

2022

LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

FLORIDA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Strong public schools are the heartbeat of our communities.

From the joy and energy of an elementary school cafeteria at lunchtime, to the camaraderie of sharing a school bus ride, to Friday night football with the grandeur of a high school marching band — school is where childhood happens. Our public schools are where children’s imaginations are sparked, where lifelong lessons are learned and where students gain the skills they need to thrive as they transition to adulthood. Our public schools are the best places to inspire students’ natural curiosity and their desire to learn. When we work together, we can build the world class education system that we dream of. By ensuring that resources are available, the Florida Legislature can demonstrate their commitment to providing every child the education they deserve, regardless of race, income or ZIP code.



6 CRITICAL PRIORITIES

- 1. Students deserve highly qualified and certified teachers and support staff.** To attract the strongest teachers and support staff, Florida must increase average pay to rank in the top five nationally - for all teachers, not just new teachers.
- 2. Provide qualified, experienced teachers the opportunity** to enter into long-term contracts so the best teachers stay in our schools and don’t seek jobs elsewhere.
- 3. Protect academic freedom at Florida’s colleges and universities** by fighting to repeal the newly required intellectual viewpoint survey of higher education faculty and students.
- 4. Protect the Florida Retirement System** without burdening employees with additional costs.
- 5. Prioritize teacher-led assessments and learning** over state-mandated standardized tests.
- 6. Respect the rights of people to make decisions locally.** Those who know the names and faces of the students are best suited to make decisions regarding their education.

