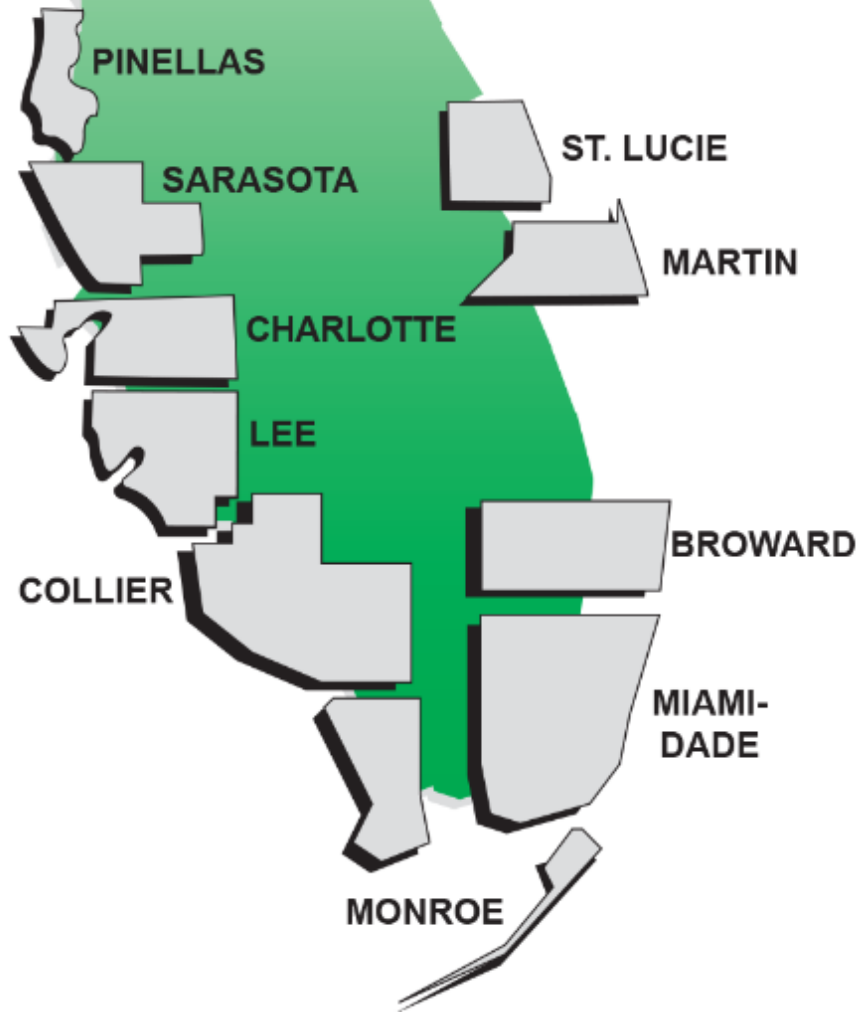


GREATER FLORIDA CONSORTIUM OF SCHOOL BOARDS



President – Andy Griffiths (Monroe)

President-Elect – Jane Goodwin (Sarasota)

Secretary Treasurer – Bob Segur (Charlotte)

Executive Director – Tom Cerra

WHO WE ARE:

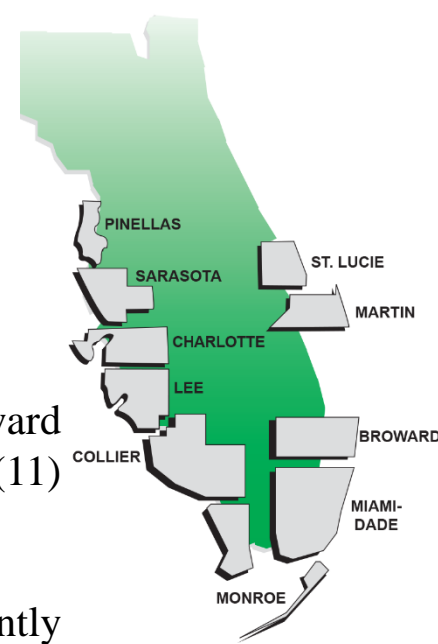
The South Florida Consortium of School Boards (SFCSB) was formed in 1983 with the Miami-Dade and Broward school districts as its first members. Palm Beach joined shortly thereafter and the SFCSB soon grew to eleven (11) districts.

The SFCSB changed its name in 2003 to the Greater Florida Consortium of School Boards (**GFCSB**) and currently has ten (10) members.

The Consortium has never incorporated or become a not-for-profit organization; however, it has adopted bylaws. Its officers and financial responsibility rotate every year. Since 2013, the Presidents have been Dr. Larry Feldman (Miami-Dade); Karen Brill (Palm Beach); Patti Good (Broward); Cathleen Morgan (Lee); Roy Terry (Collier); Debbie Hawley (St. Lucie); and currently, Andy Griffiths (Monroe), President-elect, Jane Goodwin (Sarasota) and Secretary/Treasurer, Bob Segur (Charlotte).

The GFCSB has no employees and only one paid consultant.

There have been four meetings a year: two held concurrently with the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) and Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS), one in Tallahassee during the regular legislative session, and one in the president's district.



HOW WE FUNCTION:

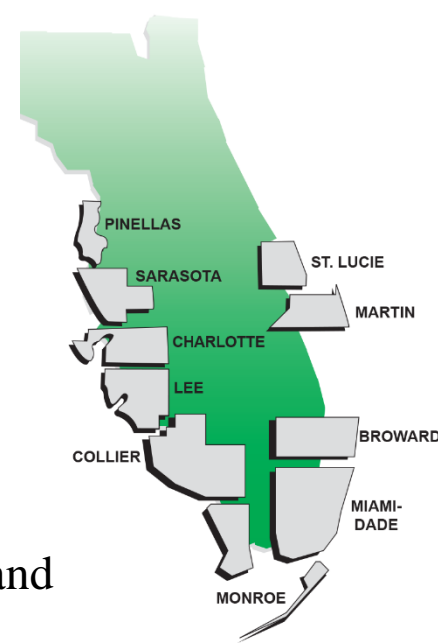
Over the years, its members have adopted the only legislative program that has required unanimous support of all of its district members on every issue.

Collectively, the GFCSB has 35 percent of all of the students and 47 percent of the property tax base and 43 percent of the senators and representatives in the Florida Legislature.

Its priorities have focused on increased funding for operation and capital purposes which would give school boards maximum flexibility at the local level and many issues unique to its members.

The members of the GFCSB have fought alongside the FSBA, FADSS, Florida Association of School Administrators (FASA), Florida Education Association (FEA), and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for many statewide issues.

In recent years, the GFCSB has been the loudest voice for **additional educational funding**. The GFCSB took the lead in advocating additional funding during the **2017 Special Session**. During that special session an additional **\$215 million** was added to the **\$245 million** appropriated during the regular 60-day session.



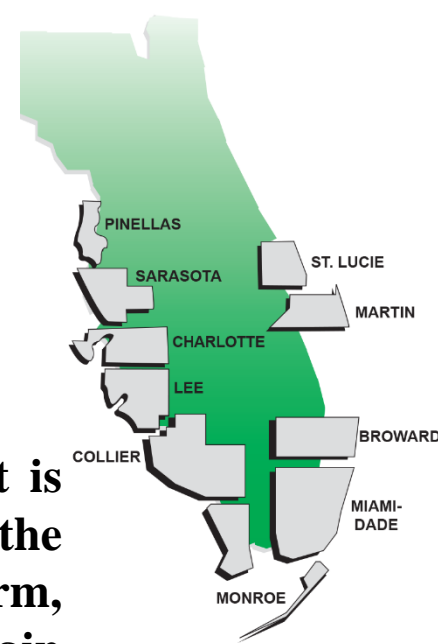
GFCSB CORE VALUES/GOALS:

Constitution of the State of Florida, Article IX - - Section I.

“The education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida. It is therefore a paramount duty of the State to make adequate provision for the education of all the children residing within its borders. Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high-quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high-quality education....”

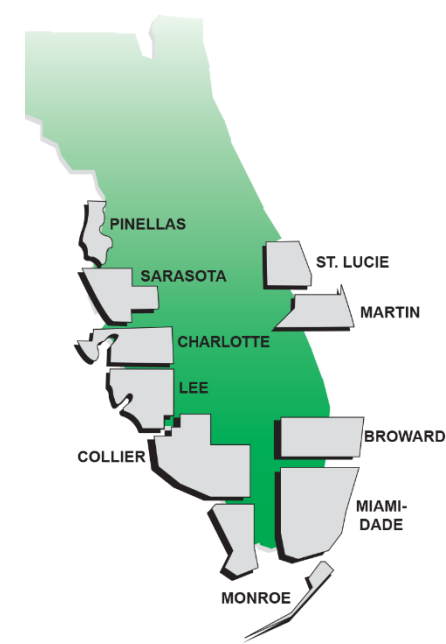
GOALS: TO INCREASE, ON A PHASED-IN BASIS, THE AVERAGE PER STUDENT FUNDING TO ENSURE THAT FLORIDA IS IN THE TOP HALF OF THE STATES AND CAN PROVIDE A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION TO ENABLE ITS STUDENTS TO COMPETE AND ACCEL IN THE GLOBAL MARKET PLACE.

ENSURE THAT, IN ALL CASES, LEGISLATION BE EVALUATED TO PROVIDE THAT IT DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND HOME RULE AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL BOARDS TO “OPERATE, CONTROL, AND SUPERVISE” ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITHIN THEIR SCHOOL DISTRICTS.



POLITICAL POWER

Lt. Governor	Janette Nunez	Miami-Dade
Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs	Nikki Fried	Broward
Speaker of the House	Jose Oliva	Miami-Dade
Senate PK-12 Education Chair	Manny Diaz	Miami-Dade
House K-12 Education Appropriation Chair	Chris Latvala	Pinellas



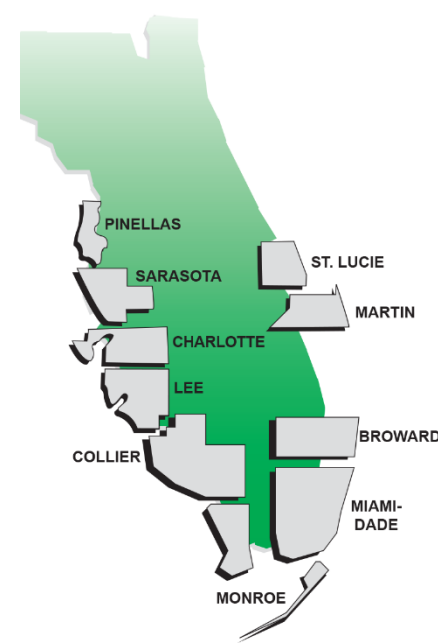
	GFCSB	STATE	PERCENTAGE
Senators	18	40	45%
Representatives	50	120	41%

*2019-2020

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

The GFCSB has taken the lead in the **drafting** and **passing** of the following **significant policies**:

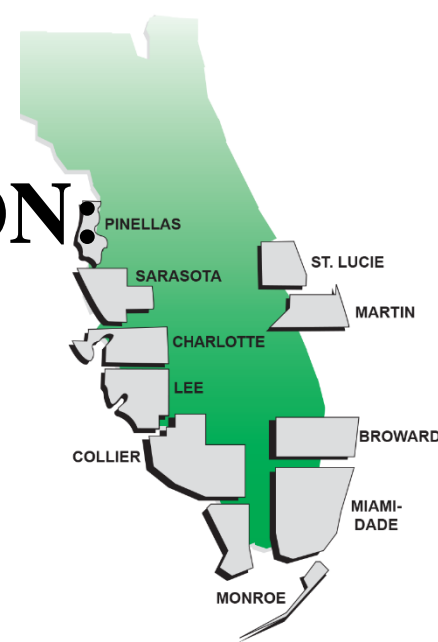
- **Safe School** funding;
- **Pre-K** funding;
- **Certificates of Participation** authorization (COPS);
- **Small and Minority Business** authority;
- **School Crossing Guards** funding;
- **Property Insurance** flexibility from Capital Outlay (\$100 per student);
- **RLE Limit of 90 percent** (provided an estimated **\$56.9 million of savings in 2017-18 to the Collier, Monroe and Sarasota Taxpayers**);
- **Special Required Educational Facilities (SREF)** flexibility, providing millions of dollars in potential savings;
- **Tax Roll** protection through Value Adjustment Board reforms;
- **Summer School** funding (now incorporated in **CSI**);
- **Enterprise Resource System** flexibility from Capital Outlay protection;
- **Adult-Handicapped** funding;
- **Bilingual** funding;
- **Class-size Penalty** mitigation;
- **School Safety Zones** preventing drugs, guns, and pornography;
- **Categorical Funding** flexibility;
- **Impact Fee** authority protection; and,
- **Accountability and Testing** reforms;
 - Eliminated grades 3-through 6 **Computer-based** requirement and provided **Paper/Pencil** option;
 - Required DOE to provide **Testing Calendar**;
 - Eliminated **Value Adjusted Model (VAM)**;
 - Worked to reduced or eliminated **High Stakes Tests**;
 - Eliminated **Algebra II EOC** requirement;
 - Provided more **Instructional Time**.
- **SREF flexibility**;
- **Certification** flexibility addressing teacher shortage;
- Redirecting **“Best and Brightest”** to greater numbers.



OPPOSING AND DEFEATING BAD LEGISLATION

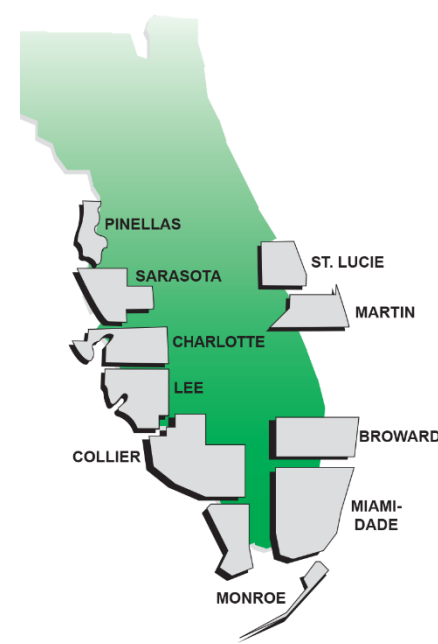
The **GFCSB** has successfully fought against legislation that would hurt school districts. Proposals recently defeated:

- **Breaking-up** school districts;
- Eliminating **Appointed Superintendents**;
- Eliminating funding to assist **Refugee and Immigrant Students** and their families.
- Sharing **referendum revenue** retroactively with charter schools.
- Requiring **state mandated term limits** for School Board Members.
- Allowing school personal to carry **weapons on school board property**.
- Allowing students to carry **weapons on college property**.
- Requiring **mandated courses** that would eliminate electives such as music, art, drama and foreign languages.



THE GFCSB CONTINUES TO FIGHT FOR:

- Achieving a **District Cost Differential** policy that properly reflects the higher cost of living in its districts;
- Protecting the appropriation authority of the **1.5 mill LDM for Capital Purposes** for the School Board; and,
- Achieving **some** flexibility by charter schools.



2020 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS
GREATER FLORIDA CONSORTIUM OF SCHOOL BOARDS

▶ PLEASE RETURN BY AUGUST 1, 2019

Limit to Five (5) Priority Issues One (1) issue per page

MISSION STATEMENT: TO EFFECTIVELY AND AGGRESSIVELY ADVOCATE FOR ISSUES THAT ARE UNIQUE TO THE GFCSB DISTRICTS AND ISSUES WHICH, BY VIRTUE OF THEIR GREATER IMPACT ON GFCSB DISTRICTS THAN ON OTHER DISTRICTS, REQUIRE A STRONGER FOCUS THAN WOULD BE PROVIDED BY STATEWIDE EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS.

ISSUE:

PROPOSED CHANGE:

EXPLANATION:

Date: _____

Submitted by: _____

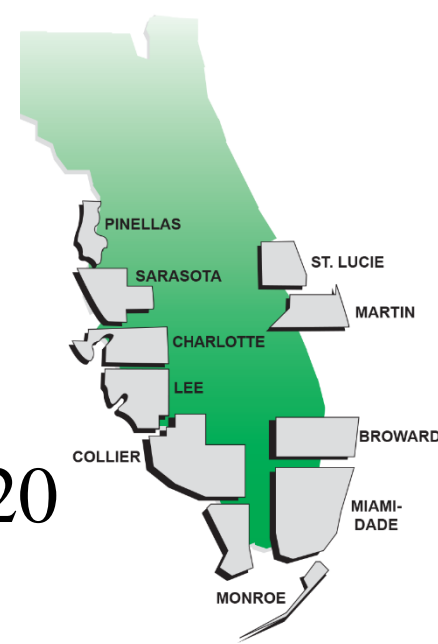
*Superintendent, Board Member, or
Legislative Liaison*

District: _____

RETURN TO: FLORIDA SCHOOL SERVICES, INC.

E-MAIL: tomcerra@gmail.com

GFCSB ANNUAL CALENDAR 2019-20



August 15-16, 2019

Development of GFCSB Draft 2020
Legislative Program – Key West

December 4-6, 2019

Business Meeting Concurrent with
FSBA/FADSS Meetings – Tampa

February 2020

Business Meeting/Legislative visits
Concurrent with FSBA Meeting –
Tallahassee

June 2020

Business Meeting concurrent with
FSBA/FADSS – Tampa

GFCSB ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

August 15 – 16, 2019

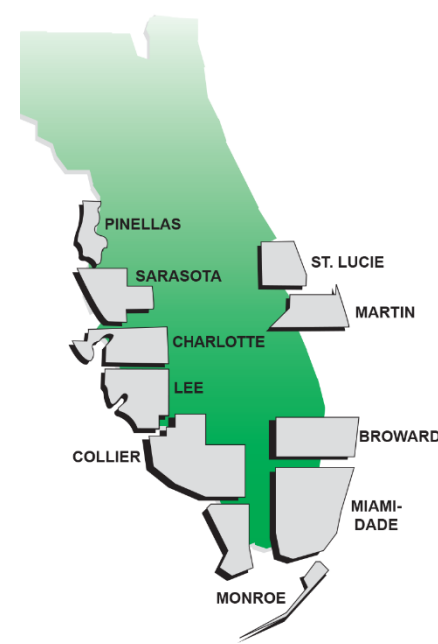
Key West

AGENDA

WHEN:	Thursday, August 15, 2019 – 12:00 noon–5:00 pm (Please arrive by 11:30 am – Lunch)
NETWORKING AND DINNER:	DoubleTree by Hilton Buses leave at 6:15 pm for Sunset Cruise 7:00–9:00 pm
MEETING:	Friday, August 16, 2019 – 8:00 am–12:30 pm (7:30 am–8:00 am Continental Breakfast)
DRESS:	Resort Casual
WHAT:	Development of the GFCSB 2020 Legislative Program
WHO:	All designated GFCSB School Board Members, other School Board Members, Superintendents, Legislative Consultants, Legislative Liaisons, Staff Members, Business Partners, and Guests.
WHERE:	DoubleTree by Hilton 3990 South Roosevelt Blvd. Key West, FL 33040
HOTEL RESERVATIONS:	(305) 307-3754 Request room for Greater Florida Consortium of School Boards Meeting Rate: \$149.00 (Weekend rate \$189.00. Includes: Free parking, Wi-Fi, Shuttle Service, and \$28.00 Resort Fee waived.)

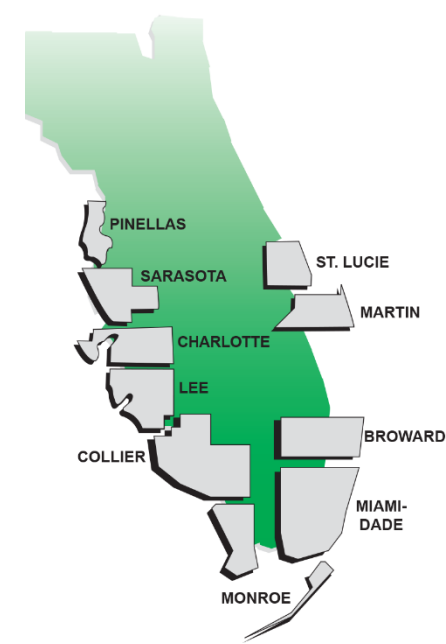
* * * * *

Legislative proposals should be limited to **five (5) Priority Issues** and are due by August 1, 2019.
Please email Tom Cerra at tomcerra@gmail.com. (Form attached)



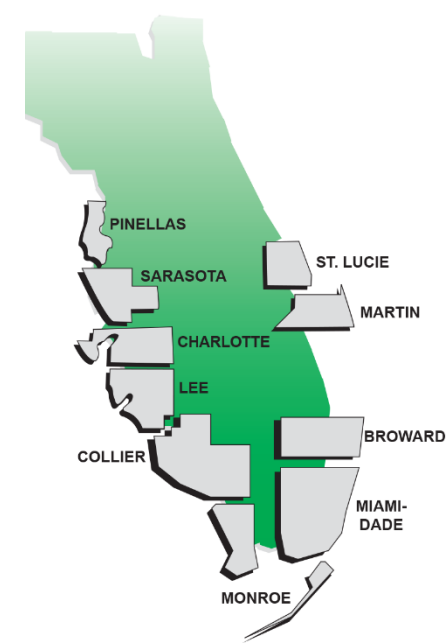
K-12 UNWEIGHTED STUDENTS

RANK	DISTRICT	STUDENTS	%
10	Monroe	8,283.21	.003
9	Charlotte	15,647.59	.006
8	Martin	18,308.10	.007
7	St. Lucie	40,951.73	.014
6	Sarasota	43,244.94	.015
5	Collier	47,951.73	.017
4	Lee	94,079.06	.033
3	Pinellas	98,548.84	.035
2	Broward	266,367.34	.093
1	Miami-Dade	343,591.85	.120
	GFCSB	996,577.47	.343
	State	2,847,819.21	1.000
	Palm Beach	196,923.36	.067



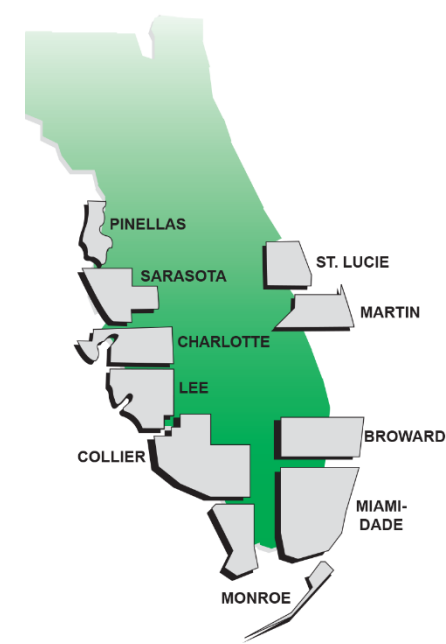
WEIGHTED FTE STUDENTS

RANK	DISTRICT	STUDENTS	%
10	Monroe	9,016.83	.0028
9	Charlotte	17,195.36	.0095
8	Martin	20,547.63	.0066
7	St. Lucie	43,901.09	.0141
6	Sarasota	48,342.74	.0155
5	Collier	53,139.47	.0170
4	Lee	102,130.85	.0327
3	Pinellas	108,604.47	.0348
2	Broward	292,229.00	.0936
1	Miami-Dade	377,618.10	.1209
	GFCSB	1,072 725.54	.3446
	State	3,123 300.51	1.0000
	Palm Beach	213,449.97	.0683



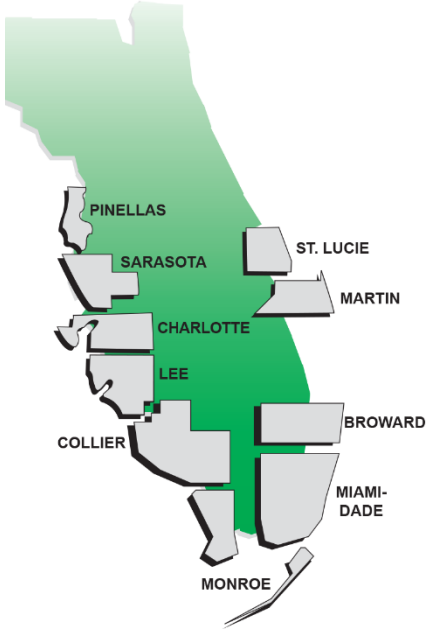
DISTRICT COST DIFFERENTIAL

RANK	DISTRICT	STUDENTS
1	Collier	1.0453
2	Monroe	1.0405
3	Broward	1.0197
4	Martin	1.0158
5	Lee	1.0154
6	Miami-Dade	1.0153
7	Sarasota	1.0040
8	St. Lucie	.9999
9	Pinellas	.9994
10	Charlotte	.9834
Highest	Palm Beach	1.0532
Lowest	Lafayette	.9232



K-12 TOTAL FUNDS PER FTE STUDENT

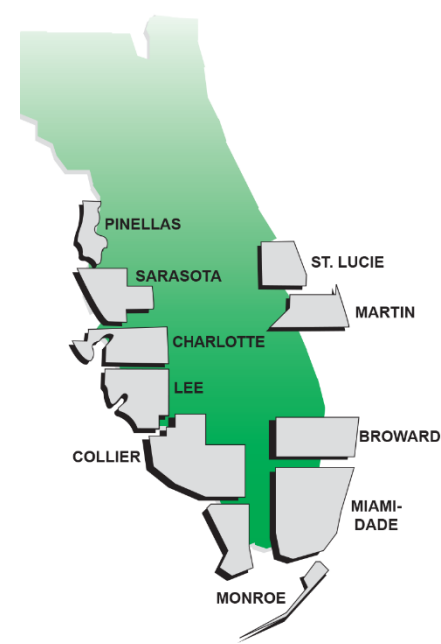
RANK		
1	Monroe	9,946.53
2	Collier	8,949.58
3	Sarasota	8,324.79
4	Martin	8,163.53
5	Miami-Dade	7,804.19
6	Charlotte	7,863.95
7	Lee	7,803.33
8	Pinellas	7,742.35
9	Broward	7,643.55
10	St. Lucie	7,570.21
Highest	Monroe	9,946.53
Lowest	Osceola	7,356.68
Average	State	7,672.02
	Palm Beach	8,096.37



*2019-2020

2018 TAX ROLL

4	Monroe	26 742 769 258
1	Charlotte	18 452 600 225
3	Martin	23 627 656 809
2	St. Lucie	23 189 126 886
5	Sarasota	62 826 665 585
6	Collier	92 504 253 783
7	Lee	85 875 931 465
8	Pinellas	86 662 845 014
9	Broward	205 307 398 982
10	Miami-Dade	322 193 015 087
	GFCSB	947 381 754 000
	State	2 033 794 751 313
	Palm Beach	200 496 118 260



GFCSB PARTNERS

Acceleration Academies

Accelify

BENCOR

FBMC Benefits Management

NEOLA

ReThink Ed

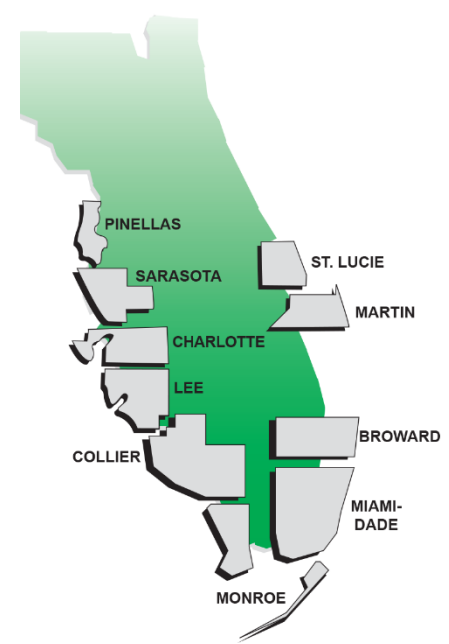
Renaissance

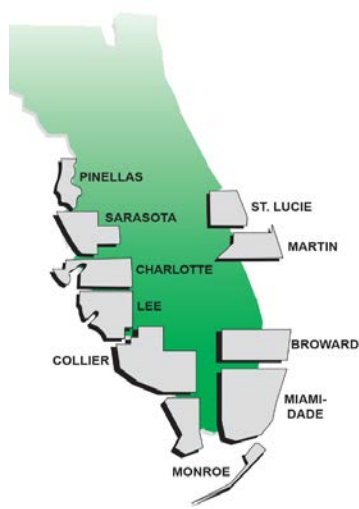
Intralogic

BMG Money

AXA Equitable

CIGNA Health





GREATER FLORIDA CONSORTIUM OF SCHOOL BOARDS' 2019 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Constitution of the State of Florida, Article IX - - Section I.

“The education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida. It is therefore a paramount duty of the State to make adequate provision for the education of all the children residing within its borders. Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high-quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high-quality education....”

GOAL: TO INCREASE, ON A PHASED-IN BASIS, THE AVERAGE PER STUDENT FUNDING TO ENSURE THAT FLORIDA IS IN THE TOP HALF OF THE STATES AND CAN PROVIDE A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION TO ENABLE ITS STUDENTS TO COMPETE AND ACCEL IN THE GLOBAL MARKET PLACE.

ENSURE THAT, IN ALL CASES, LEGISLATION BE EVALUATED TO PROVIDE THAT IT DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND HOME RULE AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL BOARDS TO “OPERATE, CONTROL, AND SUPERVISE” ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITHIN THEIR SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

PRIORITY ISSUES

RESPECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL BOARDS

“The school board shall operate, control and supervise all free public schools within the school district and determine the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance joint educational programs.” – The Florida Constitution, Article IX, Section 4(b).

FUNDING

Allocate sufficient total funds with flexibility to enable school districts to support: guaranteed continuation budgets that provide for enrollment changes, inflationary increases, competitive salaries and benefits for teachers and other personnel and quality program improvements, by increasing the **Base Student Allocation (BSA)** for FY 2019-20 at least five percent per student.

Restore the full calculation of **Required Local Effort (RLE)** to include new construction and property reassessments.

Fully **fund any new mandates**, without transferring money from the Base Student Allocation (BSA) or Discretionary Local Effort (DLE).

CAPITAL OUTLAY FUNDING

Recognize school board's authority to control **Local District Capital Outlay** spending without any required diversion.

Restore the **full optional 2.0 mill levy** for capital purposes to meet school maintenance and technology needs and reject any further reduction and continue the flexibility to use this capital revenue to pay property and casualty insurance premiums; to purchase equipment to implement on-line testing; and, to purchase software required to run equipment or other critical capital or allow .25 (of the 2.0 mills levy) for critical operational needs.

STUDENT SAFETY/MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Determine and fully fund the state mandate of one officer per school by increasing the **Safe Schools allocation**.

Redirect any unused **Aaron Feis Guardian Program Funds** available to school districts who would like to spend it as required by the Safe Schools allocation instead of on school guardians.

Build upon the investment made last year for **mental health services** by providing funding to hire **additional school counselors**, to expand and enhance mental health services available through school and community coordinated services, and to provide enhanced wrap-around services.

Continue funding for **school safety infrastructure** enhancements to schools.

2019 ADDITIONAL PRIORITY ISSUES

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Extend the option of **paper/pencil exams** for expansion to grades 7-10 for Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics.
- Continue to streamline and reduce the amount of **state-required student assessment** to bring it in line with requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), also ensuring the FLDOE concordance with SAT/ACT exams with FSA is completed; and provide state funds to cover the cost of SAT/ACT test administration in districts.
- Continue the use of the **Postsecondary Educations Readiness Test (PERT)** as an alternative to FSA Algebra and continue state funding of district administration costs.
- Provide the **statewide assessment**, including the General Equivalency Diploma (GED), in multiple languages to **English Language Learners (ELL)** who have received instructions for less than three (3) years, which is allowed by Federal Regulations.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION

- Maintain the **dual education delivery system** that allows both the local school district and community/state college to offer post-secondary career, technical and adult education programs.
- Accurately align our funding model and provide additional dollars to reflect **student enrollment growth** in career, technical, and adult education programs throughout Florida.
- Create incubator **Workforce Education Grant Program**, adjunct to Workforce Education categorical funding, of \$60 million for school districts to start new career academy and Postsecondary Adult Vocational programs (PSAV) that provides funding for equipment and initial operations, including instructor recruitment bonuses.

FUNDING

- Provide state funding for any increased costs to the employer's contribution to the **Florida Retirement System**.
- Maintain **Adults with Disabilities (AWD)** program funding.
- Allow for **voter approval of the half-cent sales tax** for operational as well as capital construction purposes and school bus purchases.
- Reinstate the funding for **251, 252, 253 on a per student basis**, and **eliminate the arbitrary cap on gifted students**.
- Revise the **TRIM notice** to delineate whether a tax increase is due to an increase in the proposed millage rate and/or property reassessments by the property tax appraiser.
- Create a **waiver of tuition** for parents and/or guardians of students at **Title I elementary schools** who take workforce development programs offered by technical colleges or technical centers on the campus of their child's school.
- Collect and earmark the **internet sales tax** for public schools.
- Restore the FTE definition to provide for **six (6) periods** and fund additional instructional time for **dual enrollment, IB, AICE, and virtual programs** up to a maximum of **eight (8) classes** per student.

- Fully fund and provide the flexibility in providing the additional time during **summer school** or a combination to meet the additional 180-hour reading instruction requirement at the lowest-performing elementary school.
- Eliminate the **wealth adjustment** from the sparsity formula.
- Oppose the automatic increase each year for the **Tax Credit Scholarship Program**.

TITLE I FLEXIBILITY

Return full control of **Title I spending** to local school board discretion to support district improvement efforts for students and allow school districts to stipulate the use of its Title I funding at the local level, especially if it is to address school improvement as intended by the Federal Regulations, excluding the district's indirect rate from the administrative cost.

STUDENT STATION COSTS

Provide for a district or regional index for the **per-student-station cost cap** to keep pace with changing market place increases for labor, materials, and code requirements.

HURRICANE/DISASTER RELIEF

Establish permanent **statutory authority** to assist school districts with **hurricane damage** without negatively affecting resources for other districts, including:

- Providing an avenue for school boards to seek necessary **waivers of state law** for up to a year, such as shortening the school year, in order to resolve some of the immediate impact of hurricane damage;
- Funding all costs associated with **shelter operations**; and,
- **Increasing the multiplier for the Declining Enrollment Supplement** as found in the Appropriations Act proviso language for a decline in full-time equivalent students attributable to a major storm/disaster event to .75 (currently .25).

STUDENT SAFETY

Increase penalties for **firing a gun** within 1000 feet of a school.

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE (DJJ) FUNDING

Allow districts to **waive the \$45 fee** for adult education basic or GED courses offered to students in jails, stockades, or DJJ facilities.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

- Focus the **approval of charter applications** to a specific academic or space need which the local district does not or cannot meet or if the district determines the application is in the best interest of the student.
- Exempt school districts from paying **ad valorem tax for leased properties** similar to charter schools.

- Require a **charter school** to return any and all **public funds**, excluding the Charter School Planning Grant funds, to the sponsor upon the charter school's election of any deferral of opening the charter school.
- Allow school boards to **waive the same laws and rules** that charter schools can waive on a district-wide basis.
- Allow school boards with at least 10 percent of its student enrollment in Charter Schools to determine the **need for additional schools** and/or require new charters to locate in areas to address overcrowding, provide choice opportunities to students/parents zoned to failing schools, or **meet specific academic needs** the school district is not addressing.

OTHER ISSUES

FUNDING

- Ensure that any changes to the **District Cost Differential** reflect the costs of housing, insurance, poverty, and transportation, rather than wages.
- Allow local school boards the option to double the **Discretionary Local Effort (DLE)** to 1.496 mills.
- **Oppose further equalization of the Local Discretionary Millage (LDM).**
- Uphold the **90 percent rule** in the FEFP, and **fund state mandates** for Transportation and Instructional Materials entirely from state revenue and do not include this funding when calculating the 90 percent rule.

CAPITAL OUTLAY FUNDING

- Prohibit the **personal enrichment** of charter operators from public funds.
- Establish a **long-term, stable, and recurring revenue source** to provide increased school construction funds to support new facilities, renovations, replacement schools, school maintenance, land acquisition, mandated class size reduction, hurricane shelter retrofitting, pre-kindergarten programs housed in public schools, and the additional costs of constructing environmentally-efficient “green” schools.
- **Eliminate the “may not exceed the cost per student station” provision as it applies to new construction using any non-state funds.**

CRITICAL SHORTAGE

- Fund strategies, such as **teacher fellowship and loan forgiveness programs**, to recruit and retain teachers.
- Provide for **rehiring** of administrative and instructional personnel, support personnel and law enforcement officers, personnel as substitute teachers, and **hiring** of retired bus drivers on a part-time basis after one month after termination without penalty to their state retirement pension.
- **Expand options for individuals to obtain temporary teacher certification and, subsequently, full professional certification who demonstrated their work to be highly effective.**

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

- Require all pre-K teachers to meet the **same certification requirements**, regardless of provider, and provide adequate funding for training.
- Fund a **high quality optional full-day voluntary** pre-K (VPK) program.
- **Rename the education statute** to include pre-Kindergarten, allowing certified pre-school teachers to be included in incentive programs and retirement options currently only afforded to K-12 teachers.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND STATE ASSESSMENT

- Move the June 30th **FLDOE reporting deadline** for FSA tests back to June 8th.
- Give districts greater flexibility in determining **third grade retentions and promotion criteria** to measure each student's progress and customize his/her education plan.
- Enhance state funding for **educator professional development and training** on Florida State Standards, the related assessments, required use of technology.

INNOVATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Create an “**innovative school district**” **program** that a district, state-rate “B” or higher, may apply to the State Board of Education as a five-year agreement for fiscal and program flexibility in meeting state standards in return for improved student performance and use of fiscal resources.

ELIMINATION OF DUAL ENROLLMENT TUITION FEE

Apply the **tuition and fee waivers** granted private school students in 2018 for dual enrollment to public school students so that students can continue to access college courses without financially penalizing school districts.

BEST AND BRIGHTEST PROVISION CHANGES

Apply “**Best and Brightest**” **requirements and eligibility** to all instructional personnel or eliminate the program and return the monies to school districts for use towards salaries or incentive programs for highly effective teachers and other instructional personnel or hiring bonuses to fill vacancies in critical shortage areas or high needs schools.

PERSONNEL – TEACHER EVALUATION

Support district authority over **teacher evaluations and pay for performance**, including removing the Value-Added Model (VAM) from teacher evaluations, particularly for teachers of disadvantaged students.

QUESTIONS?

