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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/08/2019	.	
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Appropriations Subcommittee on Education (Brandes) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 47 - 182

and insert:

Based Education Program under s. 1003.4996 may determine and award credit based on a student's mastery of the core content and skills, consistent with s. 1003.41, as approved by the district school board or developmental research school governing authority, as applicable. The State Board of Education shall determine the number of postsecondary credit hours earned



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11 through dual enrollment pursuant to s. 1007.271 that satisfy the
12 requirements of a dual enrollment articulation agreement
13 according to s. 1007.271(21) and that equal one full credit of
14 the equivalent high school course identified pursuant to s.
15 1007.271(9).

16 Section 2. Section 1003.437, Florida Statutes, is amended
17 to read:

18 1003.437 Middle and high school grading system.—

19 (1) The grading system and interpretation of letter grades
20 used to measure student success in grade 6 through grade 12
21 courses for students in public schools is ~~shall be~~ as follows:

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

25 (b) ~~(2)~~ Grade "B" equals 80 percent through 89 percent, has
26 a grade point average value of 3, and is defined as "above
27 average progress."

28 (c) ~~(3)~~ Grade "C" equals 70 percent through 79 percent, has
29 a grade point average value of 2, and is defined as "average
30 progress."

31 (d) ~~(4)~~ Grade "D" equals 60 percent through 69 percent, has
32 a grade point average value of 1, and is defined as "lowest
33 acceptable progress."

34 (e) ~~(5)~~ Grade "F" equals zero percent through 59 percent,
35 has a grade point average value of zero, and is defined as
36 "failure."

37 (f) ~~(6)~~ Grade "I" equals zero percent, has a grade point
38 average value of zero, and is defined as "incomplete."

39 (2) A district school board and a developmental research



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40 school participating in the Mastery-Based Education Program
41 under s. 1003.4996 may use an alternative interpretation of
42 letter grades to measure student success in grade 6 through
43 grade 12; however, the school board and developmental research
44 school must continue to use the 4-point scale established in
45 subsection (1) for calculating a student's grade point average.
46

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

49 Section 3. Section 1003.4996, Florida Statutes, is amended
50 to read:

51 1003.4996 Mastery-Based ~~Competency-Based~~ Education ~~Pilot~~
52 Program.—Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the Mastery-
53 Based ~~Competency-Based~~ Education ~~Pilot~~ Program is created within
54 the Department of Education to be administered for a period of 5
55 years. The purpose of the ~~pilot~~ program is to provide an
56 educational environment that allows students to advance to
57 higher levels of learning upon the mastery of concepts and
58 skills through statutory exemptions relating to student
59 progression and the awarding of credits.

60 (1) PARTICIPATION.—Developmental research schools
61 established under s. 1002.32, including the P.K. Yonge
62 Developmental Research School, and public school districts,
63 including, but not limited to, the Lake, Palm Beach, Pinellas,
64 and Seminole County School Districts, may submit an application
65 in a format prescribed by the department to participate in the
66 ~~pilot~~ program.

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



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69 (a) The vision and timelines for the implementation of
70 mastery-based ~~competency-based~~ education within the school
71 district, including a list of the schools that will participate
72 in the ~~pilot~~ program during the first school year and the list
73 of schools that will be integrated into the program in
74 subsequent school years.

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

- 77 1. Student performance as defined in s. 1008.34.
78 2. Promotion and retention rates.
79 3. Graduation rates.
80 4. Indicators of college and career readiness.

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

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

85 (e) A plan for student progression based on the mastery of
86 content, including mechanisms that determine and ensure that a
87 student has satisfied the requirements for grade-level promotion
88 and content mastery.

89 (f) A plan for using technology and digital and blended
90 learning to enhance student achievement and facilitate the
91 mastery-based ~~competency-based~~ education system.

92 (g) The proposed allocation of resources for the ~~pilot~~
93 program at the school and district levels.

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

95 (i) The rules to be waived for participating schools
96 pursuant to subsection (3) to implement the ~~pilot~~ program.

97 (3) EXEMPTION FROM RULES.—In addition to the waivers



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98 authorized in s. 1001.10(3), the State Board of Education may
99 authorize the commissioner to grant an additional waiver of
100 rules relating to student progression and the awarding of
101 credits.

102 (4) ALTERNATIVE CREDIT AND LETTER GRADE SYSTEMS.—

103 (a) Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, participating
104 school districts and developmental research schools may amend
105 their applications to include alternatives for awarding credit,
106 as authorized under s. 1003.436, and for the interpretation of
107 middle school and high school letter grades, as authorized under
108 s. 1003.437.

109 1. Alternatives to awarding credit must include
110 verification of the student's mastery of the applicable course
111 content using rigorous scoring rubrics to evaluate the student's
112 work. A participating school district and developmental research
113 school must amend its student progression plan required by s.
114 1008.25 to conform to the alternative awarding of credits
115 pursuant to this section.

116 2. Alternatives to the interpretation of middle school and
117 high school letter grades may substitute the applicable language
118 from the school district's rigorous scoring rubric; however,
119 participating school districts and developmental research
120 schools must continue to use the 4-point scale established in s.
121 1003.437(1) for calculating a student's grade point average.

122 (b) An application that is amended pursuant to this
123 subsection must be approved by the district school board or
124 developmental research school governing authority, as
125 applicable.

126 (5)-(4) STUDENT FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a



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127 participating school shall be reported for and generate funding
128 pursuant to s. 1011.62.

129 (6)~~(5)~~ 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 (7)~~(6)~~ RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt
141 rules 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 lines 5 - 17

146 and insert:

147 Mastery-Based Education Program to award credit based
148 on student mastery of certain content and skills;
149 amending s. 1003.437, F.S.; authorizing a district
150 school board or developmental research school
151 participating in the Mastery-Based Education Program
152 to use an alternative interpretation of letter grades
153 for certain students; requiring participating district
154 school boards and developmental research schools to
155 use the current 4-point scale in determining student



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156 grade point averages; amending s. 1003.4996, F.S.;

157 renaming the Competency-Based Education Pilot Program

158 as the Mastery-Based Education Program; authorizing

159 public school districts and