

House Bill No. 915

An act relating to K-20 education accountability; amending s. 1008.31, F.S.; expanding legislative intent for the K-20 education performance accountability system; providing requirements and an implementation schedule for performance-based funding; providing mission, goals, and measures; requiring collection of certain data; requiring the State Board of Education to conduct an assessment study; authorizing adoption of equivalent scores for purpose of graduation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 1008.31, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.31 Florida's K-20 education performance accountability system; legislative intent; performance-based funding; mission, goals, and system-wide measures.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—It is the intent of the Legislature that:

(a) The performance accountability system implemented to assess the effectiveness of Florida's seamless K-20 education delivery system provide answers to the following questions in relation to its mission and goals:

1. What is the public receiving in return for funds it invests in education?
2. How effectively is Florida's K-20 education system educating its students?
3. How effectively are the major delivery sectors promoting student achievement?
4. How are individual schools and postsecondary education institutions performing their responsibility to educate their students as measured by how students are performing and how much they are learning?

(b) The K-20 education performance accountability system be established as a single, unified accountability system with multiple components, including, but not limited to, measures of adequate yearly progress, individual student learning gains in public schools, school grades, and return on investment.

(c) The K-20 education performance accountability system comply with the accountability requirements of the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001," PL 107-110.

~~(d)~~ The State Board of Education recommend to the Legislature systemwide performance standards; the Legislature establish systemwide performance measures and standards; and the systemwide measures and standards provide Floridians with information on what the public is receiving.

ing in return for the funds it invests in education and how well the K-20 system educates its students.

~~(e)~~(e) The State Board of Education establish performance measures and set performance standards for individual components of the public education system, including individual schools and postsecondary educational institutions, with measures and standards based primarily on student achievement.

(2) PERFORMANCE-BASED FUNDING.—

(a) The State Board of Education shall cooperate with the Commissioner of Education and each delivery system to develop proposals for performance-based funding, using performance measures adopted pursuant to this section established by the Legislature.

(b) The State Board of Education proposals must provide that at least 10 percent of the state funds appropriated for the K-20 education system are conditional upon meeting or exceeding established performance standards. The State Board of Education must submit the recommendations to the Legislature in the following sequence:

~~(a)~~ By December 1, 2002, recommendations for state universities, for consideration by the 2003 Legislature and implementation in the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

~~(b)~~ By December 1, 2003, recommendations for public schools and workforce education, for consideration by the 2004 Legislature and implementation in the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

~~(c)~~ By December 1, 2004, recommendations for community colleges, for consideration by the 2005 Legislature and implementation in the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

~~(d)~~ By December 1, 2005, recommendations for all other programs that receive state funds within the Department of Education.

(c) The State Board of Education shall adopt guidelines required to implement performance-based funding that allow 1 year to demonstrate achievement of specified performance standards prior to a reduction in appropriations pursuant to this section.

(d) By December 1, 2003, the State Board of Education shall adopt common definitions, measures, standards, and performance improvement targets required to:

1. Use the state core measures and the sector-specific measures to evaluate the progress of each sector of the educational delivery system toward meeting the systemwide goals for public education.

2. Notify the sectors of their progress in achieving the specified measures so that they may develop improvement plans that directly influence decisions about policy, program development, and management.

3. Implement the performance-based budgeting system described in this section.

(e) During the 2003-2004 fiscal year, the Department of Education shall collect data required to establish progress, rewards, and sanctions.

(f) By December 1, 2004, the Department of Education shall recommend to the Legislature a formula for performance-based funding that applies accountability standards for the individual components of the public education system at every level, kindergarten through graduate school. Effective for the 2004-2005 fiscal year and thereafter, subject to annual legislative approval in the General Appropriations Act, performance-based funds shall be allocated based on the progress, rewards, and sanctions established pursuant to this section.

(3) MISSION, GOALS, AND SYSTEMWIDE MEASURES.—

(a) The mission of Florida's K-20 education system shall be to increase the proficiency of all students within one seamless, efficient system, by allowing them the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through learning opportunities and research valued by students, parents, and communities.

(b) The State Board of Education shall adopt guiding principles for establishing state and sector-specific standards and measures.

(c) The State Board of Education shall, ~~and to~~ maintain an accountability system that measures student progress toward the following goals:

1.(a) Highest student achievement, as measured by: student FCAT performance and annual learning gains; the number and percentage of schools that improve at least one school performance grade designation or maintain a school performance grade designation of "A" pursuant to s. 1008.34; graduation or completion rates at all learning levels; and other measures identified in law or rule.

2.(b) Seamless articulation and maximum access, as measured by: the percentage of students who demonstrate readiness for the educational level they are entering, from kindergarten through postsecondary education and into the workforce; the number and percentage of students needing remediation; the percentage of Floridians who complete associate, baccalaureate, graduate, professional, and postgraduate degrees; the number and percentage of credits that articulate; the extent to which each set of exit-point requirements matches the next set of entrance-point requirements; the degree to which underserved populations access educational opportunity; the extent to which access is provided through innovative educational delivery strategies; and other measures identified in law or rule.

3.(c) Skilled workforce and economic development, as measured by: the number and percentage of graduates employed in their areas of preparation; the percentage of Floridians with high school diplomas and postsecondary education credentials; the percentage of business and community members who find that Florida's graduates possess the skills they need; national rankings; and other measures identified in law or rule.

4.(d) Quality efficient services, as measured by: cost per completer or graduate; average cost per noncompleter at each educational level; cost disparity across institutions offering the same degrees; the percentage of education customers at each educational level who are satisfied with the education provided; and other measures identified in law or rule.

(4) SYSTEMWIDE DATA COLLECTION.—School districts and public postsecondary educational institutions shall maintain information systems that will provide the State Board of Education and the Legislature with information and reports necessary to address the specifications of the accountability system. The State Board of Education shall determine the standards for the required data. The at a level of comprehensiveness and quality shall be no less than that which was available as of June 30, 2001.

Section 2. The State Board of Education shall conduct a concordance study to determine if crosswalk scores can be determined to be equivalent to those required on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) for high school graduation. At a minimum, the state board shall analyze the PSAT, PLAN, SAT, ACT, and the College Placement Test to determine if equivalent scores can be determined. In cases where such equivalencies can be determined, the state board is authorized to adopt those scores as meeting the graduation requirement in lieu of the FCAT passing score. Each time the score is changed, new equivalencies must be determined. This provision shall take effect for students who are eligible to graduate in the 2003-2004 academic year and thereafter.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 2, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 2, 2003.