

DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



SKILLED WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Action: *Restore 2012 FTE calculation of funding for courses beyond a base 6-period/1.0 FTE day.*

The costs for providing advanced study, distance learning and career readiness programs exceeds the current FTE funding. To best accommodate students during the COVID-19 crisis and to meet requirements for advanced study and industry certified programs, we have implemented a 7 or 8 period school day. In order to maintain, promote, and increase college prep, and dual enrollment programs; a program cost factor could be applied to weight the FTE for Dual Enrollment.

HIGHER STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH ACCOUNTABILITY

Action: *Establish a new baseline for assessing student growth and create a pathway to exit Differentiated Accountability.*

COVID-19 has had significant impacts on student learning, health, and safety. SY 2020-21 assessment results should be used to inform instruction and as an updated baseline year for school grades in SY 2020-21. Create a pathway for turnaround schools that demonstrated significant gains despite COVID-19 to exit Differentiated Accountability.

QUALITY EFFICIENT SERVICES

Action: *Ensure that school choice opportunities are provided with quality administrative support to address their growing needs.*

School Districts provide a variety of services including but not limited to annual evaluation services for home education students, interscholastic athletic waivers, and ESE/IEP Services to charter and private schools. The current administrative fee percentage does not compensate for the services extended. For example, Step Up for Students receives a 3% flat rate for services provided per student. Instead a varying fee structure, we could increase efficiency by streamlining the administrative fee percentage to a flat rate for all services.

HIGHER STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH RETENTION OF HIGH QUALITY TEACHERS

Action: *Maintain categorial funding to support teachers and recruit new teachers to our District.*

Recruitment and retention of great teachers remains a challenge, particularly in high demand certification areas and hard to staff schools. COVID-19 has had an impact on our human capital with record retirements and year-long leaves of absences. Although we remain in negotiations with our union, we know that the categorial funding provided will help us to take a meaningful step for our teachers.