



## **2022 HCPS State Legislative Platform**

In a multiyear approach, bring Florida's total per-pupil funding to at least the median in the U.S. Department of Education's Ranking of the States - \$11,732 - providing school districts adequate funding and the flexibility to implement programs, mitigate unfunded mandates and adopt spending plans that best meet their communities' needs.

Hold charter schools to the same safeguards and high standards of accountability, transparency and equity as district-managed public schools.

Increase funding for VPK to allow school districts to attract highly qualified teachers, improve programming and extend the school day.

Amend legislation on the allocation of FEFP funding to allow school district virtual instruction programs to mirror the year-round funding model for Florida Virtual School. Currently, school districts can only generate FTE for part-time virtual students in survey 4 whereas Florida Virtual School can generate FTE in surveys 1,2,3 and 4. (F.S. 1011.61(1)(c))

Resolve the inequity in capital improvement funding by restoring the millage rate from 1.5 to 2.0, and take into account the average taxable value throughout the state and fund the difference to the district's based upon student enrollment.

Require charter schools to identify a location in order for the charter school application to be approved.

Ensure state education-related initiatives are collaboratively developed with local school boards, providing local control of school district operations and policy decisions.

Amend statute to extend eligibility for children with developmental delays from 5 years of age to 9. This would mirror the flexibility allowed at the federal level in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B. Extending the eligibility through age 9 would allow for uninterrupted early interventions and services for some of our most vulnerable students. (F.S. 1003.01(3)(a))

Amend legislation for students who first enter the United States in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and have met all requirements for the standard high school diploma, except for passage of any must-pass assessment, to demonstrate their ability to meet requirements for graduation using alternative formative district assessments. (F.S. 1003.433(3)(b))

Overhaul the 1973 Hazardous Walking Conditions law by requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to study what conditions constitute a hazardous walkway for children. (F.S. 1006.23)