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2 An act relating to education; creating s.
3 232.2451, F.S., relating to student readiness
4 for postsecondary education and the workplace;
5 providing legislative intent; providing for
6 end-of-high-school destinations; providing for
7 student progression toward a chosen
8 destination; providing Department of Education
9 duties; providing course requirements;
10 providing duties of school principals; amending
11 s. 232.2462, F.S.; revising provisions relating
12 to definition of high school credit; providing
13 an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Section 232.2451, Florida Statutes, is
18 created to read:19 232.2451 Readiness for postsecondary education and the
20 workplace.--21 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that students
22 and parents or guardians set early achievement and career
23 goals for the student's post-high-school experience. This
24 section sets forth a model which schools, through their school
25 advisory councils, may choose to implement to ensure that
26 students are ready for postsecondary education and the
27 workplace. If such a program is adopted, students and their
28 parents or guardians shall have the option of participating in
29 this model to plan the student's secondary-level course of
30 study. Parents or guardians and students are to become
31 partners with school personnel in educational choice. Clear

1 academic course expectations shall be made available to all
2 students by allowing both student and parent or guardian
3 choice.

4 (2)(a) Students entering the ninth grade and their
5 parents or guardians shall be active participants in choosing
6 an end-of-high-school student destination based upon both
7 student and parent or guardian goals. Four or more
8 destinations should be available with bridges between
9 destinations to enable students to shift destinations should
10 they choose to change goals. The destinations shall
11 accommodate the needs of students served in exceptional
12 education programs to the extent appropriate for individual
13 students. Exceptional education students may continue to
14 follow the courses outlined in the school district pupil
15 progression plan. Participating students and their parents or
16 guardians shall choose among destinations, which must include:

17 1. Four-year university, community college plus
18 university, or military academy.

19 2. Two-year postsecondary degree.

20 3. Postsecondary vocational-technical certificate.

21 4. Immediate employment or entry-level military.

22 (b) The student progression model toward a chosen
23 destination shall include:

24 1. A "path" of core courses leading to each of the
25 destinations provided in paragraph (a).

26 2. A recommended group of electives which shall help
27 define each path.

28 3. Provisions for a teacher, school administrator,
29 other school staff member, or community volunteer to be
30 assigned to a student as an "academic advocate" if parental or
31 guardian involvement is lacking.

1 (c) The common placement test authorized in s. 240.117
2 or a similar test may be administered to all high school
3 second semester sophomores who have chosen one of the four
4 destinations. The results of the placement test shall be used
5 to target additional instructional needs in reading, writing,
6 and mathematics prior to graduation.

7 (d) Ample opportunity shall be provided for students
8 to move from one destination to another, and some latitude
9 shall exist within each destination, to meet the individual
10 needs of students.

11 (e) Destinations specified in subparagraphs (a)1., 2.,
12 and 3. shall support the goals of the Tech Prep program.
13 Students participating in Tech Prep shall be enrolled in
14 articulated, sequential programs of study which include a
15 technical component and at least a minimum of a postsecondary
16 certificate or 2-year degree.

17 (f) In order for these destinations to be attainable,
18 the business community shall be encouraged to support
19 real-world internships and apprenticeships.

20 (g) All students shall be encouraged to take part in
21 service learning opportunities.

22 (h) High school equivalency diploma preparation
23 programs shall not be a choice for high school students
24 leading to any of the four destinations provided in paragraph
25 (a) since the appropriate coursework, counseling component,
26 and career preparation cannot be ensured.

27 (i) Schools shall ensure that students and parents or
28 guardians are made aware of the destinations available and
29 provide the necessary coursework to assist the student in
30 reaching the chosen destination. Students and parents or
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1 guardians shall be made aware of the student's progress toward
2 the chosen destination.

3 (j) The Department of Education shall offer technical
4 assistance to school districts to ensure that the destinations
5 offered also meet the academic standards adopted by the state.

6 (3)(a) Access to Level I courses for graduation credit
7 and for pursuit of a declared destination shall be limited to
8 only those students for whom assessment indicates a more
9 rigorous course of study would be inappropriate.

10 (b) The school principal shall:

11 1. Designate a member of the existing instructional or
12 administrative staff to serve as a specialist to help
13 coordinate the use of student achievement strategies to help
14 students succeed in their coursework. The specialist shall
15 also assist teachers in integrating the academic and
16 vocational curricula, utilizing technology, providing feedback
17 regarding student achievement, and implementing the Blueprint
18 for Career Preparation and Tech Prep programs.

19 2. Institute strategies to eliminate reading, writing,
20 and mathematics deficiencies of secondary students.

21 (4) This section shall take effect for those students
22 entering the ninth grade in 1997 and each year thereafter.

23 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
24 232.2462, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

25 232.2462 Attendance requirement for receipt of high
26 school credit; definition of "credit".--

27 (1)(a) For the purposes of requirements for high
28 school graduation, one full credit means a minimum of 150
29 hours of bona fide instruction in a designated course of study
30 which contains student performance standards as provided for
31 in s. 232.2454. Six semester credit hours of instruction

1 which are earned through enrollment pursuant to s. 240.116 and
2 which satisfy the requirements of a district's
3 interinstitutional articulation agreement according to s.
4 240.1161 ~~shall~~ also equal one full credit.

5 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

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