

Florida Department of Education

Florida Educational Negotiators Meeting

March 1, 2024

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Agenda

- 1 Welcome and Introductions
- 2 Professional Practices Services Updates
- 3 Certification Updates
- 4 Professional Learning Updates
- 5 School Start Times
- 6 Questions and Next Steps

Who's Who?

Areas Represented In the Room

- District Leadership
- Teaching and Learning
- Human Resources
- School Improvement
- Negotiators
- Others





Professional Practices Services (PPS) Updates



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Policy Reminders Impacting Professional Practices

Section 1012.796, F.S. – Complaints against teachers and administrators; procedures; penalties

- Requires each school district to provide unredacted documents to the department and all information known to the district.
- Requires the complaint and all information obtained by the department shall be exempt from public record until conclusion of the investigation.

Policy Reminders Impacting Professional Practices

Section 1012.796, F.S. – Complaints against teachers and administrators; procedures; penalties

Legally Sufficient

- The complaint is legally sufficient if it contains the ultimate facts which show a violation has occurred as provided in s. 1012.795, F.S., and defined by rule of the State Board of Education.

What to report to PPS?

1.

- The person holds or has applied for:
 - A temporary Florida educator certificate
 - A professional Florida educator certificate
 - An athletic coaching certificate

2

- The district's review substantiates all or part of the allegation.

3

- The substantiated conduct supports a violation of s. 1012.795, F.S., or Rule 6A-10.081, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

What to include in your reporting packet?

- Reporting Form
- Investigative Report
- Victim / Witness Statements
- District Action
- Class / Team / Field Trip Roster
- Evidence

Evidence

- Photographs / Videos
- Communications
 - Emails
 - Text Messages
 - Letters / Cards
- Financial Records / Audits
- Documents
- Testing Information
- Reasonable Suspicion Observation Forms

Florida Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse

- Currently there are seven (7) agencies that use the Clearinghouse to retain their fingerprints and background screenings.
- Beginning January 1, 2025, the Florida Department of Education and educational entities including school districts, charter schools and private schools who accept scholarship funds will begin retaining fingerprints and background screenings in the Clearinghouse instead of the FALCON system maintained by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE).

Florida Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse

- The Clearinghouse will serve as a shared repository for fingerprints and background screenings.
- Currently there are over 3.5 million individuals in the Clearinghouse. Educational Entities will have access to those individuals without having to re-fingerprint them.

Arrest Notifications

- Currently schools only receive arrest notifications for arrests that occur in Florida from FDLE.
- Once using the Clearinghouse, Educational Entities will receive arrest notifications from both FDLE and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).



Certification Updates



Types of Florida Educator Certificates

Temporary Certificate	Professional Certificate	Career and Technical Education (CTE) Florida Department of Education Issued Certificate	Athletic Coaching Special Florida Department of Education Issued Certificate	District and Charter School Governing Board Issued Certificate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid for 5 years, non-renewable. Gives access to the educator to be in the classroom while completing requirements for professional certification. Educators can upgrade non-renewable Temporary Certificates to a Professional Certificate by meeting criteria defined in s. 1012.56 (7)(a), Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rule 6A-4.004, F.A.C. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid for 5 years and is renewable. Gives access for educator to be in the classroom immediately 	<p>CTE teaching certificates may be issued for the following subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture (grades 6-12) Business education (grades 6-12) Engineering and technology education (grades 6- 12) Family and consumer sciences (grades 6-12) Marketing (grades 6-12) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid for either 3 or 5 years and is non-renewable; must re-apply each time. Does not have Subject Area requirement. Requires completion of athletic coaching content area. Cannot teach Physical Education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjunct teaching certificates. Non-Degreed Career and Technical Education certificates (Examples: Diesel Engine Mechanics, Electrician, Aerospace, etc.).

Meeting Specialization for Certificate Coverage and Endorsement Areas

*Specialization
Requirements Rules 6A-
4.009 through 6A-4.062,
F.A.C.*

Applicants must **meet the specialization requirements for their selected coverage areas (topic they plan to teach)** to qualify for a Florida Educator Certificate.

Mastery of Subject Area: Each certificate coverage area requires specialized coursework in the content area or a passing score on the corresponding Subject Area Examination.

An **endorsement** may be added to a valid five-year nonrenewable temporary or renewable professional certificate when an applicant meets the following requirements:

- ✓ Completes the specialization requirements as specified in Rule 6A-4.0012, F.A.C.; and
- ✓ Satisfies the specialization requirements specified in the rules of the Florida State Board of Education for each endorsement to be added to the certificate.

“Traditional” Temporary Educator Certificate

- **Option One:** Bachelor’s Degree with a degree major in the Certificate coverage area (for most certificate coverage areas, some require a Master’s Degree).
- **Option Two:** Bachelor’s Degree with any degree major (for most certificate coverage areas; some require a Master’s Degree) *and* passing score on any Subject Area Examination (in the specific subject of the certification coverage area).

Temporary Military Veterans Certificate

- Effective July 1, 2022, Florida shall issue a 5-year Temporary Certificate for military veterans who have not earned a bachelor's degree and meet all of the following preliminary requirements:
 - Minimum of 48 months of active duty military service with an honorable/medical discharge.
 - Minimum of 60 college credits with a 2.5 grade point average on an official transcript.
 - Passing score on a Florida Subject Area Examination for bachelor's level subjects (except Exceptional Student Education K–12).

Temporary Teacher Internship Certificate

House Bill 1537 – s. 1012.56(7)(b), F.S.

- The Department shall issue a temporary teacher internship certificate to any applicant who:
 - Is enrolled in a state-approved teacher preparation program under s. 1004.04, F.S.;
 - Is actively completing the required field experience or internship at a public school;
 - Completes the requirements outlined in s. 1012.56(2)(a)-(b) and (d)-(f), F.S.;
 - Completes the subject area knowledge requirement; and
 - Documents completion of 60 college credits with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, as provided by one or more accredited institutions of higher learning or a nonaccredited institution of higher learning identified by the Department as having a quality program resulting in a bachelor's degree or higher.

Temporary Teacher Apprenticeship Certificate

House Bill 1035 – s. 1012.555, F.S.

- During the 2023 legislative session, the Teacher Apprenticeship Program was established as an alternative pathway for individuals to enter the teaching profession.
- To earn a temporary teacher apprenticeship certificate, an individual must:
 - Meet the requirements in s. 1012.56(2)(a),(b), and (d)-(f), F.S.
 - Complete the subject area content requirements specified in State Board rule or demonstrate mastery of subject area knowledge as provided in s. 1012.56(5), F.S.



Professional Learning Updates



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Policy Updates Impacting Professional Learning

House Bill 1537 – s. 1012.98, F.S.

- Creates a definition and establishes criteria for professional learning.
 - Professional development may be appropriate for certain trainings and are eligible for inservice points.
- “Professional learning” means learning that is **aligned** to the state’s standards for effective professional learning, educator practices, and leadership practices; incorporates **active learning**; is **collaborative**; provides models; and is **sustained** and **continuous**.
- Conveys that routine informational meetings may not be considered professional learning and are not eligible for inservice points.

Policy Updates Impacting Professional Learning

House Bill 1537 – s. 1012.98, F.S.

- Protects administrators' responsibility to visit and observe classroom teachers for the purpose of instructional coaching.
- An applicant for renewal of a professional certificate in educational leadership from a Level I program or Level II program with a **certification expiration date** of June 30, 2025, or thereafter, must earn a minimum of 1 college credit or 20 inservice points in Florida's educational leadership standards.

Policy Updates Impacting Professional Learning

House Bill 7039 – Student Outcomes

- Primary instructional strategy for teaching word reading is phonics instruction for decoding and encoding.
- The identified reading instructional and intervention programs for foundational skills may not use strategies that employ the three-cueing system model of reading or visual memory as a basis for teaching word reading.
- Instructional strategies may include visual information and strategies that improve background and experiential knowledge, add context, and increase oral language and vocabulary to support comprehension, but may not be used to teach word reading.

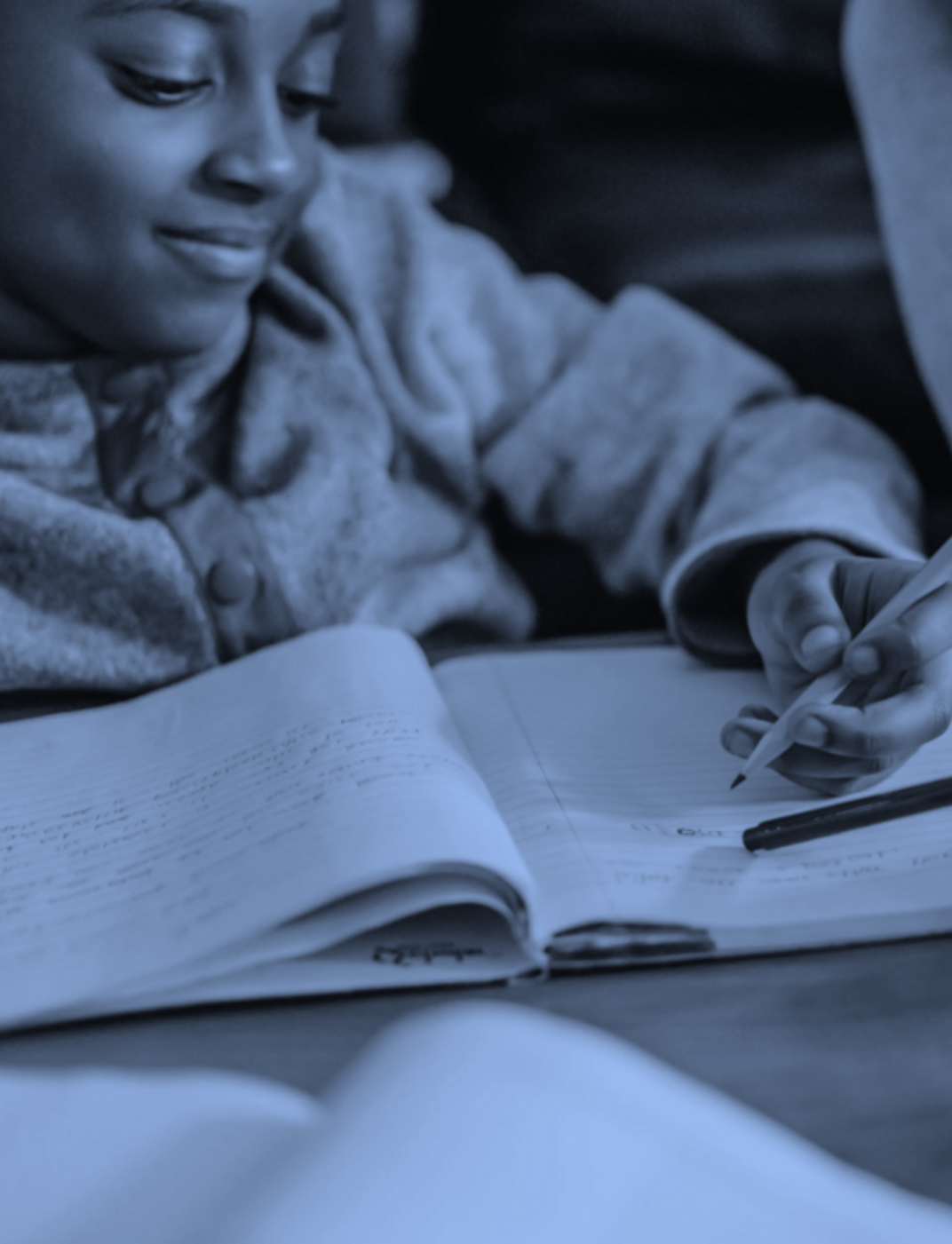
Policy Updates Impacting Professional Learning

House Bill 7039 – Student Outcomes

- **Contracted training** for teaching foundational skills shall be based on the science of reading and include phonics instruction for decoding and encoding as the primary instructional strategy for word reading.
- Instructional strategies included in the training may not employ the three-cueing system model of reading or visual memory as a basis for teaching word reading.

Questions for Consideration

- How might funding allocations be adjusted to provide high-quality professional learning opportunities?
- What partnerships will need to be considered?
- What key people will need to be involved with making these decisions?
- What timeline will these decisions need to be made?



School Start Times



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Middle School and High School Start Times

House Bill 733

- By July 1, 2026, the instructional day for middle schools may not begin earlier than 8 a.m. and the instructional day for high schools may not begin earlier than 8:30 a.m. Each district school board must inform its community, including parents, students, teachers, school administrators, athletic coaches, and other stakeholders, about the health, safety, and academic impacts of sleep deprivation on middle school and high school students and the benefits of a later school start time and discuss local strategies to successfully implement the later school start times.

A black clothespin is attached to a white rectangular note. The note is hanging from a thin, dark string that runs diagonally across the frame. The background is a solid, light blue color. The word "Questions?" is written on the note in a dark blue, cursive font.

Questions?



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