

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILL ANALYSIS

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BILL #: [CS/HB 1073](#)

TITLE: School Districts

SPONSOR(S): Koster

COMPANION BILL: [SB 1620](#) (Leek)

LINKED BILLS: None

RELATED BILLS: None

Committee References

[Education Administration](#)

15 Y, 3 N, As CS



[Education & Employment](#)

17 Y, 0 N

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The bill creates a District School Board Members' Bill of Rights, providing school board members with access to school district documents, the ability to request information from the superintendent and his or her staff, as well as consult with a districts' chief financial officer on financial information. The bill requires additional documents associated with school board meetings, including agenda attachments and budget materials, to be maintained as public records with the minutes of each meeting; requires district school boards to adopt a policy prohibiting nondisclosure or confidentiality agreements for district employees; and adds full line-item budget information to the school district's fiscal transparency requirements.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

None

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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill creates a District School Board Members' Bill of Rights. The bill provides that a member of a district school board has the right to:

- Upon request, be given free and timely access to all school district documents. Access must include documents that are not public records, including, but not limited to, notes, invoices, correspondences, memoranda, and internal legal opinion.
- Request any document or information from the district school superintendent or the superintendent's staff.
- Consult with the school district's chief financial officer on general matters related to the budget, and sources and uses of school district funds, and have access, upon request, to any detail or line item in any proposed or approved budget or in any financial transaction by the school district. (Section [1](#)).

The bill adds a requirement for [district school boards](#) to maintain additional documents associated with school board meetings, including attachments for agenda items such as vendor contracts or budget documents, as public records with the minutes of each meeting. (Section [2](#)).

The bill expands the [duties of district school boards](#) related to personnel, by requiring each district school board to adopt a policy prohibiting district employees from being required or otherwise incentivized to sign a nondisclosure or confidentiality agreement. (Section [4](#)).

The bill adds to [school district fiscal transparency requirements](#) by requiring district school boards to include full line-item budget information in the graphical representations of proposed, tentative, and official budgets posted on the school district's website. (Section [3](#)).

STORAGE NAME: h1073b.EEC

DATE: 2/3/2026

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2026. (Section [5](#)).

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

District School Boards

District school boards are constitutionally and statutorily charged with the operation and control of public K-12 education within their school districts. The Florida Constitution mandates that each school board shall operate, control, and supervise all free public schools within the district and determine the rate of school district taxes within constitutional limits.¹ District school boards are responsible for establishing, organizing, and operating public K-12 schools and educational programs, as well as overseeing district employees and facilities. These responsibilities include, among others, student instruction, exceptional student education, career and adult education programs, and services for students in juvenile justice programs.²

District School Board Powers and Duties

Florida law requires each board to perform duties and exercise those responsibilities that are assigned to it by law, State Board of Education rule, or the Commissioner of Education (commissioner), as well as those that it may find necessary for the improvement of the district school system in carrying out the purposes and objectives of the education code.³ In carrying out its responsibilities, a district school board acts as the district's governing body and is responsible for, among other duties, establishing, organizing, and operating schools;⁴ adopting districtwide school programs;⁵ overseeing finances and budgets;⁶ maintaining official records;⁷ and ensuring transparency and accountability in district operations.⁸

Consistent with its role as the governing authority of the district, a district school board is also responsible for personnel matters, including designating positions to be filled, prescribing qualifications for those positions, and providing for the appointment and compensation of district employees.⁹

Additionally, each district school board must require the district school superintendent, acting as secretary to the board, to keep minutes and records as are necessary to clearly describe all actions and proceedings of the school board.¹⁰ The minutes of each meeting must be reviewed, corrected if necessary, and approved, and must be maintained as a public record in a permanent location. The minutes must show the vote of each member present on all matters on which the district school board takes action.¹¹

School District Fiscal Transparency Requirements

Florida law recognizes the importance for school districts to provide budgetary transparency to enable taxpayers, parents, and education advocates to obtain school district budget and related information in a manner that is simply explained and easily understandable. Budgetary transparency leads to more responsible spending, more citizen involvement, and improved accountability. A budget that is not transparent, accessible, and accurate cannot be properly analyzed, its implementation thoroughly monitored, or its outcomes evaluated.¹²

¹ Art. IX s. 4(b), Fla. Const.; section [1001.32\(2\), F.S.](#)

² Section [1003.02, F.S.](#)

³ Section [1001.41\(5\), F.S.](#)

⁴ Section [1001.42\(4\), F.S.](#)

⁵ Section [1001.42\(3\), F.S.](#)

⁶ Section [1001.42\(12\), F.S.](#)

⁷ Section [1001.42\(13\), F.S.](#)

⁸ See ss. [1001.42\(18\), \(17\), \(15\), and \(25\), F.S.](#)

⁹ Section [1012.22\(1\), F.S.](#); s. [1001.42\(5\) and \(7\), F.S.](#)

¹⁰ Section [1001.42\(1\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

¹¹ Section [1001.42\(1\)\(b\), F.S.](#)

¹² Section [1011.035\(1\), F.S.](#)

Each district school board must post on its website a plain language version of each proposed, tentative, and official budget which describes each budget item in terms that are easily understandable to the public and must include graphical representations, for each public school within the district and for the school district, of the following:¹³

- Summary financial efficiency data
- Fiscal trend information for the previous 3 years on:
 - The ratio of full-time equivalent students to full-time equivalent instructional personnel.
 - The ratio of full-time equivalent students to full-time equivalent administrative personnel.
 - The total operating expenditures per full-time equivalent student.
 - The total instructional expenditures per full-time equivalent student.
 - The general administrative expenditures as a percentage of total budget.
 - The rate of change in the general fund's ending fund balance not classified as restricted.

This information must be prominently posted on the school district's website in a manner that is readily accessible to the public.¹⁴

RECENT LEGISLATION:

YEAR	BILL #/SUBJECT	HOUSE/SENATE SPONSOR(S)	OTHER INFORMATION
2024	CS/SB 7002 - Deregulation of Public Schools	Rizo/ Hutson	This bill became law on July 1, 2024.

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Education Administration Subcommittee	15 Y, 3 N, As CS	1/29/2026	Sleap	Dixon
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	• Removed provisions related to restrictions on employment of relatives. • Removed the definition of "good cause" related to employee nominations. • Moved provision on nondisclosures and confidentiality agreements under the duties of the district school board.			
Education & Employment Committee	17 Y, 0 N	2/3/2026	Hassell	Dixon

 THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

¹³ Section [1011.035\(2\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

¹⁴ Section [1011.035\(2\)\(b\), F.S.](#) (flush-left provision at the end of the paragraph).