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Florida Superintendents Appreciative of Senate K-12 Funding Focus

Tallahassee, FL – As Constitutional officers charged to oversee the education of Florida’s 2.8 million public education students, Florida’s superintendents are committed to the goal of educational success for each and every student. To that end, the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) recognizes and appreciates Senate President Wilton Simpson, Senate Appropriations Chair Kelli Stargel, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education Chair Doug Broxson, and the proposed PreK-12 education budget unveiled this week.

Among the most notable budget items that show the Florida Senate’s commitment to prioritizing quality PreK-12 education:

- \$239 per FTE increase in the Base Student Allocation to provide school districts with much needed flexibility to deal with rising costs and wages;
- \$352 per FTE increase in total FEFP funding;
- \$40 million increase in the Evidence-based Reading Instruction Allocation and \$30 million for supplements for educators earning the proposed Early Literacy Micro-Credential to prioritize students reading on grade level by third grade; and
- \$5 million for the Jefferson County School District for successful transition of the school district.

“I have worked more than 40 years as a former school superintendent, high school principal and teacher and I know first-hand the critical importance of education and clearly President Simpson does as well,” states FADSS Chief Executive Officer and former Florida Senator Bill Montford. Whether it is job creation or quality of life; it all hinges on a good, sound, public education system. And sufficient funding is crucial to that success.”

“Florida superintendents look forward to continuing to work with President Simpson and the Florida Senate towards the common goal of sufficiently funding K-12 education for Florida’s nearly 2.8 million students,” states FADSS President and Citrus County Schools Superintendent Sandra “Sam” Himmel. “We must continue to work together and embrace a healthy dialogue regarding equitable public education funding in Florida.”

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The mission of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents assists and supports superintendents as the chief advocate for Florida’s public school system in their role of ensuring every student has access to a high-quality public education system.

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