

By Senator Hutson

7-00668A-19

2019244__

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to high school academic advisors;
 3 amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; requiring schools that
 4 serve students in grades 9 through 12 to designate
 5 academic advisors; providing parameters for academic
 6 advising; requiring students who meet specified
 7 criteria to meet with an academic advisor within a
 8 specified timeframe; providing an effective date.

9
 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11
 12 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (18) of section
 13 1001.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The
 15 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all
 16 powers and perform all duties listed below:

17 (18) IMPLEMENT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—
 18 Maintain a system of school improvement and education
 19 accountability as provided by statute and State Board of
 20 Education rule. This system of school improvement and education
 21 accountability shall be consistent with, and implemented
 22 through, the district’s continuing system of planning and
 23 budgeting required by this section and ss. 1008.385, 1010.01,
 24 and 1011.01. This system of school improvement and education
 25 accountability shall comply with the provisions of ss. 1008.33,
 26 1008.34, 1008.345, and 1008.385 and include the following:

27 (b) *Early warning system.*—

28 1. A school that serves any students in kindergarten
 29 through grade 8 shall implement an early warning system to

7-00668A-19

2019244__

30 identify students in such grades who need additional support to
31 improve academic performance and stay engaged in school. The
32 early warning system must include the following early warning
33 indicators:

34 a. Attendance below 90 percent, regardless of whether
35 absence is excused or a result of out-of-school suspension.

36 b. One or more suspensions, whether in school or out of
37 school.

38 c. Course failure in English Language Arts or mathematics
39 during any grading period.

40 d. A Level 1 score on the statewide, standardized
41 assessments in English Language Arts or mathematics or, for
42 students in kindergarten through grade 3, a substantial reading
43 deficiency under s. 1008.25(5)(a).

44
45 A school district may identify additional early warning
46 indicators for use in a school's early warning system. The
47 system must include data on the number of students identified by
48 the system as exhibiting two or more early warning indicators,
49 the number of students by grade level who exhibit each early
50 warning indicator, and a description of all intervention
51 strategies employed by the school to improve the academic
52 performance of students identified by the early warning system.

53 2. A school that serves students in grades 9 through 12
54 shall designate at least one academic advisor from the school-
55 based team described in subparagraph 3. The academic advisor
56 shall advise students on alternative career pathways, graduation
57 pathways, available industry certifications, available
58 apprenticeship preparation, and available technical training.

7-00668A-19

2019244__

59 Any student who has a cumulative grade point average that falls
60 below 2.0 shall meet with his or her school's designated
61 academic advisor during the first semester in which his or her
62 grade point average falls below 2.0 and any subsequent semesters
63 in which his or her grade point average remains below 2.0 to
64 discuss alternative pathways to graduation.

65 ~~3.2.~~ A school-based team responsible for implementing the
66 requirements of this paragraph shall monitor the data from the
67 early warning system. The team may include a school
68 psychologist. When a student exhibits two or more early warning
69 indicators, the team, in consultation with the student's parent,
70 shall determine appropriate intervention strategies for the
71 student unless the student is already being served by an
72 intervention program at the direction of a school-based,
73 multidisciplinary team. Data and information relating to a
74 student's early warning indicators must be used to inform any
75 intervention strategies provided to the student.

76 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.