



201978

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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Senator Baxley moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 352 and 353

insert:

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
1003.436, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.436 Definition of "credit."—

(1) (a) For the purposes of requirements for high school  
graduation, one full credit means a minimum of 135 hours of bona  
fide instruction in a designated course of study that contains  
student performance standards, except as otherwise provided



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12 through the Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) under s.  
13 1003.4295(3). One full credit means a minimum of 120 hours of  
14 bona fide instruction in a designated course of study that  
15 contains student performance standards for purposes of meeting  
16 high school graduation requirements in a district school that  
17 has been authorized to implement block scheduling by the  
18 district school board. In lieu of the 135- and 120-hour  
19 instruction requirements, district school boards participating  
20 in the Mastery-Based Education Pilot Program under s. 1003.4996,  
21 may determine and award credit based on a student's mastery of  
22 the core content and skills, consistent with s. 1003.41, as  
23 approved by the district school board. The State Board of  
24 Education shall determine the number of postsecondary credit  
25 hours earned through dual enrollment pursuant to s. 1007.271  
26 that satisfy the requirements of a dual enrollment articulation  
27 agreement according to s. 1007.271(21) and that equal one full  
28 credit of the equivalent high school course identified pursuant  
29 to s. 1007.271(9).

30 Section 6. Section 1003.437, Florida Statutes, is amended  
31 to read:

32 1003.437 Middle and high school grading system.—

33 (1) The grading system and interpretation of letter grades  
34 used to measure student success in grade 6 through grade 12  
35 courses for students in public schools shall be as follows:

36 (a)~~(1)~~ Grade "A" equals 90 percent through 100 percent, has  
37 a grade point average value of 4, and is defined as "outstanding  
38 progress."

39 (b)~~(2)~~ Grade "B" equals 80 percent through 89 percent, has  
40 a grade point average value of 3, and is defined as "above



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41 average progress.”

42 (c)~~(3)~~ Grade “C” equals 70 percent through 79 percent, has  
43 a grade point average value of 2, and is defined as “average  
44 progress.”

45 (d)~~(4)~~ Grade “D” equals 60 percent through 69 percent, has  
46 a grade point average value of 1, and is defined as “lowest  
47 acceptable progress.”

48 (e)~~(5)~~ Grade “F” equals zero percent through 59 percent,  
49 has a grade point average value of zero, and is defined as  
50 “failure.”

51 (f)~~(6)~~ Grade “I” equals zero percent, has a grade point  
52 average value of zero, and is defined as “incomplete.”

53 (2) District school boards participating in the Mastery-  
54 Based Education Pilot Program under s. 1003.4996 may use an  
55 alternative interpretation of letter grades to measure student  
56 success in grades 6 through 12.

57

58 For the purposes of class ranking, district school boards may  
59 exercise a weighted grading system pursuant to s. 1007.271.

60 Section 7. Section 1003.4996, Florida Statutes, is amended  
61 to read:

62 1003.4996 Mastery-Based ~~Competency-Based~~ Education Pilot  
63 Program. ~~Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year,~~ The Mastery-  
64 Based ~~Competency-Based~~ Education Pilot Program is created within  
65 the Department of Education to be administered for a period of 5  
66 years. The purpose of the pilot program is to provide an  
67 educational environment that allows students to advance to  
68 higher levels of learning upon the mastery of concepts and  
69 skills through statutory exemptions relating to student



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70 progression and the awarding of credits.

71 (1) PARTICIPATION.—The P.K. Yonge Developmental Research  
72 School and public school districts, including, but not limited  
73 to, the Lake, Palm Beach, Pinellas, and Seminole County School  
74 Districts, may submit an application in a format prescribed by  
75 the department to participate in the pilot program.

76 (2) APPLICATION.—The application to participate in the  
77 pilot program must, at a minimum, include:

78 (a) The vision and timelines for the implementation of  
79 mastery-based ~~competency-based~~ education within the school  
80 district, including a list of the schools that will participate  
81 in the pilot program during the first school year and the list  
82 of schools that will be integrated into the program in  
83 subsequent school years.

84 (b) The annual goals and performance outcomes for  
85 participating schools, including, but not limited to:

- 86 1. Student performance as defined in s. 1008.34.  
87 2. Promotion and retention rates.  
88 3. Graduation rates.  
89 4. Indicators of college and career readiness.

90 (c) A communication plan for parents and other  
91 stakeholders, including local businesses and community members.

92 (d) The scope of and timelines for professional development  
93 for school instructional and administrative personnel.

94 (e) A plan for student progression based on the mastery of  
95 content, including mechanisms that determine and ensure that a  
96 student has satisfied the requirements for grade-level promotion  
97 and content mastery.

98 (f) A plan for using technology and digital and blended



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99 learning to enhance student achievement and facilitate the  
100 mastery-based ~~competency-based~~ education system.

101 (g) The proposed allocation of resources for the pilot  
102 program at the school and district levels.

103 (h) The recruitment and selection of participating schools.

104 (i) The rules to be waived for participating schools  
105 pursuant to subsection (3) to implement the pilot program.

106 (3) EXEMPTION FROM RULES.—In addition to the waivers  
107 authorized in s. 1001.10(3), the State Board of Education may  
108 authorize the commissioner to grant an additional waiver of  
109 rules relating to student progression and the awarding of  
110 credits.

111 (4) ALTERNATE CREDIT AND LETTER GRADE SYSTEMS.—

112 (a) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, participating  
113 school districts may amend their applications to include  
114 alternatives for awarding credit, as authorized under s.  
115 1003.436, and for the interpretation of middle and high school  
116 letter grades, as authorized under s. 1003.437.

117 1. Alternatives to awarding credit must include a  
118 verification of the student's mastery of the applicable course  
119 content using rigorous scoring rubrics to evaluate the student's  
120 work.

121 2. Alternatives to the interpretation of middle and high  
122 school letter grades may substitute the applicable language from  
123 the school district's rigorous scoring rubric.

124 (b) An application that is amended pursuant to this  
125 subsection must be approved by the district school board.

126 (5)~~(4)~~ STUDENT FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a  
127 participating school shall be reported for and generate funding



128 pursuant to s. 1011.62.

129 ~~(6)~~<sup>(5)</sup> DEPARTMENT DUTIES.—The department shall:

130 (a) Compile the student and staff schedules of  
131 participating schools before and after implementation of the  
132 pilot program.

133 (b) Provide participating schools with access to statewide,  
134 standardized assessments required under s. 1008.22.

135 (c) Annually, by June 1, provide to the Governor, the  
136 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
137 Representatives a report summarizing the activities and  
138 accomplishments of the pilot program and any recommendations for  
139 statutory revisions.

140 ~~(6) RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules  
141 to administer this section.~~

142  
143 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

144 And the title is amended as follows:

145 Delete line 38

146 and insert:

147 compulsory school attendance; amending s. 1003.436,  
148 F.S.; authorizing a district school board  
149 participating in the Mastery-Based Education Pilot  
150 Program to award credit based on student mastery of  
151 certain content and skills; amending s. 1003.437,  
152 F.S.; authorizing a district school board  
153 participating in the Mastery-Based Education Pilot  
154 Program to use an alternative interpretation of letter  
155 grades for certain students; amending s. 1003.4996,  
156 F.S.; renaming the Competency-Based Education Pilot



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157 Program as the Mastery-Based Education Pilot Program;  
158 authorizing public school districts to submit  
159 applications for the program; authorizing  
160 participating school districts to amend their  
161 applications to include alternatives for the award  
162 credits and interpretation of letter grades; providing  
163 requirements for such alternatives; deleting a  
164 requirement that the State Board of Education adopt  
165 rules; amending s. 1006.15,