



# **2021 Legislative Priorities**

## **THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTS THE CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD'S PRIORITIES FOR 2021**

Clay County District Schools continues to provide a world-class education. Over the last four years, our school district has made monumental gains in the areas of student performance, accelerated opportunities, expansion of school choice, graduation rates, industry certifications, equity of curriculum, climate and culture, safety and security, school-based supports, technology accessibility, and fiscal responsibility. In order to continue this momentum during these unprecedented times of teaching during a pandemic, our 2021 legislative priorities are identified below:

### **Funding and Investments**

- ❖ Provide full funding for virtual instruction for the 2021 school year for Clay Virtual Academy and Clay County District Schools' innovative learning platform, OneClay Online.
- ❖ Restore all funding related to the Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) for public district managed schools.
- ❖ Provide adequate funding to raise the salaries for all employees to assist with recruiting and retaining highly skilled and qualified candidates to Florida.

### **State Assessments & Testing**

- ❖ Hold schools harmless on assigning school grades based off of state assessment results. Standardized tests should not be the sole performance, especially when educating during a global pandemic, for measuring student progress or school performance.
- ❖ Due to the unprecedented close of the 2020 school year and the launch of the 2020 school year with innovative distance learning options, policy alternatives regarding school promotion and grade retention should be established.

### **Student and School Investment**

- ❖ Provide adequate funding and support to all school districts to offer full day VPK Programs to ensure high-quality preschool programs are available and affordable to all Florida families.
- ❖ Expand funding for additional choice programs and opportunities to all learners.
- ❖ Increase funding for career and technical education programs, including internships and externships, to provide our students with the opportunity to access and fully participate in the local workforce.
- ❖ Provide funding to enhance the digital classroom and student's access to technology, which is vital in our country's current health crisis, to ensure continuity of high-quality instruction occurs through both brick and mortar and distance learning classrooms.

#### **Board Members**

Janice Kerekes, Dist. I

Beth Clark, Dist. II

Tina Bullock, Dist. III

Mary Bolla, Dist. IV

Ashley Gilhousen, Dist. V

**David S. Broskie, Superintendent**