

KNOW YOUR FLORIDA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A Parent's Guide to Florida's Education Board

PURPOSE

Florida's State Board of Education sets the direction for every public school in the state, from academic standards to parental rights and school safety. Appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, this seven-member board approves major policies affecting Florida's 67 school districts in grades K – 12, community college, and state college education in Florida. The purpose of this resource is to help Florida parents engage, advocate, and hold decision makers accountable for policies that affect their children.

Source: Florida Department of Education. Policy: State Board of Education (Mission).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The seven-member State Board of Education derives its authority from <u>Article IX</u>, <u>Section 2</u> of the Florida Constitution. They are responsible for appointing the Commissioner of Education and the implementation and oversight of the state's public education system. Their duties include but are not limited to the following:

• Setting Statewide Education Standards and Goals

The Board adopts statewide educational objectives and accountability standards. They exercise general supervision over the divisions of the Department of Education, ensuring that when children move from one grade or school to the next, they are prepared to meet consistent benchmarks.

• Overseeing and Coordinating Florida's Public Education System (K-20)

The Board supervises the Department of Education and works to ensure the coordination of all divisions in the education system, from early learning through college. They enforce systemwide education goals and policies and they also address district-level issues to ensure schools are effectively using their resources.

• Developing the Education Budget and Planning for the Future

Each year the Board helps create the budget for Florida's entire public education system and plans for long-range needs, such as new schools, technological improvements, and training programs to prepare students for future careers.

• Enforcement of Education Goals and Policies

Florida legislators enact laws that affect education for public, charter, private and home education schools in Florida. The State Board of Education adopts policies to implement those laws and is responsible for their enforcement.

Sources: Florida Constitution. (Last updated 2024). <u>Article IX, Section 2</u>. | Florida Statutes. (2025). <u>1001.02</u>: General Powers of State Board of Education.

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WHY THIS MATTERS

- These leaders oversee the textbooks, standards, and disciplinary policies your child's district uses.
- They endorse or restrict programs related to gender, sexuality, and parental rights.
- You can attend meetings, submit comments, and influence these decisions.

GET INVOLVED

- Watch meetings and agendas: Live and archived meetings are listed on the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) website.
- Contact the Commissioner of Education and board members

Email or phone the Commissioner and board members with your education concerns.

Email: Commissioner@fldoe.org | Phone: 850-245-0505

State Board of Education: Click **here** for the contact information for all board members.

• Submit public comments and attend sessions: The agenda is posted on the meeting page and is usually posted one week prior to the meeting. Public comments are limited to one (1) minute and must be relevant to an agenda item.

