

# Annual School Improvement Assurances

*for 2016-17 School Improvement Plans and School Advisory Councils*

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## Purpose of the Assurances

Each year in the General Appropriations Act, the Florida Legislature apportions funding of the Education Enhancement “Lottery” Trust Fund. In Specific Appropriation 9, funds are provided for the Florida School Recognition Program to be allocated as awards of up to \$100 per student to qualified schools, pursuant to section 1008.36, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

If there are funds remaining after payment to qualified schools, the balance must be allocated to all districts based on their K-12 base funding. From these funds, districts must allocate up to \$5 per unweighted student to be used at the discretion of the School Advisory Council, pursuant to s. 24.121(5), F.S. If funds are insufficient to provide \$5 per student, the available funds shall be prorated. These funds are referred to as “school improvement funds,” as defined in s. 1001.42(18)(d), F.S., and are allocated to the district as funding code 3344, “district discretionary lottery funds.”

Pursuant to s. 1008.345(6)(c), F.S., the department shall not release funds from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund to any district in which a school, including schools operating for the purpose of providing educational services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) programs, does not have an approved school improvement plan, pursuant to s. 1001.42(18)(a)1., F.S., after one full school year of planning and development, or does not comply with School Advisory Council membership composition requirements, pursuant to s. 1001.452(1), F.S.

*To ensure compliance with s. 1008.345(6)(c), F.S., in the release of School Recognition Program and school improvement funds, the Florida Department of Education annually collects assurances from school districts on school improvement plans and School Advisory Council composition.*

## Assurances of School Improvement Plans

### Assurance 1

All non-charter schools in the district opened in or before the 2015-16 school year have a school board-approved improvement plan, pursuant to s. 1001.42(18)(a)1., F.S. The plan uses student performance data in developing goals, in accordance with s. 1008.22(4), F.S. All schools that have a significant gap in achievement on statewide assessments by one or more student subgroups, as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 6311(b)(2)(C)(v)(II); have not significantly decreased the percentage of students scoring below satisfactory on statewide assessments; or have significantly lower graduation rates for a subgroup when compared to the state’s graduation rate, have a school improvement plan that includes strategies for improving these results.

*Districts may develop and monitor a district school improvement plan for schools operating for the purpose of providing educational services to students in DJJ programs, pursuant to s. 1001.452(1)(c), F.S.*

*Charter schools receiving a grade of “A,” “B” or “C” are exempt from the requirement to have a school improvement plan, pursuant to s. 1002.33(16)(a), F.S. Charter schools receiving a grade of “D” or “F” must have a school improvement plan designed to raise student achievement, pursuant to s. 1002.33(9)(n)1., F.S.*

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## **Assurance 2**

All non-charter schools in the district that include grades 6, 7 or 8 have a school improvement plan that includes information and data on the school's early warning system, pursuant to s. 1001.42(18)(a)2., F.S., including a list of the early warning indicators used in the system, the number of students by grade level that exhibit each indicator, the number of students identified by the system as exhibiting two or more indicators, and a description of all intervention strategies employed by the school to improve the academic performance of students identified by the early warning system. The plan also includes a description of the strategies used by the school to implement the instructional practices for middle grades emphasized by the district's professional development system, pursuant to s. 1012.98(4)(b)9., F.S.

## **Assurance 3**

All non-charter schools in the district that establish a dropout prevention and academic intervention program have a school improvement plan that reflects the program, pursuant to s. 1003.53(2)(b), F.S.

## **Assurance 4**

All non-charter high schools in the district have a school improvement plan that includes strategies to improve student readiness for the public postsecondary level based on annual analysis of the postsecondary feedback report data, pursuant to s. 1008.37(4), F.S.

## **Assurance of School Advisory Council Composition**

### **Assurance 1**

All non-charter schools in the district have a School Advisory Council with a majority of its members not employed by the school district, that is comprised of the principal and an appropriately balanced number of teachers, education support employees, students, parents and other business and community members who are representative of the ethnic, racial and economic community served by the school, pursuant to s. 1001.452(1)(a), F.S.

*Districts may establish a district advisory council with appropriate representatives to develop and monitor a district school improvement plan for schools operating for the purpose of providing educational services to students in DJJ programs, pursuant to s. 1001.452(1)(c), F.S.*

*Charter schools are exempt from the requirement to form a School Advisory Council, pursuant to s. 1002.33(16)(a), F.S.*