grade 12.

3. All instructional personnel who supervise or direct teacher preparation students during field experience courses or internships, in which a candidate demonstrates his or her impact on student learning growth, on a United States military base in another country through a Florida online or distance program must have received "clinical educator" training or its equivalent, hold a valid professional certificate issued by the United States Department of Defense or a state or territory of the United States, and have at least 3 years teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12.

Section 22. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 1004.85, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.85 Postsecondary educator preparation institutes.-

- (3) Educator preparation institutes approved pursuant to this section may offer competency-based certification programs specifically designed for noneducation major baccalaureate degree holders to enable program participants to meet the educator certification requirements of s. 1012.56. An educator preparation institute choosing to offer a competency-based certification program pursuant to the provisions of this section must implement a program developed by the institute and approved by the department for this purpose. Approved programs shall be available for use by other approved educator preparation institutes.
 - (b) Each program participant must:
- 1. Meet certification requirements pursuant to s. 1012.56(1) by obtaining a statement of status of eligibility in the certification subject area of the educational plan and meet

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

1509 the requirements of s. 1012.56(2)(a)-(f).

- 2. Demonstrate competency and participate in field experiences that are appropriate to his or her educational plan prepared under paragraph (a). Beginning with candidates entering an educator preparation institute in the 2022-2023 school year, a candidate for certification in a coverage area identified pursuant to s. 1012.585(3)(g) s. 1012.585(3)(f) must successfully complete all competencies for a reading endorsement, including completion of the endorsement practicum through the candidate's field experience, in order to graduate from the program.
- 3. Before completion of the program, fully demonstrate his or her ability to teach the subject area for which he or she is seeking certification by documenting a positive impact on student learning growth in a prekindergarten through grade 12 setting and, except as provided in s. 1012.56(7)(a)3., achieving a passing score on the professional education competency examination, the basic skills examination, and the subject area examination for the subject area certification which is required by state board rule.

Section 23. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1012.586, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.586 Additions or changes to certificates; duplicate certificates; reading endorsement pathways.—

(2)

(b) As part of adopting a pathway pursuant to paragraph (a), the department shall review the competencies for the reading endorsement and subject area examinations for educator certificates identified pursuant to s. 1012.585(3)(g) s.

581-00791A-24 20247000pb

1012.585(3)(f) for alignment with evidence-based instructional and intervention strategies rooted in the science of reading and identified pursuant to s. 1001.215(7) and recommend changes to the State Board of Education. Recommended changes must address identification of the characteristics of conditions such as dyslexia, implementation of evidence-based classroom instruction and interventions, including evidence-based reading instruction and interventions specifically for students with characteristics of dyslexia, and effective progress monitoring. By July 1, 2023, each school district reading endorsement add-on program must be resubmitted for approval by the department consistent with this paragraph.

Section 24. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.