

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education funding; amending s.  
3           1002.37, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the  
4           calculation for determining the amount of state funds  
5           received by the Florida Virtual School for operating  
6           purposes; repealing s. 1002.411, F.S., relating to  
7           reading scholarship accounts; amending s. 1002.45,  
8           F.S.; revising the requirements for school districts  
9           providing virtual instruction programs; requiring each  
10          school district to annually report certain information  
11          to the Department of Education by a specified date;  
12          requiring a school district to limit the enrollment of  
13          certain students in the virtual instruction program;  
14          providing applicability; requiring a school district  
15          to report full-time equivalent students for a virtual  
16          instruction program or virtual charter school to the  
17          department; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; removing a  
18          requirement that certain school districts use a low-  
19          performing school's portion of the supplemental  
20          academic instruction allocation to provide an  
21          additional hour of intensive reading per day; removing  
22          provisions relating to the allocation of funding to  
23          school districts with a decline in full-time  
24          equivalent students; removing provisions relating to  
25          the virtual education contribution; removing

26 provisions relating to the annual funding compression  
27 and hold harmless allocation; removing provisions  
28 relating to the turnaround school supplemental  
29 services allocation; amending s. 1012.22, F.S.;  
30 removing an obsolete date; revising provisions  
31 relating to the annual increase made to the minimum  
32 base salary of certain public school employees;  
33 requiring school districts to use a portion of their  
34 nonenrollment allocation from the federal Elementary  
35 and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund for a  
36 specified purpose; defining the term "unaccounted  
37 student"; requiring each school district to establish  
38 a multiagency workgroup for a specified purpose;  
39 requiring a school district to initiate a truancy  
40 petition under certain circumstances; requiring each  
41 school district to annually submit a report to the  
42 department by a specified date; providing for future  
43 expiration; requiring that school districts use a  
44 portion of their academic acceleration allocation from  
45 the federal Elementary and Secondary Education  
46 Emergency Relief Fund for a specified purpose;  
47 providing certain requirements for school districts;  
48 requiring the department to submit a status report to  
49 the Governor and Legislature by a specified date;  
50 providing for future expiration; requiring certain

51 nonprofit scholarship-funding organizations to  
52 continue participating in the reading scholarship  
53 accounts program until a specified period; requiring  
54 that a parent of a student with a reading scholarship  
55 account continue to submit eligible expenses to the  
56 organization for reimbursement of certain qualifying  
57 expenditures under certain circumstances; prohibiting  
58 certain service providers from sharing any moneys from  
59 reading scholarship accounts with, or providing a  
60 refund or rebate of such moneys to, parents or  
61 participating students; providing that a parent is  
62 responsible for payment of certain expenses; requiring  
63 that the nonprofit scholarship-organization make a  
64 payment of any unexpended funds remaining in a  
65 student's reading scholarship account as of a  
66 specified date, at least quarterly; providing that any  
67 moneys received under the program do not constitute  
68 taxable income; requiring that a student's reading  
69 scholarship account is considered closed under certain  
70 circumstances; requiring that an account that has been  
71 inactive for a specified number of consecutive years  
72 be closed and any remaining funds in the account  
73 revert to the state; amending ss. 1001.215, 1003.52,  
74 1003.621, 1006.12, 1008.345, 1011.71, and 1012.584,  
75 F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an

76 effective date.

77  
78 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

79  
80 Section 1. Paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) of subsection (3)  
81 of section 1002.37, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

82 1002.37 The Florida Virtual School.—

83 (3) Funding for the Florida Virtual School shall be  
84 provided as follows:

85 ~~(f) The Florida Virtual School shall receive funds for~~  
86 ~~operating purposes in an amount determined as follows: multiply~~  
87 ~~the maximum allowable nonvoted discretionary millage for~~  
88 ~~operations pursuant to s. 1011.71(1) and (3) by the value of 96~~  
89 ~~percent of the current year's taxable value for school purposes~~  
90 ~~for the state; divide the result by the total full-time~~  
91 ~~equivalent membership of the state; and multiply the result by~~  
92 ~~the full-time equivalent membership of the school. The amount~~  
93 ~~thus obtained shall be discretionary operating funds and shall~~  
94 ~~be appropriated from state funds in the General Appropriations~~  
95 ~~Act.~~

96 (f)(g) The Florida Virtual School shall receive additional  
97 state funds for operating purposes as ~~may be~~ provided in the  
98 General Appropriations Act. The calculation to determine the  
99 amount of state funds includes: the sum of the base Florida  
100 Education Finance Program funding, the state-funded

101 discretionary contribution and a per-full-time equivalent share  
102 of the discretionary millage compression supplement, the  
103 exceptional student education guaranteed allocation, the  
104 instructional materials allocation, the research-based reading  
105 instruction allocation, the mental health assistance allocation,  
106 and the teacher salary increase allocation. For the purpose of  
107 calculating the state-funded discretionary contribution,  
108 multiply the maximum allowable nonvoted discretionary millage  
109 for operations pursuant to s. 1011.71(1) and (3) by the value of  
110 96 percent of the current year's taxable value for school  
111 purposes for the state; divide the result by the total full-time  
112 equivalent membership of the state; and multiply the result by  
113 the full-time equivalent membership of the school.  ~~However,~~  
114 ~~such~~ Funds may not be provided for the purpose of fulfilling the  
115 class size requirements in ss. 1003.03 and 1011.685.

116 (g) ~~(h)~~ In addition to the funds provided in the General  
117 Appropriations Act, the Florida Virtual School may receive other  
118 funds from grants and donations.

119 Section 2. Section 1002.411, Florida Statutes, is  
120 repealed.

121 Section 3. Paragraphs (b) through (e) of subsection (1)  
122 and paragraphs (a), (e), and (f) of subsection (7) of section  
123 1002.45, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

124 1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

125 (1) PROGRAM.—

126           (b) Each school district ~~that is eligible for the sparsity~~  
127 ~~supplement pursuant to s. 1011.62(7) (a) and (b) shall provide~~  
128 ~~all enrolled public school students within its boundaries the~~  
129 ~~option of participating in part-time and full-time virtual~~  
130 ~~instruction programs. Each school district that is not eligible~~  
131 ~~for the sparsity supplement pursuant to s. 1011.62(7) (a) and (b)~~  
132 shall provide at least one option ~~three options~~ for part-time  
133 and full-time virtual instruction for students within the school  
134 district. All school districts must provide parents with timely  
135 written notification of at least one open enrollment period for  
136 full-time students of 90 days or more which ends 30 days before  
137 the first day of the school year. The purpose of the program is  
138 to make quality virtual instruction available to students using  
139 online and distance learning technology in the nontraditional  
140 classroom. A school district virtual instruction program shall  
141 consist of the following:

- 142           1. Full-time and part-time virtual instruction for  
143 students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12.
- 144           2. Full-time or part-time virtual instruction for students  
145 enrolled in dropout prevention and academic intervention  
146 programs under s. 1003.53, Department of Juvenile Justice  
147 education programs under s. 1003.52, core-curricula courses to  
148 meet class size requirements under s. 1003.03, or Florida  
149 College System institutions under this section.

150           (c) To provide students with the option of participating

151 in virtual instruction programs as required by paragraph (b), a  
152 school district may:

153 1. Contract with the Florida Virtual School or establish a  
154 franchise of the Florida Virtual School for the provision of a  
155 program under paragraph (b). Using this option is subject to the  
156 requirements of this section and s. 1011.61(1)(c)1.b.(III) and  
157 (IV) and (4). A district may report full-time equivalent student  
158 membership for credit earned by a student who is enrolled in a  
159 virtual education course provided by the district which was  
160 completed after the end of the regular school year if the FTE is  
161 reported no later than the deadline for amending the final  
162 student membership report for that year.

163 2. Contract with an approved provider under subsection (2)  
164 for the provision of a full-time or part-time program under  
165 paragraph (b).

166 3. Enter into an agreement with other school districts to  
167 allow the participation of its students in an approved virtual  
168 instruction program provided by the other school district. The  
169 agreement must indicate a process for the transfer of funds  
170 required by paragraph (7)(a) ~~(7)(e)~~.

171 4. Establish school district operated part-time or full-  
172 time kindergarten through grade 12 virtual instruction programs  
173 under paragraph (b) for students enrolled in the school  
174 district. A full-time program shall operate under its own Master  
175 School Identification Number.

176           5. Enter into an agreement with a virtual charter school  
 177 authorized by the school district under s. 1002.33.

178  
 179 Contracts under subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. may include  
 180 multidistrict contractual arrangements that may be executed by a  
 181 regional consortium for its member districts. A multidistrict  
 182 contractual arrangement or an agreement under subparagraph 3. is  
 183 not subject to s. 1001.42(4)(d) and does not require the  
 184 participating school districts to be contiguous. These  
 185 arrangements may be used to fulfill the requirements of  
 186 paragraph (b).

187           (d) A virtual charter school may provide full-time virtual  
 188 instruction for students in kindergarten through grade 12 if the  
 189 virtual charter school has a charter approved pursuant to s.  
 190 1002.33 authorizing full-time virtual instruction. A virtual  
 191 charter school may:

- 192           1. Contract with the Florida Virtual School.
- 193           2. Contract with an approved provider under subsection  
 194 (2).

- 195           3. Enter into an agreement with a school district to allow  
 196 the participation of the virtual charter school's students in  
 197 the school district's virtual instruction program. The agreement  
 198 must indicate a process for reporting of student enrollment and  
 199 the transfer of funds required by paragraph (7)(a) ~~(7)(e)~~.

200           (e) Each school district shall:



201 1. Provide to the department by each October 1, a copy of  
202 each contract and the amounts paid per unweighted full-time  
203 equivalent student for services procured pursuant to  
204 subparagraphs (c)1. and 2.

205 2. Expend the difference in funds provided for a student  
206 participating in the school district virtual instruction program  
207 pursuant to subsection (7) and the price paid for acquiring  
208 computer and device hardware and associated operating system  
209 software that comply with the requirements of s.  
210 1001.20(4)(a)1.b. and by September 1 of each year report to the  
211 department an itemized list of items acquired with these funds  
212 ~~contracted services procured pursuant to subparagraphs (c)1. and~~  
213 ~~2. for implementation of the school district's digital~~  
214 ~~classrooms plan pursuant to s. 1011.62.~~

215 3. Limit the enrollment of virtual full-time equivalent  
216 students residing outside of the school district providing the  
217 virtual instruction pursuant to paragraph (c) to no more than 50  
218 percent of the total enrolled virtual full-time equivalent  
219 students residing inside the school district providing the  
220 virtual instruction. This subparagraph applies to any virtual  
221 instruction contract or agreement that is amended, renewed,  
222 automatically renewed, or entered into for the first time after  
223 June 30, 2021 ~~At the end of each fiscal year, but no later than~~  
224 ~~September 1, report to the department an itemized list of the~~  
225 ~~technological tools purchased with these funds.~~

226 (7) VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION PROGRAM AND VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL  
227 FUNDING.—

228 (a) Students enrolled in a virtual instruction program or  
229 a virtual charter school shall be funded through the Florida  
230 Education Finance Program as provided in the General  
231 Appropriations Act. However, such funds may not be provided for  
232 the purpose of fulfilling the class size requirements in ss.  
233 1003.03 and 1011.685. The school district providing the virtual  
234 instruction shall report the full-time equivalent students for a  
235 virtual instruction program or a virtual charter school to the  
236 department in a manner prescribed by the department.

237 ~~(c) The school district providing virtual instruction~~  
238 ~~shall report full-time equivalent students for a virtual~~  
239 ~~instruction program or a virtual charter school to the~~  
240 ~~department in a manner prescribed by the department, and funding~~  
241 ~~shall be provided through the Florida Education Finance Program.~~

242 (e) ~~(f)~~ A Florida College System institution provider may  
243 not report students who are served in a virtual instruction  
244 program for funding under the Florida College System Program  
245 Fund.

246 Section 4. Subsections (9) and (10) of section 1011.62,  
247 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsection (8) and (9),  
248 respectively, subsections (12) through (16) are renumbered as  
249 subsections (10) through (14), respectively, and subsections  
250 (18), (19), and (20) are redesignated as subsections (15), (16),

251 and (17), respectively, paragraph (f) of subsection (1),  
252 paragraph (a) of subsection (4), paragraphs (b) and (d) of  
253 subsection (6), and present subsections (8), (11), (14), (17),  
254 and (21) are amended, to read:

255 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual  
256 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each  
257 district for operation of schools is not determined in the  
258 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing  
259 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as  
260 follows:

261 (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR  
262 OPERATION.—The following procedure shall be followed in  
263 determining the annual allocation to each district for  
264 operation:

265 (f) Supplemental academic instruction allocation.—

266 1. There is created the supplemental academic instruction  
267 allocation to provide supplemental academic instruction to  
268 students in kindergarten through grade 12.

269 2. The supplemental academic instruction allocation shall  
270 be provided annually in the Florida Education Finance Program as  
271 specified in the General Appropriations Act. These funds are in  
272 addition to the funds appropriated on the basis of FTE student  
273 membership in the Florida Education Finance Program and shall be  
274 included in the total potential funds of each district.

275 Beginning with the 2018-2019 fiscal year, each school district

276 that has a school earning a grade of "D" or "F" pursuant to s.  
277 1008.34 must use that school's portion of the supplemental  
278 academic instruction allocation to implement intervention and  
279 support strategies for school improvement pursuant to s. 1008.33  
280 and for salary incentives pursuant to s. 1012.2315(3) or salary  
281 supplements pursuant to s. 1012.22(1)(c)5.c. that are provided  
282 through a memorandum of understanding between the collective  
283 bargaining agent and the school board that addresses the  
284 selection, placement, and expectations of instructional  
285 personnel and school administrators. ~~Each school district that~~  
286 ~~has one or more of the 300 lowest-performing elementary schools~~  
287 ~~based on a 3-year average of the state reading assessment data~~  
288 ~~must use that school's portion of the allocation to provide an~~  
289 ~~additional hour per day of intensive reading for the students in~~  
290 ~~the school. The additional hour may be provided within the~~  
291 ~~school day. Students enrolled in these schools who earned a~~  
292 ~~level 4 or level 5 score on the statewide, standardized English~~  
293 ~~Language Arts assessment for the previous school year may~~  
294 ~~participate in the extra hour of instruction.~~ For all other  
295 schools, the school district's use of the supplemental academic  
296 instruction allocation may include, but is not limited to, the  
297 use of a modified curriculum, reading instruction, after-school  
298 instruction, tutoring, mentoring, a reduction in class size,  
299 extended school year, intensive skills development in summer  
300 school, dropout prevention programs as defined in ss. 1003.52

301 and 1003.53(1)(a), (b), and (c), and other methods of improving  
302 student achievement. Supplemental academic instruction may be  
303 provided to a student in any manner and at any time during or  
304 beyond the regular 180-day term identified by the school as  
305 being the most effective and efficient way to best help that  
306 student progress from grade to grade and to graduate.

307 3. The supplemental academic instruction allocation shall  
308 consist of a base amount that has a workload adjustment based on  
309 changes in unweighted FTE. The supplemental academic instruction  
310 allocation shall be recalculated during the fiscal year. Upon  
311 recalculation of funding for the supplemental academic  
312 instruction allocation, if the total allocation is greater than  
313 the amount provided in the General Appropriations Act, the  
314 allocation shall be prorated to the level provided to support  
315 the appropriation, based on each district's share of the total.

316 4. Funding on the basis of FTE membership beyond the 180-  
317 day regular term shall be provided in the FEFPP only for students  
318 enrolled in juvenile justice education programs or in education  
319 programs for juveniles placed in secure facilities or programs  
320 under s. 985.19. Funding for instruction beyond the regular 180-  
321 day school year for all other K-12 students shall be provided  
322 through the supplemental academic instruction allocation and  
323 other state, federal, and local fund sources with ample  
324 flexibility for schools to provide supplemental instruction to  
325 assist students in progressing from grade to grade and

326 | graduating.

327 |         (4) COMPUTATION OF DISTRICT REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT.—The  
 328 | Legislature shall prescribe the aggregate required local effort  
 329 | for all school districts collectively as an item in the General  
 330 | Appropriations Act for each fiscal year. The amount that each  
 331 | district shall provide annually toward the cost of the Florida  
 332 | Education Finance Program for kindergarten through grade 12  
 333 | programs shall be calculated as follows:

334 |         (a) Estimated taxable value calculations.—

335 |         1.a. Not later than 2 working days before July 19, the  
 336 | Department of Revenue shall certify to the Commissioner of  
 337 | Education its most recent estimate of the taxable value for  
 338 | school purposes in each school district and the total for all  
 339 | school districts in the state for the current calendar year  
 340 | based on the latest available data obtained from the local  
 341 | property appraisers. The value certified shall be the taxable  
 342 | value for school purposes for that year, and no further  
 343 | adjustments shall be made, except those made pursuant to  
 344 | paragraphs (c) and (d), or an assessment roll change required by  
 345 | final judicial decisions as specified in paragraph (16) (b)  
 346 | ~~(19) (b)~~. Not later than July 19, the Commissioner of Education  
 347 | shall compute a millage rate, rounded to the next highest one  
 348 | one-thousandth of a mill, which, when applied to 96 percent of  
 349 | the estimated state total taxable value for school purposes,  
 350 | would generate the prescribed aggregate required local effort

351 for that year for all districts. The Commissioner of Education  
352 shall certify to each district school board the millage rate,  
353 computed as prescribed in this subparagraph, as the minimum  
354 millage rate necessary to provide the district required local  
355 effort for that year.

356       b. The General Appropriations Act shall direct the  
357 computation of the statewide adjusted aggregate amount for  
358 required local effort for all school districts collectively from  
359 ad valorem taxes to ensure that no school district's revenue  
360 from required local effort millage will produce more than 90  
361 percent of the district's total Florida Education Finance  
362 Program calculation as calculated and adopted by the  
363 Legislature, and the adjustment of the required local effort  
364 millage rate of each district that produces more than 90 percent  
365 of its total Florida Education Finance Program entitlement to a  
366 level that will produce only 90 percent of its total Florida  
367 Education Finance Program entitlement in the July calculation.

368       2. On the same date as the certification in sub-  
369 subparagraph 1.a., the Department of Revenue shall certify to  
370 the Commissioner of Education for each district:

371       a. Each year for which the property appraiser has  
372 certified the taxable value pursuant to s. 193.122(2) or (3), if  
373 applicable, since the prior certification under sub-subparagraph  
374 1.a.

375       b. For each year identified in sub-subparagraph a., the

376 taxable value certified by the appraiser pursuant to s.  
377 193.122(2) or (3), if applicable, since the prior certification  
378 under sub-subparagraph 1.a. This is the certification that  
379 reflects all final administrative actions of the value  
380 adjustment board.

381 (6) CATEGORICAL FUNDS.—

382 (b) If a district school board finds and declares in a  
383 resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the school board that  
384 the funds received for any of the following categorical  
385 appropriations are urgently needed to maintain school board  
386 specified academic classroom instruction or improve school  
387 safety, the school board may consider and approve an amendment  
388 to the school district operating budget transferring the  
389 identified amount of the categorical funds to the appropriate  
390 account for expenditure:

391 1. Funds for student transportation.

392 2. Funds for research-based reading instruction if the  
393 required additional hour of instruction beyond the normal school  
394 day for each day of the entire school year has been provided for  
395 the students in each low-performing elementary school in the  
396 district pursuant to paragraph (9) (a).

397 3. Funds for instructional materials if all instructional  
398 material purchases necessary to provide updated materials that  
399 are aligned with applicable state standards and course  
400 descriptions and that meet statutory requirements of content and



401 learning have been completed for that fiscal year, but no sooner  
402 than March 1. Funds available after March 1 may be used to  
403 purchase hardware for student instruction.

404 4. Funds for the guaranteed allocation as provided in  
405 subparagraph (1)(e)2.

406 5. Funds for the supplemental academic instruction  
407 allocation as provided in paragraph (1)(f).

408 6. Funds for the Florida digital classrooms allocation as  
409 provided in subsection (10) ~~(12)~~.

410 7. Funds for the federally connected student supplement as  
411 provided in subsection (11) ~~(13)~~.

412 8. Funds for class size reduction as provided in s.  
413 1011.685.

414 (d) If a district school board transfers funds from its  
415 research-based reading instruction allocation, the board must  
416 also submit to the Department of Education an amendment  
417 describing the changes that the district is making to its  
418 reading plan approved pursuant to paragraph (8)(d) ~~(9)(d)~~.

419 ~~(8) DECLINE IN FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS.—~~

420 ~~(a) In those districts where there is a decline between~~  
421 ~~prior year and current year unweighted FTE students, a~~  
422 ~~percentage of the decline in the unweighted FTE students as~~  
423 ~~determined by the Legislature shall be multiplied by the prior~~  
424 ~~year calculated FEFP per unweighted FTE student and shall be~~  
425 ~~added to the allocation for that district. For this purpose, the~~

426 ~~calculated FEFP shall be computed by multiplying the weighted~~  
427 ~~FTE students by the base student allocation and then by the~~  
428 ~~district cost differential. If a district transfers a program to~~  
429 ~~another institution not under the authority of the district's~~  
430 ~~school board, including a charter technical career center, the~~  
431 ~~decline is to be multiplied by a factor of 0.15. However, if the~~  
432 ~~funds provided for the Florida Education Finance Program in the~~  
433 ~~General Appropriations Act for any fiscal year are reduced by a~~  
434 ~~subsequent appropriation for that fiscal year, the percent of~~  
435 ~~the decline in the unweighted FTE students to be funded shall be~~  
436 ~~determined by the Legislature and designated in the subsequent~~  
437 ~~appropriation.~~

438 ~~(b) The allocation authorized in paragraph (a) is~~  
439 ~~suspended for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and does not apply~~  
440 ~~during such fiscal year. This paragraph expires July 1, 2021.~~

441 ~~(11) VIRTUAL EDUCATION CONTRIBUTION. The Legislature may~~  
442 ~~annually provide in the Florida Education Finance Program a~~  
443 ~~virtual education contribution. The amount of the virtual~~  
444 ~~education contribution shall be the difference between the~~  
445 ~~amount per FTE established in the General Appropriations Act for~~  
446 ~~virtual education and the amount per FTE for each district and~~  
447 ~~the Florida Virtual School, which may be calculated by taking~~  
448 ~~the sum of the base FEFP allocation, the discretionary local~~  
449 ~~effort, the state-funded discretionary contribution, the~~  
450 ~~discretionary millage compression supplement, the research-based~~

451 ~~reading instruction allocation, the teacher salary increase~~  
452 ~~allocation, and the instructional materials allocation, and then~~  
453 ~~dividing by the total unweighted FTE. This difference shall be~~  
454 ~~multiplied by the virtual education unweighted FTE for programs~~  
455 ~~and options identified in s. 1002.455 and the Florida Virtual~~  
456 ~~School and its franchises to equal the virtual education~~  
457 ~~contribution and shall be included as a separate allocation in~~  
458 ~~the funding formula.~~

459       (12) ~~(14)~~ QUALITY ASSURANCE GUARANTEE.—The Legislature may  
460 annually in the General Appropriations Act determine a  
461 percentage increase in funds per K-12 unweighted FTE as a  
462 minimum guarantee to each school district. The guarantee shall  
463 be calculated from prior year base funding per unweighted FTE  
464 student which shall include the adjusted FTE dollars as provided  
465 in subsection (16) ~~(19)~~, quality guarantee funds, and actual  
466 nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. From the base  
467 funding per unweighted FTE, the increase shall be calculated for  
468 the current year. The current year funds from which the  
469 guarantee shall be determined shall include the adjusted FTE  
470 dollars as provided in subsection (16) ~~(19)~~ and potential  
471 nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. A comparison of  
472 current year funds per unweighted FTE to prior year funds per  
473 unweighted FTE shall be computed. For those school districts  
474 which have less than the legislatively assigned percentage  
475 increase, funds shall be provided to guarantee the assigned

476 percentage increase in funds per unweighted FTE student. Should  
477 appropriated funds be less than the sum of this calculated  
478 amount for all districts, the commissioner shall prorate each  
479 district's allocation. This provision shall be implemented to  
480 the extent specifically funded.

481 ~~(17) FUNDING COMPRESSION AND HOLD HARMLESS ALLOCATION. The~~  
482 ~~Legislature may provide an annual funding compression and hold~~  
483 ~~harmless allocation in the General Appropriations Act. The~~  
484 ~~allocation is created to provide additional funding to school~~  
485 ~~districts if the school district's total funds per FTE in the~~  
486 ~~prior year were less than the statewide average or if the school~~  
487 ~~district's district cost differential in the current year is~~  
488 ~~less than the prior year. The total allocation shall be~~  
489 ~~distributed to eligible school districts as follows:~~

490 ~~(a) Using the most recent prior year FEFP calculation for~~  
491 ~~each eligible school district, subtract the total school~~  
492 ~~district funds per FTE from the state average funds per FTE, not~~  
493 ~~including any adjustments made pursuant to paragraph (19)(b).~~  
494 ~~The resulting funds per FTE difference, or a portion thereof, as~~  
495 ~~designated in the General Appropriations Act, shall then be~~  
496 ~~multiplied by the school district's total unweighted FTE.~~

497 ~~(b) Multiply the absolute value of the difference between~~  
498 ~~the eligible school district's current year district cost~~  
499 ~~differential and the prior year district cost differential by a~~  
500 ~~hold harmless factor as designated in the General Appropriations~~

501 ~~Act. The result is the district cost differential hold harmless~~  
502 ~~index. Multiply the index by the eligible school district's~~  
503 ~~weighted FTE and by the base student allocation as designated in~~  
504 ~~the General Appropriations Act.~~

505 ~~(c) Add the amounts calculated in paragraphs (a) and (b)~~  
506 ~~and if the amount is greater than the amount included in the~~  
507 ~~General Appropriations Act, the allocation shall be prorated to~~  
508 ~~the appropriation amount based on each participating school~~  
509 ~~district's share. This subsection expires July 1, 2021.~~

510 ~~(21) TURNAROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES ALLOCATION.~~  
511 ~~The turnaround school supplemental services allocation is~~  
512 ~~created to provide district-managed turnaround schools, as~~  
513 ~~identified in s. 1008.33(4)(a), schools that earn three~~  
514 ~~consecutive grades below a "C," as identified in s.~~  
515 ~~1008.33(4)(b)3., and schools that have improved to a "C" and are~~  
516 ~~no longer in turnaround status, as identified in s.~~  
517 ~~1008.33(4)(c), with funds to offer services designed to improve~~  
518 ~~the overall academic and community welfare of the schools'~~  
519 ~~students and their families.~~

520 ~~(a)1. Services funded by the allocation may include, but~~  
521 ~~are not limited to, tutorial and after-school programs, student~~  
522 ~~counseling, nutrition education, parental counseling, and an~~  
523 ~~extended school day and school year. In addition, services may~~  
524 ~~include models that develop a culture that encourages students~~  
525 ~~to complete high school and to attend college or career~~

526 ~~training, set high academic expectations, and inspire character~~  
527 ~~development.~~

528 ~~2. A school district may enter into a formal agreement~~  
529 ~~with a nonprofit organization that has tax-exempt status under~~  
530 ~~s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to implement an~~  
531 ~~integrated student support service model that provides students~~  
532 ~~and families with access to wrap-around services, including, but~~  
533 ~~not limited to, health services, after-school programs, drug~~  
534 ~~prevention programs, college and career readiness programs, and~~  
535 ~~food and clothing banks.~~

536 ~~(b) Before distribution of the allocation, the school~~  
537 ~~district shall develop and submit a plan for implementation to~~  
538 ~~its school board for approval no later than August 1 of each~~  
539 ~~fiscal year.~~

540 ~~(c) At a minimum, the plan required under paragraph (b)~~  
541 ~~must:~~

542 ~~1. Establish comprehensive support services that develop~~  
543 ~~family and community partnerships;~~

544 ~~2. Establish clearly defined and measurable high academic~~  
545 ~~and character standards;~~

546 ~~3. Increase parental involvement and engagement in the~~  
547 ~~child's education;~~

548 ~~4. Describe how instructional personnel will be~~  
549 ~~identified, recruited, retained, and rewarded;~~

550 ~~5. Provide professional development that focuses on~~

551 ~~academic rigor, direct instruction, and creating high academic~~  
552 ~~and character standards;~~

553 ~~6. Provide focused instruction to improve student academic~~  
554 ~~proficiency, which may include additional instruction time~~  
555 ~~beyond the normal school day or school year; and~~

556 ~~7. Include a strategy for continuing to provide services~~  
557 ~~after the school is no longer in turnaround status by virtue of~~  
558 ~~achieving a grade of "C" or higher.~~

559 ~~(d) Each school district shall submit its approved plans~~  
560 ~~to the commissioner by September 1 of each fiscal year.~~

561 ~~(e) Subject to legislative appropriation, each school~~  
562 ~~district's allocation must be based on the unweighted FTE~~  
563 ~~student enrollment at the eligible schools and a per-FTE funding~~  
564 ~~amount of \$500 or as provided in the General Appropriations Act.~~  
565 ~~The supplement provided in the General Appropriations Act shall~~  
566 ~~be based on the most recent school grades and shall serve as a~~  
567 ~~proxy for the official calculation. Once school grades are~~  
568 ~~available for the school year immediately preceding the fiscal~~  
569 ~~year coinciding with the appropriation, the supplement shall be~~  
570 ~~recalculated for the official participating schools as part of~~  
571 ~~the subsequent FEFP calculation. The commissioner may prepare a~~  
572 ~~preliminary calculation so that districts may proceed with~~  
573 ~~timely planning and use of the funds. If the calculated funds~~  
574 ~~for the statewide allocation exceed the funds appropriated, the~~  
575 ~~allocation of funds to each school district must be prorated~~

576 ~~based on each school district's share of the total unweighted~~  
577 ~~FTE student enrollment for the eligible schools.~~

578 ~~(f) Subject to legislative appropriation, each school~~  
579 ~~shall remain eligible for the allocation for a maximum of 4~~  
580 ~~continuous fiscal years while implementing a turnaround option~~  
581 ~~pursuant to s. 1008.33(4). In addition, a school that improves~~  
582 ~~to a grade of "C" or higher shall remain eligible to receive the~~  
583 ~~allocation for a maximum of 2 continuous fiscal years after~~  
584 ~~exiting turnaround status.~~

585 Section 5. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section  
586 1012.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

587 1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of the  
588 district school board.—The district school board shall:

589 (1) Designate positions to be filled, prescribe  
590 qualifications for those positions, and provide for the  
591 appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal  
592 of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of this  
593 chapter:

594 (c) Compensation and salary schedules.—

595 1. Definitions.—As used in this paragraph:

596 a. "Adjustment" means an addition to the base salary  
597 schedule that is not a bonus and becomes part of the employee's  
598 permanent base salary and shall be considered compensation under  
599 s. 121.021(22).

600 b. "Grandfathered salary schedule" means the salary



601 schedule or schedules adopted by a district school board before  
602 July 1, 2014, pursuant to subparagraph 4.

603 c. "Instructional personnel" means instructional personnel  
604 as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d), excluding substitute  
605 teachers.

606 d. "Performance salary schedule" means the salary schedule  
607 or schedules adopted by a district school board pursuant to  
608 subparagraph 5.

609 e. "Salary schedule" means the schedule or schedules used  
610 to provide the base salary for district school board personnel.

611 f. "School administrator" means a school administrator as  
612 defined in s. 1012.01(3)(c).

613 g. "Supplement" means an annual addition to the base  
614 salary for the term of the negotiated supplement as long as the  
615 employee continues his or her employment for the purpose of the  
616 supplement. A supplement does not become part of the employee's  
617 continuing base salary but shall be considered compensation  
618 under s. 121.021(22).

619 2. Cost-of-living adjustment.—A district school board may  
620 provide a cost-of-living salary adjustment if the adjustment:

621 a. Does not discriminate among comparable classes of  
622 employees based upon the salary schedule under which they are  
623 compensated.

624 b. Does not exceed 50 percent of the annual adjustment  
625 provided to instructional personnel rated as effective.

626           3. Advanced degrees.—A district school board may not use  
627 advanced degrees in setting a salary schedule for instructional  
628 personnel or school administrators hired on or after July 1,  
629 2011, unless the advanced degree is held in the individual's  
630 area of certification and is only a salary supplement.

631           4. Grandfathered salary schedule.—

632           a. The district school board shall adopt a salary schedule  
633 or salary schedules to be used as the basis for paying all  
634 school employees hired before July 1, 2014. Instructional  
635 personnel on annual contract as of July 1, 2014, shall be placed  
636 on the performance salary schedule adopted under subparagraph 5.  
637 Instructional personnel on continuing contract or professional  
638 service contract may opt into the performance salary schedule if  
639 the employee relinquishes such contract and agrees to be  
640 employed on an annual contract under s. 1012.335. Such an  
641 employee shall be placed on the performance salary schedule and  
642 may not return to continuing contract or professional service  
643 contract status. Any employee who opts into the performance  
644 salary schedule may not return to the grandfathered salary  
645 schedule.

646           b. In determining the grandfathered salary schedule for  
647 instructional personnel, a district school board must base a  
648 portion of each employee's compensation upon performance  
649 demonstrated under s. 1012.34 and shall provide differentiated  
650 pay for both instructional personnel and school administrators

651 based upon district-determined factors, including, but not  
652 limited to, additional responsibilities, school demographics,  
653 critical shortage areas, and level of job performance  
654 difficulties.

655 5. Performance salary schedule.—By July 1, 2014, the  
656 district school board shall adopt a performance salary schedule  
657 that provides annual salary adjustments for instructional  
658 personnel and school administrators based upon performance  
659 determined under s. 1012.34. Employees hired on or after July 1,  
660 2014, or employees who choose to move from the grandfathered  
661 salary schedule to the performance salary schedule shall be  
662 compensated pursuant to the performance salary schedule once  
663 they have received the appropriate performance evaluation for  
664 this purpose.

665 a. Base salary.—The base salary shall be established as  
666 follows:

667 (I) The base salary for instructional personnel or school  
668 administrators who opt into the performance salary schedule  
669 shall be the salary paid in the prior year, including  
670 adjustments only.

671 (II) ~~Beginning July 1, 2014,~~ Instructional personnel or  
672 school administrators new to the district, returning to the  
673 district after a break in service without an authorized leave of  
674 absence, or appointed for the first time to a position in the  
675 district in the capacity of instructional personnel or school

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676 administrator shall be placed on the performance salary  
677 schedule. Beginning July 1, 2021, and until such time as the  
678 minimum base salary as defined in s. 1011.62(15), equals or  
679 exceeds \$47,500, the annual increase to the minimum base salary  
680 shall not be less than 150 percent of the largest adjustment  
681 made to the salary of an employee on the grandfathered salary  
682 schedule. Thereafter, the annual increase to the minimum base  
683 salary shall not be less than 75 percent of the largest  
684 adjustment for an employee on the grandfathered salary schedule.

685 b. Salary adjustments.—Salary adjustments for highly  
686 effective or effective performance shall be established as  
687 follows:

688 (I) The annual salary adjustment under the performance  
689 salary schedule for an employee rated as highly effective must  
690 be at least 25 percent greater than the highest annual salary  
691 adjustment available to an employee of the same classification  
692 through any other salary schedule adopted by the district.

693 (II) The annual salary adjustment under the performance  
694 salary schedule for an employee rated as effective must be equal  
695 to at least 50 percent and no more than 75 percent of the annual  
696 adjustment provided for a highly effective employee of the same  
697 classification.

698 (III) A ~~The performance~~ salary schedule shall not provide  
699 an annual salary adjustment for an employee who receives a  
700 rating other than highly effective or effective for the year.

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701 c. Salary supplements.—In addition to the salary  
702 adjustments, each district school board shall provide for salary  
703 supplements for activities that must include, but are not  
704 limited to:

705 (I) Assignment to a Title I eligible school.

706 (II) Assignment to a school that earned a grade of "F" or  
707 three consecutive grades of "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34 such that  
708 the supplement remains in force for at least 1 year following  
709 improved performance in that school.

710 (III) Certification and teaching in critical teacher  
711 shortage areas. Statewide critical teacher shortage areas shall  
712 be identified by the State Board of Education under s. 1012.07.  
713 However, the district school board may identify other areas of  
714 critical shortage within the school district for purposes of  
715 this sub-sub-subparagraph and may remove areas identified by the  
716 state board which do not apply within the school district.

717 (IV) Assignment of additional academic responsibilities.

718

719 If budget constraints in any given year limit a district school  
720 board's ability to fully fund all adopted salary schedules, the  
721 performance salary schedule shall not be reduced on the basis of  
722 total cost or the value of individual awards in a manner that is  
723 proportionally greater than reductions to any other salary  
724 schedules adopted by the district.

725 Section 6. (1) Each school district shall use a portion

726 of its nonenrollment allocation from the federal Elementary and  
727 Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund as provided in the 2021-  
728 2022 General Appropriations Act to locate unaccounted students  
729 within the school district. For purposes of this section, the  
730 term "unaccounted student" means a student who:

731 (a) Was enrolled in a district or charter school in the  
732 2019-2020 academic year but was not counted in either the  
733 October 2020 full-time equivalent student membership survey or  
734 the February 2021 full-time equivalent student membership survey  
735 and for whom the school district or charter school does not have  
736 a record of the student's withdrawal from the district or  
737 charter school; or

738 (b) Completed enrollment at a district or charter school  
739 for the 2020-2021 academic year but was not counted in either  
740 the October 2020 full-time equivalent student membership survey  
741 or the February 2021 full-time equivalent student membership  
742 survey and for whom the school district or charter school does  
743 not have record of the student delaying enrollment until the  
744 2021-2022 academic year.

745 (2) Each school district shall establish a multiagency  
746 workgroup comprised of local and state agencies, including, but  
747 not limited to, district school personnel; law enforcement; the  
748 state attorney's office; and staff from the Department of  
749 Children and Families, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and  
750 the Department of Health for the purpose of locating and

751 determining the well-being of the unaccounted students. Once an  
752 unaccounted student is located, if the student's parent or  
753 caregiver continues to prohibit or facilitate his or her child's  
754 access to education, the school district shall initiate a  
755 truancy petition pursuant to s. 984.151, Florida Statutes.

756 (3) By September 1, 2021, each school district shall  
757 submit a report to the Department of Education that identifies  
758 the total number of unaccounted students and their status.

759 (4) This section expires July 1, 2022.

760 Section 7. (1) Each school district shall use a portion  
761 of its academic acceleration allocation from the federal  
762 Elementary and Secondary Education Emergency Relief Fund as  
763 provided in the 2021-2022 General Appropriations Act to  
764 remediate the learning loss among kindergarten through grade 12  
765 students, including, but not limited to, students with  
766 disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, students who  
767 attended virtual classes or classes offered through an online  
768 learning environment during the 2020-2021 school year, and  
769 children and youth in foster care.

770 (2) Each school district shall:

771 (a) Use pre-assessments and post-assessments that are  
772 valid and reliable and have been approved by the Department of  
773 Education to assess students' academic progress and assist  
774 classroom teachers in meeting the students' academic needs  
775 through differentiating instruction;

776 (b) Implement evidence-based interventions to meet the  
777 comprehensive needs of students by using in classroom  
778 instruction both during and outside of the regular school day  
779 and year;

780 (c) Use classroom teachers who have received professional  
781 development on the use of a multi-tiered system of supports; and

782 (d) Provide information and assistance to parents on how  
783 they can effectively support students.

784 (3) By February 1, 2022, the Department of Education shall  
785 submit a status report to the Office of Policy and Budget in the  
786 Executive Office of the Governor and the chairs of the Senate  
787 and the House of Representatives appropriations committees  
788 regarding the effectiveness of the evidence-based intervention  
789 strategies implemented by school districts using the pre-  
790 assessment and post-assessment data submitted by school  
791 districts and charter schools.

792 (4) This section expires on July 1, 2022.

793 Section 8. (1) A nonprofit scholarship-funding  
794 organization that participated in the reading scholarship  
795 accounts program before July 1, 2021, shall continue to  
796 participate in the reading scholarship accounts program in  
797 accordance with the requirements applicable to eligible  
798 nonprofit scholarship-funding organizations under part IV of  
799 chapter 1002, Florida Statutes, until such a time as all student  
800 reading scholarship accounts are closed or have no available



801 unexpended funds.

802 (2) A parent of a student with a reading scholarship  
803 account that has unexpended funds as of July 1, 2021, shall  
804 continue to submit eligible expenses to the nonprofit  
805 scholarship-funding organization for reimbursement of qualifying  
806 expenditures, including:

807 (a) Instructional materials.

808 (b) Curriculum that must be a complete course of study for  
809 a particular content area or grade level, including any required  
810 supplemental materials and associated online instruction.

811 (c) Tuition and fees for part-time tutoring services  
812 provided by a person who holds a valid Florida educator's  
813 certificate pursuant to s. 1012.56, Florida Statutes; a person  
814 who holds a baccalaureate or graduate degree in the subject  
815 area; a person who holds an adjunct teaching certificate  
816 pursuant to s. 1012.57, Florida Statutes; or a person who has  
817 demonstrated a mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to s.  
818 1012.56(5), Florida Statutes.

819 (d) Fees for summer education programs designed to improve  
820 reading or literacy skills.

821 (e) Fees for after-school education programs designed to  
822 improve reading or literacy skills.

823  
824 A provider of any services receiving payments pursuant to this  
825 section may not share any moneys from the reading scholarship

826 account with, or provide a refund or rebate of any such moneys  
827 to, the parent or participating student in any manner. A parent  
828 is responsible for the payment of all eligible expenses in  
829 excess of the amount in the reading scholarship account in  
830 accordance with the terms agreed to by the parent and any  
831 service providers.

832 (3) Payment of any unexpended funds remaining in a  
833 student's reading scholarship account as of July 1, 2021, shall  
834 be made by the nonprofit scholarship-organization at least on a  
835 quarterly basis.

836 (4) Moneys received pursuant to this section do not  
837 constitute taxable income to the student or his or her parent.

838 (5) A student's reading scholarship account shall be  
839 considered closed after all funds have been fully expended.

840 (6) If there are 3 consecutive years in which a student's  
841 reading scholarship account has been inactive, the account shall  
842 be closed and any remaining funds shall revert to the state.

843 Section 9. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 1001.215,  
844 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

845 1001.215 Just Read, Florida! Office.—There is created in  
846 the Department of Education the Just Read, Florida! Office. The  
847 office is fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education and  
848 shall:

849 (6) Provide technical assistance to school districts in  
850 the development and implementation of district plans for use of

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851 the research-based reading instruction allocation provided in s.  
852 1011.62(8) ~~s. 1011.62(9)~~ and annually review and approve such  
853 plans.

854 (7) Review, evaluate, and provide technical assistance to  
855 school districts' implementation of the K-12 comprehensive  
856 reading plan required in s. 1011.62(8) ~~s. 1011.62(9)~~.

857 Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (13) of section  
858 1003.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

859 1003.52 Educational services in Department of Juvenile  
860 Justice programs.—

861 (13) (a) Funding for eligible students enrolled in juvenile  
862 justice education programs shall be provided through the Florida  
863 Education Finance Program as provided in s. 1011.62 and the  
864 General Appropriations Act. Funding shall include, at a minimum:

865 1. Weighted program funding or the basic amount for  
866 current operation multiplied by the district cost differential  
867 as provided in s. 1011.62(2);

868 2. The supplemental allocation for juvenile justice  
869 education as provided in s. 1011.62(9) ~~s. 1011.62(10)~~;

870 3. A proportionate share of the district's exceptional  
871 student education guaranteed allocation, the supplemental  
872 academic instruction allocation, and the instructional materials  
873 allocation;

874 4. An amount equivalent to the proportionate share of the  
875 state average potential discretionary local effort for

876 operations, which shall be determined as follows:

877       a. If the district levies the maximum discretionary local  
 878 effort and the district's discretionary local effort per FTE is  
 879 less than the state average potential discretionary local effort  
 880 per FTE, the proportionate share shall include both the  
 881 discretionary local effort and the compression supplement per  
 882 FTE. If the district's discretionary local effort per FTE is  
 883 greater than the state average per FTE, the proportionate share  
 884 shall be equal to the state average; or

885       b. If the district does not levy the maximum discretionary  
 886 local effort and the district's actual discretionary local  
 887 effort per FTE is less than the state average potential  
 888 discretionary local effort per FTE, the proportionate share  
 889 shall be equal to the district's actual discretionary local  
 890 effort per FTE. If the district's actual discretionary local  
 891 effort per FTE is greater than the state average per FTE, the  
 892 proportionate share shall be equal to the state average  
 893 potential local effort per FTE; and

894       5. A proportionate share of the district's proration to  
 895 funds available, if necessary.

896       Section 11. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section  
 897 1003.621, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

898       1003.621 Academically high-performing school districts.—It  
 899 is the intent of the Legislature to recognize and reward school  
 900 districts that demonstrate the ability to consistently maintain

901 or improve their high-performing status. The purpose of this  
 902 section is to provide high-performing school districts with  
 903 flexibility in meeting the specific requirements in statute and  
 904 rules of the State Board of Education.

905 (2) COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTES AND RULES.—Each academically  
 906 high-performing school district shall comply with all of the  
 907 provisions in chapters 1000-1013, and rules of the State Board  
 908 of Education which implement these provisions, pertaining to the  
 909 following:

910 (g) Those statutes pertaining to planning and budgeting,  
 911 including chapter 1011, except s. 1011.62(8)(d) ~~s.~~  
 912 ~~1011.62(9)(d)~~, relating to the requirement for a comprehensive  
 913 reading plan. A district that is exempt from submitting this  
 914 plan shall be deemed approved to receive the research-based  
 915 reading instruction allocation.

916 Section 12. Section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 917 to read:

918 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For  
 919 the protection and safety of school personnel, property,  
 920 students, and visitors, each district school board and school  
 921 district superintendent shall partner with law enforcement  
 922 agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more  
 923 safe-school officers at each school facility within the  
 924 district, including charter schools. A district school board  
 925 must collaborate with charter school governing boards to

926 facilitate charter school access to all safe-school officer  
927 options available under this section. The school district may  
928 implement any combination of the options in subsections (1)-(4)  
929 to best meet the needs of the school district and charter  
930 schools.

931 (1) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER.—A school district may  
932 establish school resource officer programs through a cooperative  
933 agreement with law enforcement agencies.

934 (a) School resource officers shall undergo criminal  
935 background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation  
936 and be certified law enforcement officers, as defined in s.  
937 943.10(1), who are employed by a law enforcement agency as  
938 defined in s. 943.10(4). The powers and duties of a law  
939 enforcement officer shall continue throughout the employee's  
940 tenure as a school resource officer.

941 (b) School resource officers shall abide by district  
942 school board policies and shall consult with and coordinate  
943 activities through the school principal, but shall be  
944 responsible to the law enforcement agency in all matters  
945 relating to employment, subject to agreements between a district  
946 school board and a law enforcement agency. Activities conducted  
947 by the school resource officer which are part of the regular  
948 instructional program of the school shall be under the direction  
949 of the school principal.

950 (c) Complete mental health crisis intervention training

951 using a curriculum developed by a national organization with  
952 expertise in mental health crisis intervention. The training  
953 shall improve officers' knowledge and skills as first responders  
954 to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or  
955 mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student  
956 and officer safety.

957 (2) SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER.—A school district may  
958 commission one or more school safety officers for the protection  
959 and safety of school personnel, property, and students within  
960 the school district. The district school superintendent may  
961 recommend, and the district school board may appoint, one or  
962 more school safety officers.

963 (a) School safety officers shall undergo criminal  
964 background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation  
965 and be law enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1),  
966 certified under the provisions of chapter 943 and employed by  
967 either a law enforcement agency or by the district school board.  
968 If the officer is employed by the district school board, the  
969 district school board is the employing agency for purposes of  
970 chapter 943, and must comply with the provisions of that  
971 chapter.

972 (b) A school safety officer has and shall exercise the  
973 power to make arrests for violations of law on district school  
974 board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such  
975 property, who violate any law on such property under the same

976 conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests.  
977 A school safety officer has the authority to carry weapons when  
978 performing his or her official duties.

979 (c) A district school board may enter into mutual aid  
980 agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided  
981 in chapter 23. A school safety officer's salary may be paid  
982 jointly by the district school board and the law enforcement  
983 agency, as mutually agreed to.

984 (3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—At the school district's or the  
985 charter school governing board's discretion, as applicable,  
986 pursuant to s. 30.15, a school district or charter school  
987 governing board may participate in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian  
988 Program to meet the requirement of establishing a safe-school  
989 officer. The following individuals may serve as a school  
990 guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for  
991 purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the  
992 requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a  
993 sheriff:

994 (a) A school district employee or personnel, as defined  
995 under s. 1012.01, or a charter school employee, as provided  
996 under s. 1002.33(12)(a), who volunteers to serve as a school  
997 guardian in addition to his or her official job duties; or

998 (b) An employee of a school district or a charter school  
999 who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school  
1000 guardian.



1001 (4) SCHOOL SECURITY GUARD.—A school district or charter  
 1002 school governing board may contract with a security agency as  
 1003 defined in s. 493.6101(18) to employ as a school security guard  
 1004 an individual who holds a Class "D" and Class "G" license  
 1005 pursuant to chapter 493, provided the following training and  
 1006 contractual conditions are met:

1007 (a) An individual who serves as a school security guard,  
 1008 for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section,  
 1009 must:

1010 1. Demonstrate completion of 144 hours of required  
 1011 training pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.

1012 2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a  
 1013 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the  
 1014 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the  
 1015 evaluation to the sheriff's office, school district, or charter  
 1016 school governing board, as applicable. The Department of Law  
 1017 Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office,  
 1018 school district, or charter school governing board with mental  
 1019 health and substance abuse data for compliance with this  
 1020 paragraph.

1021 3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent  
 1022 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.  
 1023 112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, or charter  
 1024 school governing board, as applicable.

1025 4. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon

1026 inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual  
 1027 basis and provide documentation to the sheriff's office, school  
 1028 district, or charter school governing board, as applicable.

1029 (b) The contract between a security agency and a school  
 1030 district or a charter school governing board regarding  
 1031 requirements applicable to school security guards serving in the  
 1032 capacity of a safe-school officer for purposes of satisfying the  
 1033 requirements of this section shall define the entity or entities  
 1034 responsible for training and the responsibilities for  
 1035 maintaining records relating to training, inspection, and  
 1036 firearm qualification.

1037 (c) School security guards serving in the capacity of a  
 1038 safe-school officer pursuant to this subsection are in support  
 1039 of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, and  
 1040 must aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant  
 1041 incidents on school premises.

1042 (5) NOTIFICATION.—The school district shall notify the  
 1043 county sheriff and the Office of Safe Schools immediately after,  
 1044 but no later than 72 hours after:

1045 (a) A safe-school officer is dismissed for misconduct or  
 1046 is otherwise disciplined.

1047 (b) A safe-school officer discharges his or her firearm in  
 1048 the exercise of the safe-school officer's duties, other than for  
 1049 training purposes.

1050 (6) EXEMPTION.—Any information that would identify whether

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1051 a particular individual has been appointed as a safe-school  
1052 officer pursuant to this section held by a law enforcement  
1053 agency, school district, or charter school is exempt from s.  
1054 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This  
1055 subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act  
1056 in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October  
1057 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through  
1058 reenactment by the Legislature.

1059

1060 If a district school board, through its adopted policies,  
1061 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any  
1062 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school  
1063 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety  
1064 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the  
1065 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource  
1066 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school  
1067 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.  
1068 1011.62(13) ~~s. 1011.62(15)~~ and shall be retained by the school  
1069 district.

1070 Section 13. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section  
1071 1008.345, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1072 1008.345 Implementation of state system of school  
1073 improvement and education accountability.—

1074 (5) The commissioner shall annually report to the State  
1075 Board of Education and the Legislature and recommend changes in

1076 state policy necessary to foster school improvement and  
 1077 education accountability. The report shall include:

1078 (d) Based upon a review of each school district's reading  
 1079 plan submitted pursuant to s. 1011.62(8) ~~s. 1011.62(9)~~,  
 1080 intervention and support strategies used by school districts  
 1081 that were effective in improving the reading performance of  
 1082 students, as indicated by student performance data, who are  
 1083 identified as having a substantial reading deficiency pursuant  
 1084 to s. 1008.25(5) (a).

1085  
 1086 School reports shall be distributed pursuant to this subsection  
 1087 and s. 1001.42(18) (c) and according to rules adopted by the  
 1088 State Board of Education.

1089 Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 1011.71, Florida  
 1090 Statutes, is amended to read:

1091 1011.71 District school tax.—

1092 (1) If the district school tax is not provided in the  
 1093 General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill implementing  
 1094 the General Appropriations Act, each district school board  
 1095 desiring to participate in the state allocation of funds for  
 1096 current operation as prescribed by s. 1011.62(16) ~~s. 1011.62(19)~~  
 1097 shall levy on the taxable value for school purposes of the  
 1098 district, exclusive of millage voted under s. 9(b) or s. 12,  
 1099 Art. VII of the State Constitution, a millage rate not to exceed  
 1100 the amount certified by the commissioner as the minimum millage

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1101 rate necessary to provide the district required local effort for  
1102 the current year, pursuant to s. 1011.62(4)(a)1. In addition to  
1103 the required local effort millage levy, each district school  
1104 board may levy a nonvoted current operating discretionary  
1105 millage. The Legislature shall prescribe annually in the  
1106 appropriations act the maximum amount of millage a district may  
1107 levy.

1108 Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 1012.584, Florida  
1109 Statutes, is amended to read:

1110 1012.584 Continuing education and inservice training for  
1111 youth mental health awareness and assistance.—

1112 (4) Each school district shall notify all school personnel  
1113 who have received training pursuant to this section of mental  
1114 health services that are available in the school district, and  
1115 the individual to contact if a student needs services. The term  
1116 "mental health services" includes, but is not limited to,  
1117 community mental health services, health care providers, and  
1118 services provided under ss. 1006.04 and 1011.62(14) ~~1011.62(16)~~.

1119 Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.