

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to school grades; providing a short
 3 title; amending s. 1003.33, F.S.; requiring school
 4 grades to be included on student report cards;
 5 amending s. 1008.34, F.S.; revising the percentage of
 6 points used to designate school grades for specified
 7 school years; revising the requirements for school
 8 report cards; requiring a certain school grade
 9 designation to be included on school report cards for
 10 information purposes; revising the future repeal date
 11 for certain provisions relating to the transition of
 12 school grades; deleting obsolete language; providing
 13 an effective date.

14
 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16
 17 **Section 1.** This act may be cited as the "Schools Committed
 18 to Outstanding Results and Excellence (SCORE) Act."

19 **Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 1003.33, Florida**
 20 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

21 1003.33 Report cards; end-of-the-year status.—

22 (1) Each district school board shall establish and publish
 23 policies requiring the content and regular issuance of student
 24 report cards for all elementary school, middle school, and high
 25 school students. The school's grades and grade scales required

26 | under s. 1008.34(3)(c) shall be included on each student's
 27 | report card. These report cards must clearly depict and grade:

28 | (a) The student's academic performance in each class or
 29 | course, which in grades 1 through 12 must be based upon
 30 | examinations as well as written papers, class participation, and
 31 | other academic performance criteria, and must include the
 32 | student's performance or nonperformance at his or her grade
 33 | level.

34 | (b) The student's conduct and behavior.

35 | (c) The student's attendance, including absences and
 36 | tardiness.

37 |
 38 | District school boards shall not allow schools to exempt
 39 | students from academic performance requirements based on
 40 | practices or policies designed to encourage student attendance.
 41 | A student's attendance record may not be used in whole or in
 42 | part to provide an exemption from any academic performance
 43 | requirement.

44 | **Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) and subsections**
 45 | **(4) and (7) of section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, are amended to**
 46 | **read:**

47 | 1008.34 School grading system; school report cards;
 48 | district grade.—

49 | (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.—

50 | (c)~~1~~. The calculation of a school grade shall be based on

51 the percentage of points earned from the components listed in
52 subparagraph (b)1. and, if applicable, subparagraph (b)2. The
53 State Board of Education shall adopt in rule a school grading
54 scale that sets the percentage of points needed to earn each of
55 the school grades listed in subsection (2). There shall be at
56 least five percentage points separating the percentage
57 thresholds needed to earn each of the school grades. The state
58 board shall annually review the percentage of school grades of
59 "A" and "B" for the school year to determine whether to adjust
60 the school grading scale upward for the following school year's
61 school grades. The first adjustment would occur no earlier than
62 the 2023-2024 school year. An adjustment must be made if the
63 percentage of schools earning a grade of "A" or "B" in the
64 current year represents 75 percent or more of all graded schools
65 within a particular school type, which consists of elementary,
66 middle, high, and combination. The adjustment must reset the
67 minimum required percentage of points for each grade of "A,"
68 "B," "C," or "D" at the next highest percentage ending in the
69 numeral 5 or 0, whichever is closest to the current percentage.
70 ~~Annual reviews of the percentage of schools earning a grade of~~
71 ~~"A" or "B" and adjustments to the required points must be~~
72 ~~suspended when~~

73 1. School grades for the 2026-2027 school year shall use
74 the following grading scale for all school types ~~for a specific~~
75 ~~school type is achieved:~~

- 76 a. Seventy ~~Ninety~~ percent or more of the points for a
 77 grade of "A."
- 78 b. Sixty ~~Eighty~~ to sixty-nine ~~eighty-nine~~ percent of the
 79 points for a grade of "B."
- 80 c. Fifty ~~Seventy~~ to fifty-nine ~~seventy-nine~~ percent of the
 81 points for a grade of "C."
- 82 d. Forty ~~Sixty~~ to forty-nine ~~sixty-nine~~ percent of the
 83 points for a grade of "D."
- 84 2. School grades for the 2027-2028 school year shall use
 85 the following grading scale for all school types:
- 86 a. Eighty percent or more of the points for a grade of
 87 "A."
- 88 b. Seventy to seventy-nine percent of the points for a
 89 grade of "B."
- 90 c. Sixty to sixty-nine percent of the points for a grade
 91 of "C."
- 92 d. Fifty to fifty-nine percent of the points for a grade
 93 of "D."
- 94 3. School grades for the 2028-2029 school year and
 95 thereafter shall use the following grading scale for all school
 96 types:
- 97 a. Ninety percent or more of the points for a grade of
 98 "A."
- 99 b. Eighty to eighty-nine percent of the points for a grade
 100 of "B."

101 c. Seventy to seventy-nine percent of the points for a
102 grade of "C."

103 d. Sixty to sixty-nine percent of the points for a grade
104 of "D."

105
106 When the state board adjusts the grading scale upward, the state
107 board must inform the public of the degree of the adjustment and
108 its anticipated impact on school grades. ~~Beginning in the 2024-~~
109 ~~2025 school year,~~ Any changes made by the state board to
110 components in the school grades model or to the school grading
111 scale shall go into effect, at the earliest, in the following
112 school year.

113 ~~4.2.~~ The calculation of school grades may not include any
114 provision that would raise or lower the school's grade beyond
115 the percentage of points earned. Extra weight may not be added
116 in the calculation of any components.

117 (4) SCHOOL REPORT CARD.—The Department of Education shall
118 annually develop, in collaboration with the school districts, a
119 school report card to be provided by the school district to
120 parents within the district. The report card shall include the
121 school's grades ~~grade~~; student performance in English Language
122 Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies; information
123 regarding school improvement; an explanation of school
124 performance as evaluated by the federal Elementary and Secondary
125 Education Act (ESEA), 20 U.S.C. ss. 6301 et seq.; and indicators

126 of return on investment. The report card shall also disclose
127 whether the school is in need of intervention and support
128 pursuant to s. 1008.33 or supports pursuant to s. 1008.365, and
129 the criteria for such a determination. Each school's report card
130 shall be published annually by the department on its website
131 based upon the most recent data available.

132 (7) TRANSITION.—

133 (a) To increase the transparency of student performance
134 and assist in the transition to 2022-2023 school grades and
135 district grades calculated based on the grading scale in
136 subparagraph (3)(c)3., the state board shall publish, in
137 addition to school grades and district grades calculated
138 pursuant to subparagraph (3)(c)3., comprehensive, end-of-year
139 ~~progress monitoring assessment under s. 1008.25(9), the 2022-~~
140 ~~2023 school grades and district grades based on the grading~~
141 ~~scale in paragraph (3)(c), in effect for the 2024-2025 through~~
142 ~~2027-2028 school years. Grades calculated pursuant to~~
143 ~~subparagraph (3)(c)3. shall serve solely as an informational~~
144 ~~baseline for schools and districts to work toward improved~~
145 ~~performance in future years. Accordingly, notwithstanding any~~
146 ~~other provision of law:~~

147 ~~(a) Due to the absence of learning gains data in the 2022-~~
148 ~~2023 school year, the initial school grading scale for the 2022-~~
149 ~~2023 informational baseline grades shall be set so that the~~
150 ~~percentage of schools that earn an "A," "B," "C," "D," and "F"~~

151 ~~is statistically equivalent to the 2021-2022 school grades~~
152 ~~results. When learning gains data becomes available in the 2023-~~
153 ~~2024 school year, the State Board of Education shall review the~~
154 ~~school grading scale and determine if the scale should be~~
155 ~~adjusted.~~

156 ~~(b) A school may not be required to select and implement a~~
157 ~~turnaround option pursuant to s. 1008.33 in the 2023-2024 school~~
158 ~~year based on the school's 2022-2023 grade. The benefits of s.~~
159 ~~1008.33(4)(c), relating to a school being released from~~
160 ~~implementation of the turnaround option, and s. 1008.33(4)(d),~~
161 ~~relating to a school implementing strategies identified in its~~
162 ~~school improvement plan, apply to a school using turnaround~~
163 ~~options pursuant to s. 1008.33 which improves to a grade of "C"~~
164 ~~or higher during the 2022-2023 school year.~~

165 ~~(c) A school or approved provider under s. 1002.45 which~~
166 ~~receives the same or lower school grade for the 2022-2023 school~~
167 ~~year compared to the 2021-2022 school year is not subject to~~
168 ~~sanctions or penalties that would otherwise occur as a result of~~
169 ~~the 2022-2023 school grade or rating. A charter school system or~~
170 ~~school district designated as high performing may not lose the~~
171 ~~designation based on the 2022-2023 school grades of any of the~~
172 ~~schools within the charter school system or school district or~~
173 ~~based on the 2022-2023 district grade, as applicable.~~

174 ~~(d) For purposes of determining grade 3 retention pursuant~~
175 ~~to s. 1008.25(5) and high school graduation pursuant to s.~~

176 | ~~1003.4282, student performance on the 2022-2023 comprehensive,~~
177 | ~~end of year progress monitoring assessment under s. 1008.25(9)~~
178 | ~~shall be linked to 2021-2022 student performance expectations.~~
179 | ~~In addition to the good cause exemptions under s. 1008.25(7), a~~
180 | ~~student may be promoted to grade 4 for the 2023-2024 school year~~
181 | ~~if the student demonstrates an acceptable level of performance~~
182 | ~~through means reasonably calculated by the school district to~~
183 | ~~provide reliable evidence of the student's performance.~~

184 | (b) This subsection is repealed July 1, 2029 2025.

185 | **Section 4.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.