



**March 15, 2023**

**Joint House and Senate Education Committees – State Board of Education Report to the Legislature**

*Follow-up on Committee Member Comments for Item #3*

Prepared by DEED Staff

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This response provides additional information to the original response transmitted to the House and Senate Education Committees on March 30, 2023.

**3. Representative Himschoot requested the following:**

- a. The source and amount of funding per student and per district for the laws that were similar to the Alaska Reads Act (HB 114, Chapter 40, SLA 2022) enacted in Florida:**

**Florida Statutes**

- [Section 1001.215\(8\), Florida Statutes](#)<sup>1</sup> [Just Read, Florida! Office of Reading](#)<sup>2</sup> created within the Department of Education under the authority of the Commissioner of the Florida Department of Education. This legislation outlines the duties of the office.
- [Section 1008.25, Florida Statutes](#)<sup>3</sup> Public school student progression, student support, coordinated screening and progress monitoring, reporting requirements.
- [Section 1011.62\(8\), Florida Statutes](#)<sup>4</sup> Early learning Code, planning and budgeting.
- The Florida legislature through the Research-Based Reading Instruction Allocation funds provides for reading instruction, literacy coaches and instructional supports and prioritizes K-3 reading instruction through the K-12 Comprehensive Evidence-Based Reading Plan.

[New Worlds Reading' Initiative](#)<sup>5</sup> is a program where students may enroll in a free literacy program for K-5 public or charter school students reading below grade level. This program includes a book delivery program.

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<sup>1</sup> State of Florida Legislature. Section 1001.215(8), Florida Statutes (including 2022 Special Session A and 2023 Special Session B)

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1001/Sections/1001.215.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1001/Sections/1001.215.html)

<sup>2</sup> State of Florida. Department of Education. Just Read, Florida! <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/>

<sup>3</sup> State of Florida Legislature. Section 1008.25. Florida Statutes (including 2022 Special Session A and 2023 Special Session B)

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1008/Sections/1008.25.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1008/Sections/1008.25.html)

<sup>4</sup> State of Florida Legislature. Section 1011.65(8) Florida Statutes (including 2022 Special Session A and 2023 Special Session B)

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1011/Sections/1011.62.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1011/Sections/1011.62.html)

<sup>5</sup> State of Florida. Department of Education. New Worlds Reading Initiative. <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/nwri.html>

Florida's 2022 Freedom First Budget Highlights<sup>6</sup> for Education

- Early learning: \$453 million for voluntary pre-kindergarten programs for 156,000 4- and 5-year-olds.<sup>7</sup>
- K-12 Education Funding for 2022-2023<sup>8</sup>
  - \$800 million (includes additional \$250 million) to raise teachers' salaries to a minimum of \$47,500 per year<sup>9</sup>
  - Base Student Allocation (BSA) is \$4,587.40<sup>10</sup> (includes an increase of \$214.49)
  - \$140 million (includes additional \$20 million) to support the Mental Health Assistance Allocation<sup>11</sup>
  - \$170 million (includes additional \$40 million) for the Evidence-Based Reading Allocation<sup>12</sup>
  - \$210 million (includes additional \$30 million) for Safe Schools<sup>13</sup>
    - These funds guarantee each district a minimum of \$250,000.
- Closing the achievement gap
  - \$119 million
    - Support academic standards implementation
    - Collecting the right data
    - Personalized interventions
    - Statewide professional development for educators
  - \$3 million to maintain the comprehensive student information system and reports utilizing data analytics

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<sup>6</sup> State of Florida. Freedom First Budget Highlights. <https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Freedom-First-Highlights.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> State of Florida. Freedom First Budget Highlights. Page 3 <https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Freedom-First-Highlights.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> State of Florida. Department of Education. *Funding for Florida School Districts*. <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7507/urlt/fefpdist.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> *Funding for Florida School Districts*. Page 25 <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7507/urlt/fefpdist.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> *Funding for Florida School Districts*. Page 21 <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7507/urlt/fefpdist.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> *Funding for Florida School Districts*. Page 24 <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7507/urlt/fefpdist.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> *Funding for Florida School Districts*. Page 23 <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7507/urlt/fefpdist.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> *Funding for Florida School Districts*. Page 23 <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7507/urlt/fefpdist.pdf>