A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; discontinuing use of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) under the statewide assessment program in the public schools; continuing use of end-of-course assessments as required or developed and implemented under the section; amending ss. 1002.33, 1003.03, 1003.413, 1003.4156, 1003.428, 1003.429, 1003.4295, 1003.433, 1008.25, 1008.30, 1008.34, 1008.341, 1011.62, and 1012.22, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3), subsection (6), paragraph (a) of subsection (7), and subsections (10) through (13) of section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapters 2010-22 and 2010-48, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

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1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The commissioner shall

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design and implement a statewide program of educational assessment that provides information for the improvement of the operation and management of the public schools, including schools operating for the purpose of providing educational services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs.

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The commissioner may enter into contracts for the continued

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administration of the assessment, testing, and evaluation

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programs authorized and funded by the Legislature. Contracts may be initiated in 1 fiscal year and continue into the next and may be paid from the appropriations of either or both fiscal years. The commissioner is authorized to negotiate for the sale or lease of tests, scoring protocols, test scoring services, and related materials developed pursuant to law. Pursuant to the statewide assessment program, the commissioner shall:

- (c) Develop and implement a student achievement testing
 program as follows:
- 1. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) measures a student's content knowledge and skills in reading, writing, science, and mathematics. The content knowledge and skills assessed by the FCAT must be aligned to the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Other content areas may be included as directed by the commissioner. Comprehensive assessments of reading and mathematics shall be administered annually in grades 3 through 10 except, beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, the administration of grade 9 FCAT Mathematics shall be discontinued, and beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the administration of grade 10 FCAT Mathematics shall be discontinued, except as required for students who have not attained minimum performance expectations for graduation as provided in paragraph (9)(c). FCAT Writing and FCAT Science shall be administered at least once at the elementary, middle, and high school levels except, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the administration of FCAT Science at the high school level shall be discontinued.

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1.2.a. End-of-course assessments for a subject shall be administered as required or otherwise implemented under this section in addition to the comprehensive assessments required under subparagraph 1. End-of-course assessments must be rigorous, statewide, standardized, and developed or approved by the department. The content knowledge and skills assessed by end-of-course assessments must be aligned to the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

Statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in (I) mathematics shall be administered according to this sub-subsubparagraph. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, all students enrolled in Algebra I or an equivalent course must take the Algebra I end-of-course assessment. Students who earned high school credit in Algebra I while in grades 6 through 8 during the 2007-2008 through 2009-2010 school years and who have not taken Grade 10 FCAT Mathematics must take the Algebra I end-ofcourse assessment during the 2010-2011 school year. For students entering grade 9 during the 2010-2011 school year and who are enrolled in Algebra I or an equivalent, each student's performance on the end-of-course assessment in Algebra I shall constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, a student who is enrolled in Algebra I or an equivalent must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in Algebra I or attain an equivalent score as described in subsection (11) in order to earn course credit. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all students enrolled in geometry or

an equivalent course must take the geometry end-of-course assessment. For students entering grade 9 during the 2011-2012 school year, each student's performance on the end-of-course assessment in geometry shall constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. Beginning with students entering grade 9 during the 2012-2013 school year, a student must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in geometry or attain an equivalent score as described in subsection (11) in order to earn course credit.

- (II) Statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in science shall be administered according to this sub-sub-subparagraph. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all students enrolled in Biology I or an equivalent course must take the Biology I end-of-course assessment. For the 2011-2012 school year, each student's performance on the end-of-course assessment in Biology I shall constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. Beginning with students entering grade 9 during the 2012-2013 school year, a student must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in Biology I in order to earn course credit.
- b. During the 2012-2013 school year, an end-of-course assessment in civics education shall be administered as a field test at the middle school level. During the 2013-2014 school year, each student's performance on the statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment in civics education shall constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, a student must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in civics education in order to

pass the course and receive course credit.

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- The commissioner may select one or more nationally developed comprehensive examinations, which may include, but need not be limited to, examinations for a College Board Advanced Placement course, International Baccalaureate course, or Advanced International Certificate of Education course, or industry-approved examinations to earn national industry certifications identified in the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education, for use as end-of-course assessments under this paragraph, if the commissioner determines that the content knowledge and skills assessed by the examinations meet or exceed the grade level expectations for the core curricular content established for the course in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. The commissioner may collaborate with the American Diploma Project in the adoption or development of rigorous end-of-course assessments that are aligned to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.
- d. Contingent upon funding provided in the General Appropriations Act, including the appropriation of funds received through federal grants, the Commissioner of Education shall establish an implementation schedule for the development and administration of additional statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in English/Language Arts II, Algebra II, chemistry, physics, earth/space science, United States history, and world history. Priority shall be given to the development of end-of-course assessments in English/Language Arts II. The Commissioner of Education shall evaluate the feasibility and

effect of transitioning from the grade 9 and grade 10 FCAT Reading and high school level FCAT Writing to an end-of-course assessment in English/Language Arts II. The commissioner shall report the results of the evaluation to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than July 1, 2011.

- 2.3. The testing program shall measure student content knowledge and skills adopted by the State Board of Education as specified in paragraph (a) and measure and report student performance levels of all students assessed in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The commissioner shall provide for the tests to be developed or obtained, as appropriate, through contracts and project agreements with private vendors, public vendors, public agencies, postsecondary educational institutions, or school districts. The commissioner shall obtain input with respect to the design and implementation of the testing program from state educators, assistive technology experts, and the public.
- <u>3.4.</u> The testing program shall be composed of criterion-referenced tests that shall, to the extent determined by the commissioner, include test items that require the student to produce information or perform tasks in such a way that the core content knowledge and skills he or she uses can be measured.
- 4.5. FCAT Reading, Mathematics, and Science and All statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments shall measure the content knowledge and skills a student has attained on the assessment by the use of scaled scores and achievement levels. Achievement levels shall range from 1 through 5, with level 1

being the lowest achievement level, level 5 being the highest achievement level, and level 3 indicating satisfactory performance on an assessment. For purposes of FCAT Writing, student achievement shall be scored using a scale of 1 through 6 and the score earned shall be used in calculating school grades. A score shall be designated for each subject area tested, below which score a student's performance is deemed inadequate. The school districts shall provide appropriate remedial instruction to students who score below these levels.

5.6. The State Board of Education shall, by rule, designate a passing score for each part of the grade 10 assessment test and end-of-course assessment assessments. Any rule that has the effect of raising the required passing scores may apply only to students taking the assessment for the first time after the rule is adopted by the State Board of Education. Except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph and as provided in s. 1003.428(8)(b) or s. 1003.43(11)(b), students must earn a passing score on grade 10 FCAT Reading and grade 10 FCAT Mathematics or attain concordant scores as described in subsection (10) in order to qualify for a standard high school diploma.

 $\underline{6.7.}$ In addition to designating a passing score under subparagraph $\underline{5.}$ $\underline{6.}$, the State Board of Education shall also designate, by rule, a score for each statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment which indicates that a student is high achieving and has the potential to meet college-readiness standards by the time the student graduates from high school.

7.8. Participation in the testing program is mandatory for

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all students attending public school, including students served in Department of Juvenile Justice programs, except as otherwise prescribed by the commissioner. A student who has not earned passing scores on the grade 10 FCAT as provided in subparagraph 6. must participate in each retake of the assessment until the student earns passing scores or achieves standardized assessment which are concordant with passing scores pursuant to subsection (10). If a student does not participate in the statewide assessment, the district must notify the student's parent and provide the parent with information regarding the implications of such nonparticipation. A parent must provide signed consent for a student to receive classroom instructional accommodations that would not be available or permitted on the statewide assessments and must acknowledge in writing that he or she understands the implications of such instructional accommodations. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules, based upon recommendations of the commissioner, for the provision of test accommodations for students in exceptional education programs and for students who have limited English proficiency. Accommodations that negate the validity of a statewide assessment are not allowable in the administration of the FCAT or an end-of-course assessment. However, Instructional accommodations are allowable in the classroom if included in a student's individual education plan. Students using instructional accommodations in the classroom that are not allowable as accommodations on the FCAT or an end-of-course assessment may have the FCAT or an end-of-course assessment requirement waived pursuant to the requirements of

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1003.428(8)(b) or s. 1003.43(11)(b).

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8.9. A student seeking an adult high school diploma must meet the same testing requirements that a regular high school student must meet.

9.10. District school boards must provide instruction to prepare students in the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards adopted under s. 1003.41, including the core content knowledge and skills necessary for successful grade-to-grade progression and high school graduation. If a student is provided with instructional accommodations in the classroom that are not allowable as accommodations in the statewide assessment program, as described in the test manuals, the district must inform the parent in writing and must provide the parent with information regarding the impact on the student's ability to meet expected performance levels in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The commissioner shall conduct studies as necessary to verify that the required core curricular content is part of the district instructional programs.

10.11. District school boards must provide opportunities for students to demonstrate an acceptable performance level on an alternative standardized assessment approved by the State Board of Education following enrollment in summer academies.

11.12. The Department of Education must develop, or select, and implement a common battery of assessment tools that will be used in all juvenile justice programs in the state. These tools must accurately measure the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

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12.13. For students seeking a special diploma pursuant to s. 1003.438, the Department of Education must develop or select and implement an alternate assessment tool that accurately measures the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for students with disabilities under s. 1003.438.

14. The Commissioner of Education shall establish schedules for the administration of statewide assessments and the reporting of student test results. When establishing the schedules for the administration of statewide assessments, the commissioner shall consider the observance of religious and school holidays. The commissioner shall, by August 1 of each year, notify each school district in writing and publish on the department's Internet website the testing and reporting schedules for, at a minimum, the school year following the upcoming school year. The testing and reporting schedules shall require that:

a. There is the latest possible administration of statewide assessments and the earliest possible reporting to the school districts of student test results which is feasible within available technology and specific appropriations; however, test results for the FCAT must be made available no later than the week of June 8. Student results for end-of-course assessments must be provided no later than 1 week after the school district completes testing for each course.

b. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, FCAT Writing is not administered earlier than the week of March 1 and a comprehensive statewide assessment of any other subject is not

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administered earlier than the week of April 15.

13.e. A statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment is administered during a 3-week period at the end of the course. The commissioner shall select a 3-week administration period for assessments that meets the intent of end-of-course assessments and provides student results prior to the end of the course. School districts shall select 1 testing week within the 3-week administration period for each end-of-course assessment. For an end-of-course assessment administered at the end of the first semester, the commissioner shall determine the most appropriate testing dates based on a school district's academic calendar.

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The commissioner may, based on collaboration and input from school districts, design and implement student testing programs, for any grade level and subject area, necessary to effectively monitor educational achievement in the state, including the measurement of educational achievement of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for students with disabilities. Development and refinement of assessments shall include universal design principles and accessibility standards that will prevent any unintended obstacles for students with disabilities while ensuring the validity and reliability of the test. These principles should be applicable to all technology platforms and assistive devices available for the assessments. The field testing process and psychometric analyses for the statewide assessment program must include an appropriate percentage of students with disabilities and an evaluation or determination of the effect of test items on such students.

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SCHOOL TESTING PROGRAMS.—Each public school shall participate in the statewide assessment program in accordance with the testing and reporting schedules published by the Commissioner of Education under subparagraph (3)(c)11.12. unless specifically exempted by state board rule based on serving a specialized population for which standardized testing is not appropriate. Student performance data shall be analyzed and reported to parents, the community, and the state. Student performance data shall be used in developing objectives of the school improvement plan, evaluation of instructional personnel, evaluation of administrative personnel, assignment of staff, allocation of resources, acquisition of instructional materials and technology, performance-based budgeting, and promotion and assignment of students into educational programs. The analysis of student performance data also must identify strengths and needs in the educational program and trends over time. The analysis must be used in conjunction with the budgetary planning processes developed pursuant to s. 1008.385 and the development of the programs of remediation.

- (7) REQUIRED ANALYSES.—The commissioner shall provide, at a minimum, for the following analyses of data produced by the student achievement testing program:
- (a) The statistical system for the annual assessments shall use measures of student learning, such as the end-of-course assessments FCAT, to determine teacher, school, and school district statistical distributions, which shall be determined using available data from the end-of-course assessments FCAT, and other data collection as deemed

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appropriate by the Department of Education, to measure the differences in student prior year achievement compared to the current year achievement for the purposes of accountability and recognition.

(10) CONCORDANT SCORES FOR THE FCAT.-

- (a) The Commissioner of Education shall analyze the content and concordant data sets for nationally recognized high school achievement tests, including, but not limited to, the PSAT, PLAN, SAT, ACT, and College Placement Test, to assess if concordant scores for FCAT scores can be determined for high school graduation. When content alignment and concordant scores can be determined, the Commissioner of Education shall adopt those scores as meeting the graduation requirement in lieu of achieving the FCAT passing score and may adopt those scores as being sufficient to achieve additional purposes as determined by rule. Each time that test content or scoring procedures change for the FCAT or for a high school achievement test for which a concordant score is determined, new concordant scores must be determined.
- (b) The State Board of Education may define by rule the allowable uses, other than to satisfy the high school graduation requirement, for concordant scores as described in this subsection. Such uses may include, but need not be limited to, achieving appropriate standardized test scores required for the awarding of Florida Bright Futures Scholarships and college placement.
 - (10) (11) EQUIVALENT SCORES FOR END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENTS.-
 - (a) The Commissioner of Education shall analyze the

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content and equivalent data sets for nationally recognized high school achievement tests and industry certification tests under the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education, including, but not limited to, grade 10 FCAT Mathematics retakes until such retakes are discontinued pursuant to subsection (9), the PSAT, the PLAN, the SAT, the ACT, and the College Placement Test, to assess if equivalent scores for end-of-course assessment scores can be determined for passage of an end-of-course assessment. When content alignment and equivalent scores can be determined, the Commissioner of Education shall adopt those scores as meeting the requirement to pass the end-of-course assessment and as being sufficient to achieve additional purposes as determined by rule. Each time that assessment content or scoring procedures change for an end-of-course assessment or for a high school achievement test or an industry certification test under the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education for which an equivalent score is determined, new equivalent scores must be determined.

- (b) Use of an equivalent score adopted by the State Board of Education under paragraph (a) for purposes of grade adjustment, grade forgiveness, or course credit recovery is contingent upon and subject to district school board rules.
- (11) (12) REPORTS.—The Department of Education shall annually provide a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the following:
 - (a) Longitudinal performance of students in mathematics

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393 and reading.

- (b) Longitudinal performance of students by grade level in mathematics and reading.
- (c) Longitudinal performance regarding efforts to close the achievement gap.
- (d) Other student performance data based on national norm-referenced and criterion-referenced tests, when available, and numbers of students who after 8th grade enroll in adult education rather than other secondary education.
- $\underline{(12)}$ (13) RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section.
- Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (20) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2010-154, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:
 - 1002.33 Charter schools.-
 - (20) SERVICES.-
- (a)1. A sponsor shall provide certain administrative and educational services to charter schools. These services shall include contract management services; full-time equivalent and data reporting services; exceptional student education administration services; services related to eligibility and reporting duties required to ensure that school lunch services under the federal lunch program, consistent with the needs of the charter school, are provided by the school district at the request of the charter school, that any funds due to the charter school under the federal lunch program be paid to the charter school as soon as the charter school begins serving food under

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the federal lunch program, and that the charter school is paid at the same time and in the same manner under the federal lunch program as other public schools serviced by the sponsor or the school district; test administration services, including payment of the costs of state-required or district-required student assessments; processing of teacher certificate data services; and information services, including equal access to student information systems that are used by public schools in the district in which the charter school is located. Student performance data for each student in a charter school, including, but not limited to, FCAT scores, standardized test scores, previous public school student report cards, and student performance measures, shall be provided by the sponsor to a charter school in the same manner provided to other public schools in the district.

- 2. A total administrative fee for the provision of such services shall be calculated based upon up to 5 percent of the available funds defined in paragraph (17)(b) for all students. However, a sponsor may only withhold up to a 5-percent 250 students. For charter schools with a population of 251 or more students, the difference between the total administrative fee calculation and the amount of the administrative fee withheld may only be used for capital outlay purposes specified in s. 1013.62(2).
- 3. In addition, a sponsor may withhold only up to a 5percent administrative fee for enrollment for up to and
 including 500 students within a system of charter schools which
 meets all of the following:

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a. Includes both conversion charter schools and nonconversion charter schools;

- b. Has all schools located in the same county;
- c. Has a total enrollment exceeding the total enrollment of at least one school district in the state;
 - d. Has the same governing board; and

- e. Does not contract with a for-profit service provider for management of school operations.
- 4. The difference between the total administrative fee calculation and the amount of the administrative fee withheld pursuant to subparagraph 3. may be used for instructional and administrative purposes as well as for capital outlay purposes specified in s. 1013.62(2).
- 5. Each charter school shall receive 100 percent of the funds awarded to that school pursuant to s. 1012.225. Sponsors shall not charge charter schools any additional fees or surcharges for administrative and educational services in addition to the maximum 5-percent administrative fee withheld pursuant to this paragraph.
- Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 1003.03, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 11 of chapter 2010-154, Laws of Florida, and, if Senate Joint Resolution 2 is approved by the electors at the 2010 General Election, as amended by section 12 of chapter 2010-154, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:
 - 1003.03 Maximum class size.-
- (3) IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS.—District school boards must consider, but are not limited to, implementing the following

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items in order to meet the constitutional class size maximums described in subsection (1):

- (c)1. Repeal district school board policies that require students to have more than 24 credits to graduate from high school.
- 2. Adopt policies to allow students to graduate from high school as soon as they pass <u>all end-of-course assessments</u>

 <u>required for the grade 10 FCAT</u> and complete the courses required for high school graduation.
- Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 1003.413, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2010-22, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:
 - 1003.413 Florida Secondary School Redesign Act.-
- (3) Based on these guiding principles, district school boards shall establish policies to implement the requirements of ss. 1003.4156, 1003.428, and 1003.493. The policies must address:
- (d) Credit recovery courses and intensive reading and mathematics intervention courses based on student performance on FCAT Reading and Mathematics. These courses should be competency based and offered through innovative delivery systems, including computer-assisted instruction. School districts should use learning gains as well as other appropriate data and provide incentives to identify and reward high-performing teachers who teach credit recovery and intensive intervention courses.
- Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapters 2010-22 and 2010-48, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

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1003.4156 General requirements for middle grades promotion.—

- (1) Beginning with students entering grade 6 in the 2006-2007 school year, promotion from a school composed of middle grades 6, 7, and 8 requires that:
- (a) The student must successfully complete academic courses as follows:
- 1. Three middle school or higher courses in English. These courses shall emphasize literature, composition, and technical text.
- 2. Three middle school or higher courses in mathematics. Each middle school must offer at least one high school level mathematics course for which students may earn high school credit. Successful completion of a high school level Algebra I or geometry course is not contingent upon the student's performance on the end-of-course assessment required under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(I) s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I). However, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, to earn high school credit for an Algebra I course, a middle school student must pass the Algebra I end-of-course assessment, and beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, to earn high school credit for a geometry course, a middle school student must pass the geometry end-of-course assessment.
- 3. Three middle school or higher courses in social studies, one semester of which must include the study of state and federal government and civics education. Beginning with students entering grade 6 in the 2012-2013 school year, one of these courses must be at least a one-semester civics education

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course that a student successfully completes in accordance with s. 1008.22(3)(c) and that includes the roles and responsibilities of federal, state, and local governments; the structures and functions of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; and the meaning and significance of historic documents, such as the Articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States.

- 4. Three middle school or higher courses in science. Successful completion of a high school level Biology I course is not contingent upon the student's performance on the end-of-course assessment required under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(II) s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II). However, beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, to earn high school credit for a Biology I course, a middle school student must pass the Biology I end-of-course assessment.
- 5. One course in career and education planning to be completed in 7th or 8th grade. The course may be taught by any member of the instructional staff; must include career exploration using Florida CHOICES or a comparable cost-effective program; must include educational planning using the online student advising system known as Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students at the Internet website FACTS.org; and shall result in the completion of a personalized academic and career plan. The required personalized academic and career plan must inform students of high school graduation requirements, high school assessment and college entrance test requirements, Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program requirements, state

university and Florida college admission requirements, and programs through which a high school student can earn college credit, including Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Advanced International Certificate of Education, dual enrollment, career academy opportunities, and courses that lead to national industry certification.

Each school must hold a parent meeting either in the evening or on a weekend to inform parents about the course curriculum and activities. Each student shall complete an electronic personal education plan that must be signed by the student; the student's instructor, guidance counselor, or academic advisor; and the student's parent. The Department of Education shall develop course frameworks and professional development materials for the career exploration and education planning course. The course may be implemented as a stand-alone course or integrated into another course or courses. The Commissioner of Education shall collect longitudinal high school course enrollment data by student ethnicity in order to analyze course-taking patterns.

(b) For each year in which a student scores <u>below grade</u>

<u>level in reading at Level 1 on FCAT Reading</u>, the student must be enrolled in and complete an intensive reading course the following year. <u>Placement of Level 2 readers in either an intensive reading course or a content area course in which reading strategies are delivered shall be determined by diagnosis of reading needs. The department shall provide guidance on appropriate strategies for diagnosing and meeting the varying instructional needs of students reading below grade</u>

level. Reading courses shall be designed and offered pursuant to the comprehensive reading plan required by s. 1011.62(9).

- (c) For each year in which a student scores <u>below grade</u>

 <u>level in mathematics</u> at <u>Level 1 or Level 2 on FCAT Mathematics</u>,

 the student must receive remediation the following year, which
 may be integrated into the student's required mathematics
 course.
- Section 6. Subsections (2) and (4), paragraph (b) of subsection (7), and subsection (8) of section 1003.428, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2010-22, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:
- 1003.428 General requirements for high school graduation; revised.—
- (2) The 24 credits may be earned through applied, integrated, and combined courses approved by the Department of Education. The 24 credits shall be distributed as follows:
 - (a) Sixteen core curriculum credits:
- 1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition, reading for information, and literature.
- 2. Four credits in mathematics, one of which must be Algebra I, a series of courses equivalent to Algebra I, or a higher-level mathematics course. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, in addition to the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four credits in mathematics must be geometry or a series of courses equivalent to geometry as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s.

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1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(I) s. 1008.22(3)(e)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(I) s. 1008.22(3)(e)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in geometry. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year, in addition to the Algebra I and geometry credit requirements, one of the four credits in mathematics must be Algebra II or a series of courses equivalent to Algebra II as approved by the State Board of Education.

Three credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, one of the three credits in science must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(II) s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Biology I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, one of the three credits must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education, one credit must be chemistry or physics or a series of courses equivalent to chemistry or physics as approved by the State Board of Education, and one credit must be an equally rigorous course, as determined by the State Board of Education.

4. Three credits in social studies as follows: one credit in United States history; one credit in world history; one-half credit in economics; and one-half credit in United States government.

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- 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or a practical arts course that incorporates artistic content and techniques of creativity, interpretation, and imagination. Eligible practical arts courses shall be identified through the Course Code Directory.
- One credit in physical education to include integration of health. Participation in an interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level for two full seasons shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education if the student passes a competency test on personal fitness with a score of "C" or better. The competency test on personal fitness must be developed by the Department of Education. A district school board may not require that the one credit in physical education be taken during the 9th grade year. Completion of one semester with a grade of "C" or better in a marching band class, in a physical activity class that requires participation in marching band activities as an extracurricular activity, or in a dance class shall satisfy one-half credit in physical education or one-half credit in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or 504 plan. Completion of 2 years in a Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) class, a significant component of which is drills, shall satisfy the one-credit

requirement in physical education and the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or 504 plan.

(b) Eight credits in electives.

- 1. For each year in which a student scores <u>below grade</u>

 <u>level in reading at Level 1 on FCAT Reading</u>, the student must be enrolled in and complete an intensive reading course the following year. <u>Placement of Level 2 readers in either an intensive reading course or a content area course in which reading strategies are delivered shall be determined by diagnosis of reading needs. The department shall provide guidance on appropriate strategies for diagnosing and meeting the varying instructional needs of students reading below grade level. Reading courses shall be designed and offered pursuant to the comprehensive reading plan required by s. 1011.62(9).</u>
- 2. For each year in which a student scores <u>below grade</u>

 <u>level in mathematics</u> at <u>Level 1 or Level 2 on FCAT Mathematics</u>,

 the student must receive remediation the following year. These
 courses may be taught through applied, integrated, or combined
 courses and are subject to approval by the department for
 inclusion in the Course Code Directory.
- (4) Each district school board shall establish standards for graduation from its schools, which must include:
- (a) Successful completion of the academic credit or curriculum requirements of subsections (1) and (2). For courses that require statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments

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under <u>s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.d.</u> <u>s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.c.</u>, a minimum of 30 percent of a student's course grade shall be comprised of performance on the statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment.

(b) Earning passing scores on the FCAT, as defined in s. 1008.22(3)(c), or scores on a standardized test that are concordant with passing scores on the FCAT as defined in s. 1008.22(10).

(b) (c) Completion of all other applicable requirements prescribed by the district school board pursuant to s. 1008.25.

(c) (d) Achievement of a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by this section.

Each district school board shall adopt policies designed to assist students in meeting the requirements of this subsection. These policies may include, but are not limited to: forgiveness policies, summer school or before or after school attendance, special counseling, volunteers or peer tutors, school-sponsored help sessions, homework hotlines, and study skills classes. Forgiveness policies for required courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of "D" or "F," or the equivalent of a grade of "D" or "F," with a grade of "C" or higher, or the equivalent of a grade of "C" or higher, earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. Forgiveness policies for elective courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of "D" or "F," or the equivalent of a grade of "D" or "F," with a grade of "C" or higher, or the equivalent of a grade of "C" or higher, earned

subsequently in another course. The only exception to these forgiveness policies shall be made for a student in the middle grades who takes any high school course for high school credit and earns a grade of "C," "D," or "F" or the equivalent of a grade of "C," "D," or "F." In such case, the district forgiveness policy must allow the replacement of the grade with a grade of "C" or higher, or the equivalent of a grade of "C" or higher, earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. In all cases of grade forgiveness, only the new grade shall be used in the calculation of the student's grade point average. Any course grade not replaced according to a district school board forgiveness policy shall be included in the calculation of the cumulative grade point average required for graduation.

(7)

- (b) A student who completes the minimum number of credits and other requirements prescribed by subsections (1), (2), and (3), but who is unable to meet the standards of paragraph (4)(b) or, paragraph (4)(c), or paragraph (4)(d), shall be awarded a certificate of completion in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education. However, any student who is otherwise entitled to a certificate of completion may elect to remain in the secondary school either as a full-time student or a part-time student for up to 1 additional year and receive special instruction designed to remedy his or her identified deficiencies.
- (8) (a) Each district school board must provide instruction to prepare students with disabilities to demonstrate proficiency in the core content knowledge and skills necessary for

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successful grade-to-grade progression and high school graduation.

- (b)1. A student with a disability, as defined in s.

 1007.02(2), for whom the individual education plan (IEP)

 committee determines that the FCAT cannot accurately measure the student's abilities taking into consideration all allowable accommodations, shall have the FCAT requirement of paragraph (4)(b) waived for the purpose of receiving a standard high school diploma, if the student:
- a. Completes the minimum number of credits and other requirements prescribed by subsections (1), (2), and (3).
- b. Does not meet the requirements of paragraph (4)(b) after one opportunity in 10th grade and one opportunity in 11th grade.
- 2. A student with a disability, as defined in s.

 1007.02(2), for whom the IEP committee determines that an endof-course assessment cannot accurately measure the student's
 abilities, taking into consideration all allowable
 accommodations, shall have the end-of-course assessment results
 waived for the purpose of determining the student's course grade
 and credit as required in paragraph (4)(a).
- Section 7. Subsections (1), (5), (6), and (8) of section 1003.429, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2010-22, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:
 - 1003.429 Accelerated high school graduation options.-
- (1) Students who enter grade 9 in the 2006-2007 school year and thereafter may select, upon receipt of each consent required by this section, one of the following three high school

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graduation options:

(a) Completion of the general requirements for high school graduation pursuant to s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.43, as applicable;

- (b) Completion of a 3-year standard college preparatory program requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18 academic credits in grades 9 through 12. At least 6 of the 18 credits required for completion of this program must be received in classes that are offered pursuant to the International Baccalaureate Program, the Advanced Placement Program, dual enrollment, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or specifically listed or identified by the Department of Education as rigorous pursuant to s. 1009.531(3). The 18 credits required for completion of this program shall be primary requirements and shall be distributed as follows:
- 1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition and literature;
- 2. Three credits and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, four credits in mathematics at the Algebra I level or higher from the list of courses that qualify for state university admission. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, in addition to the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four credits in mathematics must be geometry or a series of courses equivalent to geometry as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s.1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in

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Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(I) s. 1008.22(3)(e)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in geometry. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year, in addition to the Algebra I and geometry credit requirements, one of the four credits in mathematics must be Algebra II or a series of courses equivalent to Algebra II as approved by the State Board of Education;

- Three credits in science, two of which must have a 3. laboratory component. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, one of the three credits in science must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(II) s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Biology I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, one of the three credits must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education, one credit must be chemistry or physics or a series of courses equivalent to chemistry or physics as approved by the State Board of Education, and one credit must be an equally rigorous course, as approved by the State Board of Education:
- 4. Three credits in social sciences, which must include one credit in United States history, one credit in world

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history, one-half credit in United States government, and one-half credit in economics;

- 5. Two credits in the same second language unless the student is a native speaker of or can otherwise demonstrate competency in a language other than English. If the student demonstrates competency in another language, the student may replace the language requirement with two credits in other academic courses; and
- 6. Three credits in electives and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, two credits in electives; or
- (c) Completion of a 3-year career preparatory program requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18 academic credits in grades 9 through 12. The 18 credits shall be primary requirements and shall be distributed as follows:
- 1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition and literature;
- 2. Three credits and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, four credits in mathematics, one of which must be Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, in addition to the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four credits in mathematics must be geometry or a series of courses equivalent to geometry as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(I) s. 1008.22(3)(e)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in

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Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(I) s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in geometry. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year, in addition to the Algebra I and geometry credit requirements, one of the four credits in mathematics must be Algebra II or a series of courses equivalent to Algebra II as approved by the State Board of Education;

- Three credits in science, two of which must have a 3. laboratory component. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, one of the three credits in science must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.(II) s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Biology I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, one of the three credits must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education, one credit must be chemistry or physics or a series of courses equivalent to chemistry or physics as approved by the State Board of Education, and one credit must be an equally rigorous course, as approved by the State Board of Education:
- 4. Three credits in social sciences, which must include one credit in United States history, one credit in world

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history, one-half credit in United States government, and onehalf credit in economics;

5. Three credits in a single vocational or career education program, three credits in career and technical certificate dual enrollment courses, or five credits in vocational or career education courses; and

6. Two credits and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, one credit in electives unless five credits are earned pursuant to subparagraph 5.

Any student who selected an accelerated graduation program before July 1, 2004, may continue that program, and all statutory program requirements that were applicable when the student made the program choice shall remain applicable to the student as long as the student continues that program.

- (5) District school boards may not establish requirements for accelerated 3-year high school graduation options in excess of the requirements in paragraphs (1)(b) and (c). For courses that require statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.d. s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.c., a minimum of 30 percent of a student's course grade shall be comprised of performance on the statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment.
- (6) Students pursuing accelerated 3-year high school graduation options pursuant to paragraph (1)(b) or paragraph (1)(c) are required to:
- (a) Earn passing scores on the FCAT as defined in s. 1008.22(3)(c) or scores on a standardized test that are

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concordant with passing scores on the FCAT as defined in s. 1008.22(10).

- (a) (b) 1. Achieve a cumulative weighted grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required for the college preparatory accelerated 3-year high school graduation option pursuant to paragraph (1)(b); or
- 2. Achieve a cumulative weighted grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required for the career preparatory accelerated 3-year high school graduation option pursuant to paragraph (1)(c).
- (b) (c) Receive a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at least 3.0 points, or its equivalent, to earn course credit toward the 18 credits required for the college preparatory accelerated 3-year high school graduation option pursuant to paragraph (1) (b).
- (c) (d) Receive a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at least 2.0 points, or its equivalent, to earn course credit toward the 18 credits required for the career preparatory accelerated 3-year high school graduation option pursuant to paragraph (1)(c).

Weighted grades referred to in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), and (d) shall be applied to those courses specifically listed or identified by the department as rigorous pursuant to s. 1009.531(3) or weighted by the district school board for class ranking purposes.

(8) A student who selected one of the accelerated 3-year graduation options shall automatically move to the 4-year

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program set forth in s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.43, if applicable, if the student:

- (a) Exercises his or her right to change to the 4-year program;
- (b) Fails to earn 5 credits by the end of grade 9 or fails to earn 11 credits by the end of grade 10;
- (c) <u>Performs below grade level in writing in Does not achieve a score of 3 or higher on the grade 10 FCAT Writing assessment;</u> or
- (d) By the end of grade 11 does not meet the requirements of subsections (1) and (6).
- Section 8. Subsection (3) of section 1003.4295, Florida Statutes, as created by chapter 2010-22, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

1003.4295 Acceleration courses.-

(3) The Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) is created for the purpose of allowing a secondary student to earn high school credit in a course that requires a statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment if the student attains a specified score on the assessment. Notwithstanding s. 1003.436, a school district shall award course credit to a student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, if the student attains a score indicating satisfactory performance, as defined in s. 1008.22(3)(c)4. s. 1008.22(3)(e)5., on the corresponding statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment. The school district shall permit a student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, to take the standardized end-of-course assessment during the regular

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administration of the assessment.

Section 9. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 1003.433, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.433 Learning opportunities for out-of-state and out-of-country transfer students and students needing additional instruction to meet high school graduation requirements.—

- (1) Students who enter a Florida public school at the eleventh or twelfth grade from out of state or from a foreign country shall not be required to spend additional time in a Florida public school in order to meet the high school course requirements if the student has met all requirements of the school district, state, or country from which he or she is transferring. Such students who are not proficient in English should receive immediate and intensive instruction in English language acquisition. However, to receive a standard high school diploma, a transfer student must earn a 2.0 grade point average and pass all end-of-course assessments required for the grade 10 FCAT required in s. 1008.22(3) or an alternate assessment as described in s. 1008.22(10).
- (2) Students who have met all requirements for the standard high school diploma except for passage of <u>all end-of-course assessments required for the grade 10 FCAT or an alternate assessment</u> by the end of grade 12 must be provided the following learning opportunities:
- (a) Participation in an accelerated high school equivalency diploma preparation program during the summer.
- (b) Upon receipt of a certificate of completion, be allowed to take the College Placement Test and be admitted to

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remedial or credit courses at a state community college, as appropriate.

- (c) Participation in an adult general education program as provided in s. 1004.93 for such time as the student requires to master English, reading, mathematics, or any other subject required for high school graduation. Students attending adult basic, adult secondary, or vocational-preparatory instruction are exempt from any requirement for the payment of tuition and fees, including lab fees, pursuant to s. 1009.25. A student attending an adult general education program shall have the opportunity to take any end-of-course assessment required for the grade 10 FCAT an unlimited number of times in order to receive a standard high school diploma.
- (3) Students who have been enrolled in an ESOL program for less than 2 school years and have met all requirements for the standard high school diploma except for passage of all end-of-course assessments required for the grade 10 FCAT or alternate assessment may receive immersion English language instruction during the summer following their senior year. Students receiving such instruction are eligible to take any end-of-course assessment required for grade 10 the FCAT or alternate assessment and receive a standard high school diploma upon passage of all end-of-course assessments required for the grade 10 FCAT or the alternate assessment. This subsection shall be implemented to the extent funding is provided in the General Appropriations Act.
- Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4), paragraph (c) of subsection (5), paragraph (b) of subsection (6), paragraph

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(b) of subsection (7), and paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2010-22, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

1008.25 Public school student progression; remedial instruction; reporting requirements.—

(4) ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION.-

- (a) Each student must participate in the statewide assessment tests required by s. 1008.22. Each student who does not meet specific levels of performance as determined by the district school board in FCAT reading, writing, science, and mathematics for each grade level, or who scores below Level 3 in FCAT reading or FCAT mathematics, must be provided with additional diagnostic assessments to determine the nature of the student's difficulty, the areas of academic need, and strategies for appropriate intervention and instruction as described in paragraph (b).
 - (5) READING DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION. -
- (c) The parent of any student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading, as described in paragraph (a), must be notified in writing of the following:
- 1. That his or her child has been identified as having a substantial deficiency in reading.
- 2. A description of the current services that are provided to the child.
- 3. A description of the proposed supplemental instructional services and supports that will be provided to the child that are designed to remediate the identified area of reading deficiency.

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4. That if the child's reading deficiency is not remediated by the end of grade 3, the child must be retained unless he or she is exempt from mandatory retention for good cause.

- 5. Strategies for parents to use in helping their child succeed in reading proficiency.
- 6. That an end-of-course assessment in reading the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) is not the sole determiner of promotion and that additional evaluations, portfolio reviews, and assessments are available to the child to assist parents and the school district in knowing when a child is reading at or above grade level and ready for grade promotion.
- 7. The district's specific criteria and policies for midyear promotion. Midyear promotion means promotion of a retained student at any time during the year of retention once the student has demonstrated ability to read at grade level.
 - (6) ELIMINATION OF SOCIAL PROMOTION.
- (b) The district school board may only exempt students from mandatory retention, as provided in paragraph (5)(b), for good cause. Good cause exemptions shall be limited to the following:
- 1. Limited English proficient students who have had less than 2 years of instruction in an English for Speakers of Other Languages program.
- 2. Students with disabilities whose individual education plan indicates that participation in the statewide assessment program is not appropriate, consistent with the requirements of State Board of Education rule.

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3. Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of performance on an alternative standardized reading assessment approved by the State Board of Education.

- 4. Students who demonstrate, through a student portfolio, that the student is reading on grade level as evidenced by demonstration of mastery of the Sunshine State Standards in reading equal to at least a Level 2 performance on the FCAT.
- 5. Students with disabilities who participate in the FCAT and who have an individual education plan or a Section 504 plan that reflects that the student has received intensive remediation in reading for more than 2 years but still demonstrates a deficiency in reading and was previously retained in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3.
- 6. Students who have received intensive remediation in reading for 2 or more years but still demonstrate a deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of 2 years. Intensive reading instruction for students so promoted must include an altered instructional day that includes specialized diagnostic information and specific reading strategies for each student. The district school board shall assist schools and teachers to implement reading strategies that research has shown to be successful in improving reading among low-performing readers.
 - (7) SUCCESSFUL PROGRESSION FOR RETAINED READERS.-
- (b) Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, each school district shall:
- 1. Conduct a review of student progress monitoring plans for all students who did not achieve grade level in reading

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score above Level 1 on the reading portion of the FCAT and did not meet the criteria for one of the good cause exemptions in paragraph (6)(b). The review shall address additional supports and services, as described in this subsection, needed to remediate the identified areas of reading deficiency. The school district shall require a student portfolio to be completed for each such student.

- 2. Provide students who are retained under the provisions of paragraph (5)(b) with intensive instructional services and supports to remediate the identified areas of reading deficiency, including a minimum of 90 minutes of daily, uninterrupted, scientifically research-based reading instruction and other strategies prescribed by the school district, which may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Small group instruction.

- b. Reduced teacher-student ratios.
- c. More frequent progress monitoring.
 - d. Tutoring or mentoring.
- 1139 e. Transition classes containing 3rd and 4th grade 1140 students.
 - f. Extended school day, week, or year.
 - g. Summer reading camps.
 - 3. Provide written notification to the parent of any student who is retained under the provisions of paragraph (5)(b) that his or her child has not met the proficiency level required for promotion and the reasons the child is not eligible for a good cause exemption as provided in paragraph (6)(b). The notification must comply with the provisions of s. 1002.20(15)

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and must include a description of proposed interventions and supports that will be provided to the child to remediate the identified areas of reading deficiency.

- 4. Implement a policy for the midyear promotion of any student retained under the provisions of paragraph (5) (b) who can demonstrate that he or she is a successful and independent reader, reading at or above grade level, and ready to be promoted to grade 4. Tools that school districts may use in reevaluating any student retained may include subsequent assessments, alternative assessments, and portfolio reviews, in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education. Students promoted during the school year after November 1 must demonstrate proficiency above that required to score at Level 2 on the grade 3 FCAT, as determined by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall adopt standards that provide a reasonable expectation that the student's progress is sufficient to master appropriate 4th grade level reading skills.
- 5. Provide students who are retained under the provisions of paragraph (5)(b) with a high-performing teacher as determined by student performance data and above-satisfactory performance appraisals.
- 6. In addition to required reading enhancement and acceleration strategies, provide parents of students to be retained with at least one of the following instructional options:
- a. Supplemental tutoring in scientifically research-based reading services in addition to the regular reading block,

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1177 including tutoring before and/or after school.

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- b. A "Read at Home" plan outlined in a parental contract, including participation in "Families Building Better Readers Workshops" and regular parent-guided home reading.
 - c. A mentor or tutor with specialized reading training.
- 7. Establish a Reading Enhancement and Acceleration Development (READ) Initiative. The focus of the READ Initiative shall be to prevent the retention of grade 3 students and to offer intensive accelerated reading instruction to grade 3 students who failed to meet standards for promotion to grade 4 and to each K-3 student who is assessed as exhibiting a reading deficiency. The READ Initiative shall:
- a. Be provided to all K-3 students at risk of retention as identified by the statewide assessment system used in Reading First schools. The assessment must measure phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- b. Be provided during regular school hours in addition to the regular reading instruction.
- c. Provide a state-identified reading curriculum that has been reviewed by the Florida Center for Reading Research at Florida State University and meets, at a minimum, the following specifications:
- (I) Assists students assessed as exhibiting a reading deficiency in developing the ability to read at grade level.
- (II) Provides skill development in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- 1203 (III) Provides scientifically based and reliable 1204 assessment.

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(IV) Provides initial and ongoing analysis of each student's reading progress.

- (V) Is implemented during regular school hours.
- (VI) Provides a curriculum in core academic subjects to assist the student in maintaining or meeting proficiency levels for the appropriate grade in all academic subjects.
- 8. Establish at each school, where applicable, an Intensive Acceleration Class for retained grade 3 students who subsequently score below grade level in reading at Level 1 on the reading portion of the FCAT. The focus of the Intensive Acceleration Class shall be to increase a child's reading level at least two grade levels in 1 school year. The Intensive Acceleration Class shall:
- a. Be provided to any student in grade 3 who scores <u>below</u> grade level in reading at Level 1 on the reading portion of the FCAT and who was retained in grade 3 the prior year because of scoring <u>below</u> grade level in reading at Level 1 on the reading portion of the FCAT.
 - b. Have a reduced teacher-student ratio.
- c. Provide uninterrupted reading instruction for the majority of student contact time each day and incorporate opportunities to master the grade 4 Sunshine State Standards in other core subject areas.
- d. Use a reading program that is scientifically researchbased and has proven results in accelerating student reading achievement within the same school year.
- e. Provide intensive language and vocabulary instruction using a scientifically research-based program, including use of

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1233 a speech-language therapist.

- f. Include weekly progress monitoring measures to ensure progress is being made.
- g. Report to the Department of Education, in the manner described by the department, the progress of students in the class at the end of the first semester.
- 9. Report to the State Board of Education, as requested, on the specific intensive reading interventions and supports implemented at the school district level. The Commissioner of Education shall annually prescribe the required components of requested reports.
- 10. Provide a student who has been retained in grade 3 and has received intensive instructional services but is still not ready for grade promotion, as determined by the school district, the option of being placed in a transitional instructional setting. Such setting shall specifically be designed to produce learning gains sufficient to meet grade 4 performance standards while continuing to remediate the areas of reading deficiency.
 - (8) ANNUAL REPORT.
- (b) Each district school board must annually publish in the local newspaper, and report in writing to the State Board of Education by September 1 of each year, the following information on the prior school year:
- 1. The provisions of this section relating to public school student progression and the district school board's policies and procedures on student retention and promotion.
- 2. By grade, the number and percentage of all students in grades 3 through 10 performing below grade level in reading at

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Levels 1 and 2 on the reading portion of the FCAT.

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- 3. By grade, the number and percentage of all students retained in grades 3 through 10.
- 4. Information on the total number of students who were promoted for good cause, by each category of good cause as specified in paragraph (6)(b).
- 5. Any revisions to the district school board's policy on student retention and promotion from the prior year.
- Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 1008.30, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2010-22, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:
- 1008.30 Common placement testing for public postsecondary education.—
- (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules that require high schools to evaluate before the beginning of grade 12 the college readiness of each student who indicates an interest in postsecondary education and scores below grade level in reading or mathematics in at Level 2 or Level 3 on the reading portion of the grade 10 FCAT or Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4 on the mathematics assessments under s. 1008.22(3)(c). High schools shall perform this evaluation using results from the corresponding component of the common placement test prescribed in this section, or an equivalent test identified by the State Board of Education. The Department of Education shall purchase or develop the assessments necessary to perform the evaluations required by this subsection and shall work with the school districts to administer the assessments. The State Board of Education shall establish by rule the minimum test scores a

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student must achieve to demonstrate readiness. Students who demonstrate readiness by achieving the minimum test scores established by the state board and enroll in a community college within 2 years of achieving such scores shall not be required to enroll in remediation courses as a condition of acceptance to any community college. The high school shall use the results of the test to advise the students of any identified deficiencies and to the maximum extent practicable provide 12th grade students access to appropriate remedial instruction prior to high school graduation. The remedial instruction provided under this subsection shall be a collaborative effort between secondary and postsecondary educational institutions. To the extent courses are available, the Florida Virtual School may be used to provide the remedial instruction required by this subsection.

Section 12. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (3) of section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapters 2010-22 and 2010-48, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

1008.34 School grading system; school report cards; district grade.—

- (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.-
- (b) 1. A school's grade shall be based on a combination of:
- a. Student achievement scores, including achievement on all FCAT assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1., end-of-course assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a. s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a., and achievement scores for students seeking a special diploma.
 - b. Student learning gains in subjects reading and

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mathematics as measured by FCAT and end-of-course assessments, as described in s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a. and 2.a. Learning gains for students seeking a special diploma, as measured by an alternate assessment tool, shall be included not later than the 2009-2010 school year.

- c. Improvement of the lowest 25th percentile of students in the school in <u>subjects</u> reading and mathematics on the FCAT or end-of-course assessments described in <u>s. 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.</u> s. $\frac{1008.22(3)(c)2.a.}{1008.22(3)(c)2.a.}$, unless these students are exhibiting satisfactory performance.
- 2. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year for schools comprised of high school grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or grades 10, 11, and 12, 50 percent of the school grade shall be based on a combination of the factors listed in sub-subparagraphs 1.a.-c. and the remaining 50 percent on the following factors:
 - a. The high school graduation rate of the school;
- b. As valid data becomes available, the performance and participation of the school's students in College Board Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses, dual enrollment courses, and Advanced International Certificate of Education courses; and the students' achievement of national industry certification identified in the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education;
- c. Postsecondary readiness of the school's students as measured by the SAT, ACT, or the common placement test;
- d. The high school graduation rate of at-risk students who scored below grade level in reading and mathematics in at Level

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2 or lower on the grade 8 FCAT Reading and Mathematics
examinations;

- e. As valid data becomes available, the performance of the school's students on statewide standardized end-of-course assessments administered under $\underline{s.\ 1008.22(3)(c)1.c.}$ and $\underline{s.}$ $\underline{1008.22(3)(c)2.b.}$ and $\underline{c.}$; and
- f. The growth or decline in the components listed in subsubparagraphs a.-e. from year to year.
- (c) Student assessment data used in determining school grades shall include:
- 1. The aggregate scores of all eligible students enrolled in the school who have been assessed on the FCAT and statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in courses required for high school graduation, including, beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, the end-of-course assessment in Algebra I; and beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessments in geometry and Biology; and beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, on the statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment in civics education at the middle school level.
- 2. The aggregate scores of all eligible students enrolled in the school who have been assessed on the FCAT and end-of-course assessments as described in $\underline{s.\ 1008.22(3)(c)1.a.\ s.}$ and who have scored at or in the lowest 25th percentile of students in the school in the subjects of those assessments reading and mathematics, unless these students are exhibiting satisfactory performance.
 - 3. The achievement scores and learning gains of eligible

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1373 students attending alternative schools that provide dropout 1374 prevention and academic intervention services pursuant to s. 1375 1003.53. The term "eligible students" in this subparagraph does 1376 not include students attending an alternative school who are 1377 subject to district school board policies for expulsion for 1378 repeated or serious offenses, who are in dropout retrieval 1379 programs serving students who have officially been designated as 1380 dropouts, or who are in programs operated or contracted by the 1381 Department of Juvenile Justice. The student performance data for 1382 eligible students identified in this subparagraph shall be 1383 included in the calculation of the home school's grade. As used 1384 in this section and s. 1008.341, the term "home school" means 1385 the school to which the student would be assigned if the student 1386 were not assigned to an alternative school. If an alternative 1387 school chooses to be graded under this section, student 1388 performance data for eligible students identified in this 1389 subparagraph shall not be included in the home school's grade 1390 but shall be included only in the calculation of the alternative 1391 school's grade. A school district that fails to assign the FCAT 1392 and end-of-course assessment as described in s. 1393 1008.22(3)(c)1.a. s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a. scores of each of its 1394 students to his or her home school or to the alternative school 1395 that receives a grade shall forfeit Florida School Recognition Program funds for 1 fiscal year. School districts must require 1396 collaboration between the home school and the alternative school 1397 1398 in order to promote student success. This collaboration must 1399 include an annual discussion between the principal of the 1400 alternative school and the principal of each student's home

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school concerning the most appropriate school assignment of the student.

- 4. For schools comprised of high school grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or grades 10, 11, and 12, the data listed in subparagraphs 1.-3. and the following data as the Department of Education determines such data are valid and available:
- a. The high school graduation rate of the school as calculated by the Department of Education;
- b. The participation rate of all eligible students enrolled in the school and enrolled in College Board Advanced Placement courses; International Baccalaureate courses; dual enrollment courses; Advanced International Certificate of Education courses; and courses or sequence of courses leading to national industry certification identified in the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education;
- c. The aggregate scores of all eligible students enrolled in the school in College Board Advanced Placement courses,
 International Baccalaureate courses, and Advanced International
 Certificate of Education courses;
- d. Earning of college credit by all eligible students enrolled in the school in dual enrollment programs under s. 1007.271;
- e. Earning of a national industry certification identified in the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education;
- f. The aggregate scores of all eligible students enrolled in the school in reading, mathematics, and other subjects as

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measured by the SAT, the ACT, and the common placement test for postsecondary readiness;

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- g. The high school graduation rate of all eligible at-risk students enrolled in the school who scored below grade level in reading and mathematics in at Level 2 or lower on the grade 8

 FCAT Reading and Mathematics examinations;
- h. The performance of the school's students on statewide standardized end-of-course assessments administered under \underline{s} . 1008.22(3)(c)1.c. and d. \underline{s} . 1008.22(3)(c)2.b. and c.; and
- i. The growth or decline in the data components listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-h. from year to year.

The State Board of Education shall adopt appropriate criteria for each school grade. The criteria must also give added weight to student achievement in reading. Schools designated with a grade of "C," making satisfactory progress, shall be required to demonstrate that adequate progress has been made by students in the school who are in the lowest 25th percentile in reading and mathematics on the FCAT and end-of-course assessments as described in s. $1008.22(3)(c)1.a. s. \frac{1008.22(3)(c)2.a.}{c}$, unless these students are exhibiting satisfactory performance. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year for schools comprised of high school grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or grades 10, 11, and 12, the criteria for school grades must also give added weight to the graduation rate of all eligible at-risk students, as defined in this paragraph. Beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, in order for a high school to be designated as having a grade of "A," making excellent progress, the school must

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demonstrate that at-risk students, as defined in this paragraph, in the school are making adequate progress.

Section 13. Subsection (3) of section 1008.341, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2010-22, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

1008.341 School improvement rating for alternative schools.—

- (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT RATING.—Student data used in determining an alternative school's school improvement rating shall include:
- (a) The aggregate scores on statewide assessments administered under s. 1008.22 for all eligible students who were assigned to and enrolled in the school during the October or February FTE count and who have end-of-course assessment FCAT or comparable scores for the preceding school year.
- (b) The aggregate scores on statewide assessments administered under s. 1008.22 for all eligible students who were assigned to and enrolled in the school during the October or February FTE count and who have scored in the lowest 25th percentile of students in the state on end-of-course assessments in reading FCAT Reading.

The assessment scores of students who are subject to district school board policies for expulsion for repeated or serious offenses, who are in dropout retrieval programs serving students who have officially been designated as dropouts, or who are in programs operated or contracted by the Department of Juvenile Justice may not be included in an alternative school's school

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1485 improvement rating.

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Section 14. Paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

- (9) RESEARCH-BASED READING INSTRUCTION ALLOCATION.-
- (c) Funds allocated under this subsection must be used to provide a system of comprehensive reading instruction to students enrolled in the K-12 programs, which may include the following:
 - 1. The provision of highly qualified reading coaches.
- 2. Professional development for school district teachers in scientifically based reading instruction, including strategies to teach reading in content areas and with an emphasis on technical and informational text.
- 3. The provision of summer reading camps for students who are reading below grade level score at Level 1 on FCAT Reading.
- 4. The provision of supplemental instructional materials that are grounded in scientifically based reading research.
- 5. The provision of intensive interventions for middle and high school students reading below grade level.
- Section 15. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1012.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of the

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district school board.—The district school board shall:

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- (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:
- (b) Time to act on nominations.—The district school board shall act not later than 3 weeks following the receipt of FCAT scores and data, including school grades, or June 30, whichever is later, on the district school superintendent's nominations of supervisors, principals, and members of the instructional staff.
- Section 16. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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