

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
**Senator Martin, Chair**  
**Senator Smith, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, February 4, 2025  
**TIME:** 1:45—3:45 p.m.  
**PLACE:** *Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Martin, Chair; Senator Smith, Vice Chair; Senators Bernard, Bradley, Garcia, Gruters, Pizzo, Simon, and Yarborough

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
	Presentation by the Department of Juvenile Justice		Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents			



# Enhancing Public Safety through Education and Accountability

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Senate Criminal Justice Committee  
February 4th, 2025  
Dr. Eric S. Hall, Secretary  
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice



LEADERSHIP \* ACHIEVEMENT \* OPPORTUNITY

The mission of the Florida Scholars Academy (FSA) is to provide a free and appropriate high-quality education to eligible students within the juvenile justice system and to prepare students for gainful employment as productive citizens upon their reentry into the community.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE



# Statutory Requirements

- Section 985.619, F.S., establishes the Florida Scholars Academy to deliver educational opportunities to students served in residential commitment programs.
- Directs Florida Scholars Academy to identify appropriate performance measures and standards based on student achievement which reflect the school's statutory mission and priorities, and implement an accountability system approved by the State Board of Education for the school by the 2024-2025 school year which includes an assessment of its effectiveness and efficiency in providing quality services that encourage high student achievement, seamless articulation, and maximum access to career opportunities.



# FSA Appointments

- Board of Trustees as appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis



**Chair Dr. Eric Hall**



**Nathan Hoffman**



**Chris Moya**



**Dan McGrew**



**Marva Johnson**



# Partnerships and Responsibilities

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice:  
**Fiduciary and Accountability**

Florida Scholars Academy Board of Trustees:  
**Governance and Accountability**

Florida Virtual School:  
**Education Management**



# Instructional Model

- Utilize **in-person and blended** online education services to improve student access to courses unique to their individual educational needs.
- Ensure appropriately credentialed teachers for the provision of student instruction at each site (classroom teachers, ESE support).
- Ensure appropriate instructional support personnel at each site (paraprofessionals).
- Ensure appropriate instructional support personnel virtually (academic and career counselors, ELL support, ESE support).
- Maintain a **16:1** student to teacher ratio for hiring purposes.
- Provide a full course catalog with electives and CTE.
- Offer diploma and GED tracks- working through Department of Education and Pearson Vue approval process for GED test sites.



# FSA Accountability Model

## Adoption of FSA System of Accountability

- Prior to July 1, 2024, performance measures must be identified, and an accountability system must be implemented and approved by the State Board of Education.
- The Board of Trustees and State Board of Education approved the FSA Accountability Model in the Spring of 2024.

## Year 1 Informative Baseline Analysis

- The first-year results from the accountability system must serve as an informative baseline to improve performance in future years (s. 985.619(4)(b)3., F.S.).
- The student performance data that is required for the informative baseline calculation and analysis will not be available until after the conclusion of the 2024-25 academic year.





# FSA Accountability Model Components

Achievement	Learning Gains	Acceleration	Graduation - 12 <sup>th</sup> grade cohort	Credits Earned	Career/Tech Achievement
English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science & Social Studies	English Language Arts	Dual Enrollment; Advanced Placement; Middle School Acceleration	Senior's Earning a High School Diploma or GED	Credits Earned and Recovered	Secure Residential: Industry Certifications (Master Credential List)
	Mathematics				Moderate Risk Residential: CTE Credits Earned
	Learning Gains of the Lowest 25%—English Language Arts				
	Learning Gains of the Lowest 25%—Mathematics				





FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE



# Florida Youth College

- The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice in collaboration with Tallahassee State College have established a partnership to deliver workforce education and career readiness services.
- Florida Youth College will provide:
  - Career readiness skills.
  - Industry recognized training and certifications.
  - Career pathways for youth to continue education at a Florida state college, technical college or postsecondary institution.
  - Opportunities to pursue work-based learning activities.
  - Youth-assigned career navigators.



# Looking Ahead

## Pre-Apprenticeship Programs

### Future Programs

- Solar Technician
- Skilled Craftsman
- Automotive Service
- Manufacturing



Wireless Systems

Telecommunications  
Technology

Grounding  
& Bonding

Network Cabling  
Copper-Based  
Systems

Network Cabling  
Fiber Optic System

STEM Exploration



# HB 1181 (2024) – Implementation

- HB 1181 was signed into law following the 2024 Legislative Session and became effective July 1, 2024.
- The bill enhanced accountability for serious juvenile offenses involving the use or possession of firearms or noncompliance with the terms and conditions of court-ordered probation, allowing for detention until an adjudicatory hearing for certain serious firearm offenses, and increasing penalties for the introduction of contraband, among other changes.
- The Department hosted public safety stakeholder meetings in each of Florida's 20 judicial circuits to increase awareness about the statutory changes and strengthen public safety partnerships.
- A memo explaining statutory changes was sent to all school districts, police chiefs, sheriffs, state attorneys, public defenders, and the state court system.



# HB 1181 (2024) – Implementation

- The bill required the development of a firearm offending curriculum to be implemented in DJJ programs to curb future or further firearm offending.
  - This curriculum has been developed and is currently being implemented in a pilot program before statewide implementation.
- Using rulemaking authority granted in the bill, the Department promulgated rule to develop a statewide graduated response matrix for compliance with terms and conditions of probation.



# Questions

Eric Hall, Secretary  
850-717-2701  
Eric.Hall@fldjj.gov

Chancer Teel, Legislative Affairs Director  
850-717-2716  
Chancer.Teel@fldjj.gov



# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Education + HB1181(2024)  
Bill Number or Topic *Implementation*

2/4/25

Meeting Date

Criminal Justice

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Eric Hall

Phone 850-717-2701

Address 2737 Centerview Dr.

Email Eric.Hall@FLDSS.gov

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32399

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:  
*FL Department of Juvenile Justice*

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

*While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)*

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.





## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**SENATOR JOE GRUTERS**

22nd District

**COMMITTEES:**

Fiscal Policy, *Chair*  
Finance and Tax, *Vice Chair*  
Appropriations Committee on Health and  
Human Services  
Commerce and Tourism  
Criminal Justice  
Regulated Industries  
Rules

**JOINT COMMITTEES:**

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight  
Joint Legislative Budget Commission

January 31, 2025

Chair Jonathan Martin  
510 Knott Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Chair Martin,

I would like to request an excused absence from the Criminal Justice Committee meeting scheduled on Tuesday, February 4th due to a prior engagement.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Gruters".

Joe Gruters

REPLY TO:

- 381 Interstate Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida 34240 (941) 378-6309
- 413 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5022

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**BEN ALBRITTON**  
President of the Senate

**JASON BRODEUR**  
President Pro Tempore

# CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 37

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Senate Criminal Justice Committee

Judge:

Started: 2/4/2025 1:47:19 PM

Ends: 2/4/2025 2:37:34 PM Length: 00:50:16

1:47:25 PM	Chair Martin calls the meeting to order
1:47:26 PM	Roll call
1:47:42 PM	Chair Martin opening announcements
1:48:25 PM	Tab 1, Presentation by the Department of Juvenile Justice
1:48:35 PM	Dr. Eric S. Hall, Secretary
2:26:54 PM	Questions:
2:26:58 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:27:19 PM	Secretary Hall
2:27:24 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:27:30 PM	Secretary Hall
2:27:46 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:28:13 PM	Secretary Hall
2:28:27 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:29:29 PM	Secretary Hall
2:30:20 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:30:34 PM	Secretary Hall
2:30:46 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:31:33 PM	Secretary Hall
2:32:16 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:33:32 PM	Secretary Hall
2:34:37 PM	Senator Smith
2:35:11 PM	Secretary Hall
2:35:31 PM	Senator Smith
2:36:04 PM	Secretary Hall
2:37:05 PM	Chair Martin thanks Secretary Hall
2:37:18 PM	Chair Martin makes closing remarks
2:37:21 PM	Senator Garcia moves to adjourn
2:37:24 PM	Meeting adjourned