

HB 7059

Accelerated Options in Public
Education

ACCEL Options

- ▣ ACCEL (Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning)
- ▣ Schools (principals) and Districts must at a minimum develop criteria for subject matter acceleration, midyear and whole grade promotion, virtual instruction at a higher grade level and the Credit Acceleration Program
 - ▣ Other options include enriched STEM classes, flexible grouping, combined classes, self paced instruction and several other options
- ▣ Criteria must include locally determined, statewide, or standardized assessments, GPA, teacher and counselor recommendations, attendance, conduct record.

▣

ACCEL Options

- ▣ A district committee is working on recommendations for eligibility criteria at the request of principals
- ▣ Principals must inform parents of acceleration options, eligibility criteria, and processes to request ACCEL options at their individual schools
- ▣ When parent initiated at the school level, parent must sign a “performance contract” with minimum attendance and conduct requirements, but may include participation in extracurricular activities, competitions, etc.

ACCEL Options

- ▣ District must establish processes and procedures to inform parents on options, criteria and processes when ACCEL option results in student attending a different school (i.e. 5th to 6th) and include in Student Progression Plan
- ▣ Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) earning credit by taking and passing EOC without taking the course is available to any student, not just secondary students

Early Graduation

- ▣ Current PCS Policy requires completion of a 4 year 24 credit course of study or a 3 year 18 credit graduation option defined in current statute.
- ▣ Students graduating early are eligible to participate in all school activities , social, and graduation events with their cohort and be included in class ranking and awards.
- ▣ New draft Policy was brought for first reading to permit early graduation with 24 credits at the June 12th meeting

Early Graduation

- ▣ Mid year early graduation students may qualify for Bright Futures Scholarship Program for the spring semester, but must apply by August 31st of graduation year
- ▣ A process is defined for districts to report FTE for “unpaid course credits” if the district delivered the instruction resulting in early graduation

End of Course Assessments

- ▣ Requires that Algebra I EOC be administered 4 times a year. The 4th cycle has not yet been established by FLDOE
- ▣ Establishes “performance-based” funding for EOC courses in the 4th year of the administration
 - Potentially significant implications on FTE
 - The Alg I EOC is currently in year 2 of administration. Geometry and Biology in 1st year of administration
 - T&L has developed summer Alg I EOC retake preparation and in school Algebra I Credit Recovery (retake) classes for high school students & options for middle school students
- ▣ Establishes a process for districts to claim FTE course credits for students passing the EOC without taking the course (Credit Acceleration Program)

Dual Enrollment Program

- ❑ Eliminates requirement for Interinstitutional Articulation Agreement (IAA) and replaces with Dual Enrollment Agreement with local State College (SPC)
 - PCS has IAA in place and making needed revisions for DE agreement
- ❑ Puts many State Board rules into statute including
 - Dual enrollment initial and ongoing eligibility
 - Permits the use of capacity to limit dual enrollment
 - Minimum and maximum credit hours for early admission
 - Faculty and curriculum standards aligned to SACS, particularly for courses taught on the high school campus
 - Eliminates provisions for “credit in escrow”
- ❑ Pinellas already has most of these provisions in current IAA and appropriate changes are being made to DE agreement with SPC

Middle School Career & Educational Planning Course

- ▣ Changes requirements for delivery of required career and education planning for middle school students (may occur in any grade)
 - Currently embedded into 8th grade social studies (US History) in Pinellas
 - Eliminates requirement to use Florida CHOICES, FACTS.org and the electronic Personal Education Planner, but a career and education plan must be developed and signed by the student and parent
 - FLDOE to provide a template
 - Course must also emphasize technology or application of technology in career fields and adds

Career and Professional Education

- ▣ Defines a “Career Themed Course” as one that can lead to industry certifications
 - Provides additional opportunities for students to earn industry certifications beyond Career and Professional Academies (Pinellas has already been doing this under the Academies of Pinellas model)
- ▣ Changes required strategic plan developed with regional workforce board to be 3 years rather than 5 years
 - Plan must include at least one MS career themed course or academy (Pinellas already has this in place)

Career and Professional Education

- ▣ Plan must include strategies to improve passage rate on industry certification exam
pass rate falls below 50%
- ▣ Provides for districts to earn FTE for industry certifications earned by middle school students (currently only for HS students)