



2019 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

Florida Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran



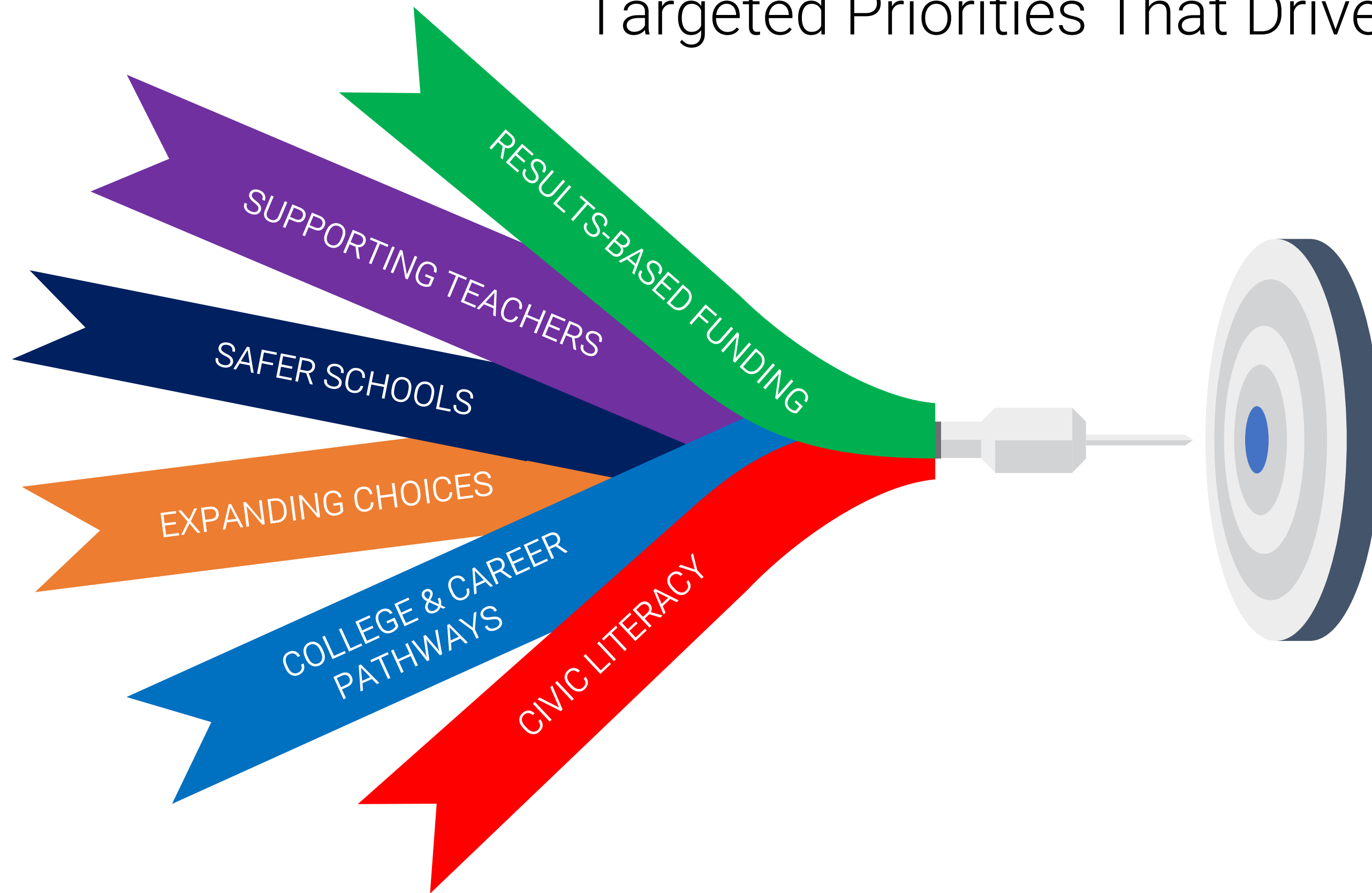
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

**“THE EDUCATION PRIORITIES PASSED THIS SESSION
REPRESENT A RESOUNDING VICTORY FOR
STUDENTS, PARENTS AND TEACHERS ACROSS
FLORIDA.”**

Governor Ron DeSantis

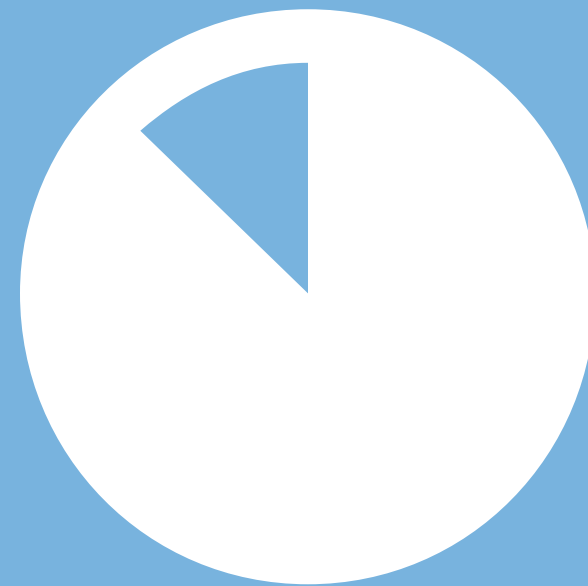
2019 Session Priorities

Targeted Priorities That Drive Results



SESSION GRADE:

93%



SB 2500



RESULTS-BASED FUNDING



\$75 per student funding increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA), the largest increase since 2015-2016.



\$242.60 per student increase to the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), the largest increase since 2013-2014 and the second largest increase since 2007-2008.



\$21.84 billion in state and local funding, an increase of \$782.9 million to the FEFP.



Strategically shifted \$150 million of recurring funding into the BSA to give districts more flexibility for classroom spending.



All while still passing a massive \$272 million property tax cut for Floridians.

K-12 Public Schools 2018-19 FEFP vs. 2019-2020 FEFP



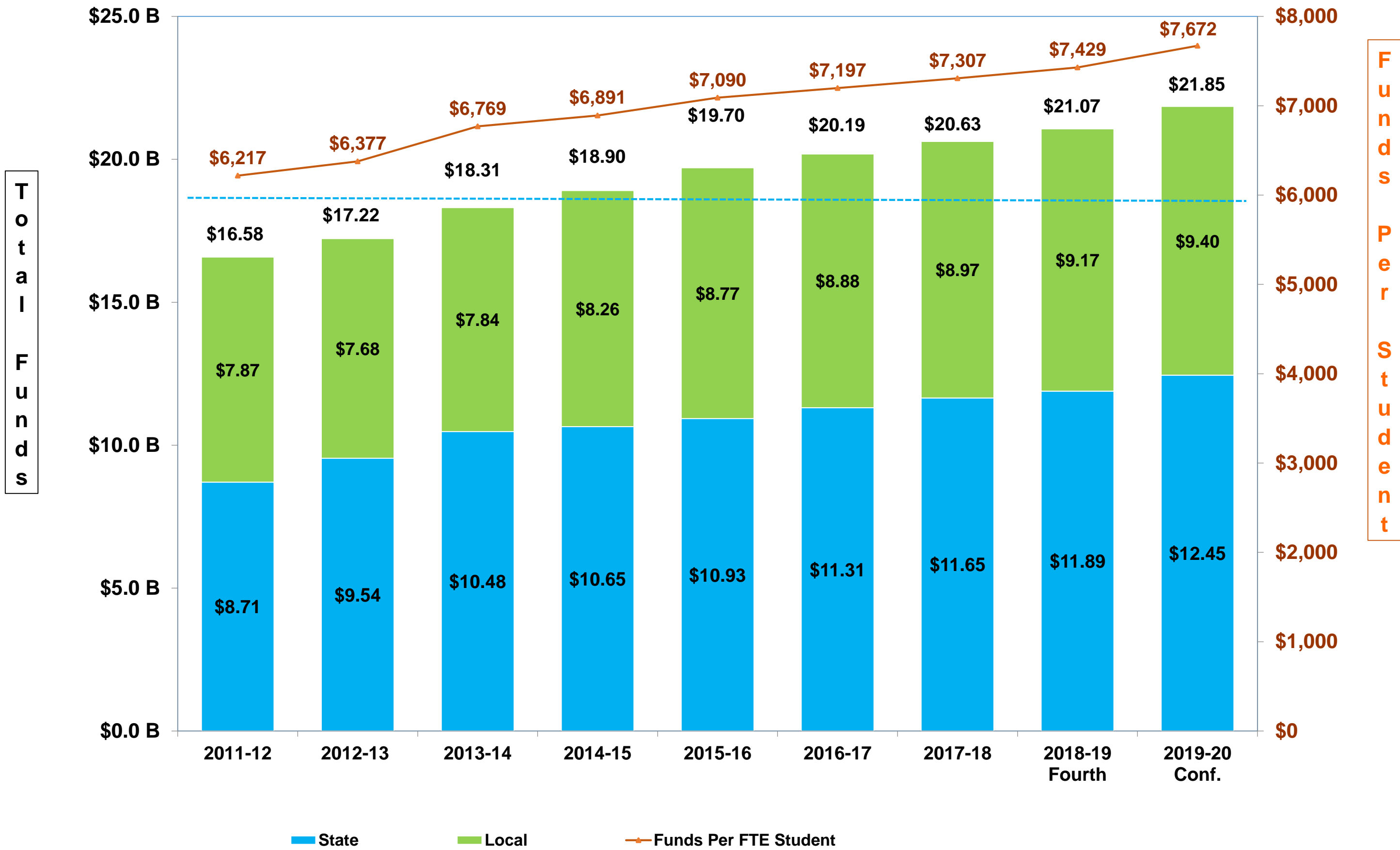
**RESULTS-BASED
FUNDING**

	2018-19 FEFP Fourth Calculation	2019-20 Appropriation	Increase	% Increase
Unweighted FTE (UFTE) Students	2,835,437.95	2,847,819.21	12,381.26	0.44%
State and Local Funds	\$ 21,065,653,504	\$ 21,848,530,267	\$ 782,876,763	3.72%
Funds Per UFTE Student	\$ 7,429.42	\$ 7,672.02	\$ 242.60	3.27%

FEFP Total Funding



RESULTS-BASED
FUNDING



SB 2500 and SB 7070



SUPPORTING TEACHERS



\$284.5 million recurring investment in our Best and Brightest teachers and principals (SB 7070 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR), a \$50.5 million increase.



Continued Funding to provide free liability insurance to every Florida teacher, protecting those who educate our students.



Teachers will be given three years to pass the General Knowledge Test (SB 7070 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR), rather than just one year, consistent with the three-year period that teachers have to obtain their certification.

- This change in law complements the March 19, 2019 State Board of Education decision to reduce testing fees for prospective teachers.

SB 2500 and SB 7030



\$180 million invested in Safe Schools for school resource officers and enhanced school safety measures and \$50 million for school hardening grants.



Continued financial investment in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program.

- As a result of the new application window: 5 new districts, 16 of the original 25 expanded and 13 other districts expressed interest.



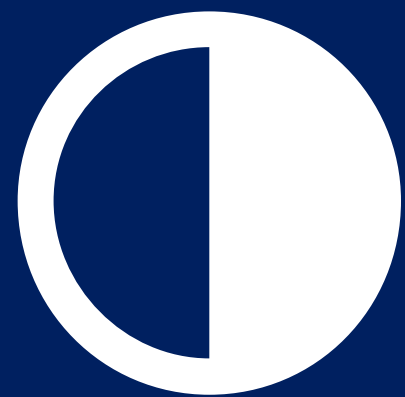
\$75 million in mental health funding for districts and schools to establish care for students and \$5.5 million to continue evidence-based youth mental health awareness and assistance training for school personnel. New requirements in law to ensure students in crisis receive mental health services (SB 7070 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR).



Continued investment in and funding for improvements to the Florida Safe Schools Assessment online risk assessment Tool (FSSAT).



Enactment of dozens of school safety recommendations of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission (SB 7030 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR), including strengthening compliance and expanding schools and districts' access to the Guardian Program.



SAFER SCHOOLS



EXPANDING CHOICES

SB 2500, SB 7070 and SB 2502



Passage of the historic Family Empowerment Scholarship Program (SB 7070 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR), which will offer a lifeline to 18,000 students, including the nearly 13,000 students on the wait list Florida's Tax Credit Scholarship Program.



\$147.9 million invested in the Gardiner Scholarship Program, a game changer for the nearly 1,900 students with special needs who are on the wait list.



Continued legislative (SB 7070 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR) and funding support, \$40 million, for Schools of Hope, following IDEA Public Schools and KIPP confirming their intent to open 25 schools in Tampa Bay area and Miami-Dade, respectively.



Continued support for equitable treatment of capital outlay funding for all public schools, including public charter schools.

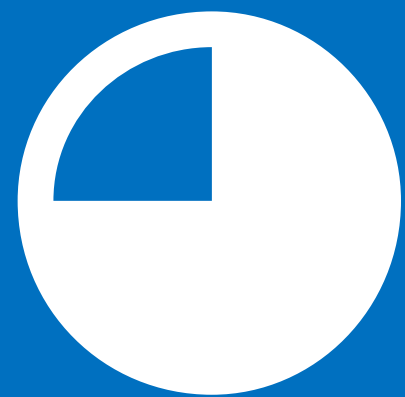


Required audit of Florida Virtual School's (FLVS) operations, requires that the State Board of Education (SBOE) serve as FLVS' board of trustees for one year, the SBOE will appoint FLVS' executive director/CEO and that individual will report to the Commissioner of the Education (SB 2502).



\$4 million to update the CHOICE database that supports state scholarship programs.

SB 2500, HB 7071 and SB 190



COLLEGE & CAREER PATHWAYS



\$10 million appropriation for the newly created Florida Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program ([HB 7071](#)), which will enable high schools, career centers and Colleges to partner with business and industry and offer high quality preapprenticeship and apprenticeship opportunities.



\$10 million appropriation to fund teacher professional development in computer science and reward those teachers for earning credentials to teach high quality computer science courses. Additionally, students will have the option to count those computer science courses as either a required Math or Science credit in high school ([HB 7071](#)).



Providing an array of options to ensure that postsecondary students don't leave college without a degree or credential ([HB 7071, SB 190](#)), including:

- Requiring students be able to “reverse transfer” their credits to earn an associate in arts degree; requiring universities notify students of the opportunity to receive their associate in arts upon completion of the necessary credits; and creating the Last Mile College Completion Program.

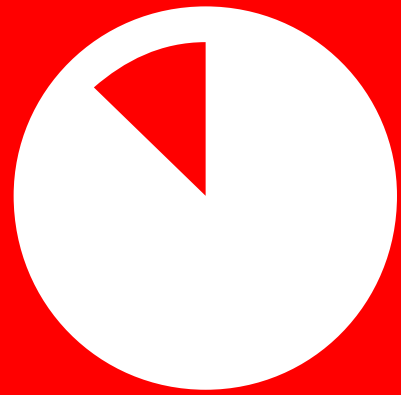


Increased funding incentives for districts and college industry certification programs, \$2 and \$4 million, respectively, and \$30 million in performance funding for Florida's 28 State Colleges.



Requiring an annual audit of Florida's career and technical education programs and apprenticeship programs ([HB 7071](#)), including directives to ensure that those programs are aligned with in-demand workforce opportunities.

SB 620 and HB 807



CIVIC LITERACY



Passage of civic literacy legislation to ensure Florida has the best curriculum in the nation for civics education, the best standards and the best assessments, and that programs with a proven track record of tremendous civic value for our students are counted towards the necessary service hours for Bright Futures Scholarships (HB 807).



Legislation that ensures school districts accept a permanent change of station order as proof of residency for all public school programs, and that active duty members, spouses and their dependents are classified as residents for tuition purposes (SB 620).



Additionally, in April all 28 State Colleges and 12 Universities adopted a resolution similar to the “Chicago Statement” championing free speech on postsecondary campuses.

SB 2500, SB 190, and SB 1418



Nearly \$14.2 million for 9 Hurricane Michael-impacted school districts' recovery, the largest portion of which, \$12.4 million, went to Bay County.



Reading Scholarship Accounts were continued for another year with \$7.6 million in funding.



SB 190 includes several provisions meant to support postsecondary articulation and improve processes for planning and budgeting of postsecondary capital construction and maintenance.



SB 1418 implements recommendations of a Department of Children and Families (DCF) task force that studied the issue of Baker Act cases involving minors, and one of those recommendations encourages school districts to adopt a standardized suicide assessment tool that school-based mental health professionals would implement prior to initiation of an involuntary examination.



**ALSO CROSSED
THE FINISH LINE**



**ALSO CROSSED
THE FINISH LINE**

HB 7123, HB 525, HB 1027 and HB 1121



Requirement that locally voter approved operational millage, effective for any local referendum approved July 1, 2019 or thereafter, must be shared proportionally with all public schools in the district, including public charter schools (HB 7123 **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**).



HB 525 changes the name of “Florida Keys Community College” to “College of the Florida Keys” and the name of “North Florida Community College” to “North Florida College.”



HB 1027 bill requires the Office of Early Learning to develop early learning professional development training and course standards for school readiness program providers and identify both formal and informal early learning career pathways with stackable credentials and certifications, which allow early childhood teachers to access specialized professional development.



HB 1121 extends the scheduled repeal date for the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, also known as The Able Trust, to October 1, 2023.

Did Not Pass in 2019 Session



“Bad Actors” legislation that would have enabled the Commissioner of Education and the Department to more effectively ban rogue, fraudulent and dangerous school operators and personnel from working in our schools and endangering our students (HB 1127 passed House and SB 1444 passed three of three Senate committees, never heard on Senate Floor).



Legislation that would have expanded students’ access to early college high school and dual enrollment programs (HB 189 passed House and SB 1342 passed two of three Senate committees, never heard in Senate Appropriations).



Comprehensive legislation to rewrite accountability for Florida’s Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program would have changed when readiness screening (testing) would have occurred, required learning gains to be included in the readiness rate calculation and much more (HB 1193 passed one of three House committees and SB 1594 passed one of three Senate committees, before the bill sponsors agreed to work further on the bill between the 2019 and 2020 Sessions).



Legislation that would have enabled Florida’s 28 State Colleges and 12 Universities, at their discretion, to serve as charter school authorizers (HB 1197 passed House and SB 1668 was never considered; related bills SB 1470 passed three of three Senate Committees and was never heard on Senate Floor, while HB 7095 passed two of two House committees and was never heard on the House Floor).



NEAR MISSES

**“THIS LEGISLATIVE SESSION’S EDUCATION VICTORIES,
WHICH WILL SIGNIFICANTLY BENEFIT FLORIDA’S
STUDENTS AND THE EDUCATORS WHO HAVE
DEDICATED THEIR LIVES TO PREPARING THEM FOR
LIFELONG SUCCESS... AND ENSURING THAT EVERY
STUDENT HAS EVERY OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCCESS.”**

State Board of Education Chair Marva Johnson

A detailed summary of each bill and the entire 2019 Session summary will be posted at www.fldoe.org/gr

THANK YOU!