

### GREATER FLORIDA CONSORTIUM OF SCHOOL BOARDS

President – Jane Goodwin (Sarasota)

President-Elect – Bob Segur (Charlotte)

Secretary Treasurer – Nora Rupert (Broward)

Executive Director – Tom Cerra

#### WHO WE ARE:

The South Florida Consortium of School Boards (SFCSB) was formed in 1983 with the Miami-Dade and Broward school districts as its first members. Palm Beach joined shortly thereafter and the SFCSB soon grew to eleven (11) districts.

The SFCSB changed its name in 2003 to the Greater Florida Consortium of School Boards (**GFCSB**) and currently has ten (11) members.

The Consortium has never incorporated or become a not-for-profit organization; however, it has adopted bylaws. Its officers and financial responsibility rotate every year. Since 2013, the Presidents have been Dr. Larry Feldman (Miami-Dade); Karen Brill (Palm Beach); Patti Good (Broward); Cathleen Morgan (Lee); Roy Terry (Collier); Debbie Hawley (St. Lucie); Andy Griffiths (Monroe), and currently, Jane Goodwin (Sarasota). Bob Segur (Charlotte) is our current President-Elect with Nora Rupert (Broward) as our Secretary/Treasurer

The GFCSB has no employees and only one paid consultant in Tom Cerra.

There are traditionally four main meetings a year: two held concurrently with the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) and Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS), one in Tallahassee during the regular legislative session, and one in the president's district.



### **HOW WE FUNCTION:**

Over the years, its members have adopted the only legislative program that has required unanimous support of all of its district members on every issue.

Collectively, the GFCSB has 39.2 percent of all of the students and 53.5 percent of the property tax base and 46.8 percent of the senators and representatives in the Florida Legislature.

Its priorities have focused on increased funding for operation and capital purposes which would give school boards maximum flexibility at the local level and many issues unique to its members.

The members of the GFCSB have fought alongside the FSBA, FADSS, Florida Association of School Administrators (FASA), Florida Education Association (FEA), and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for many statewide issues.



## **POLITICAL POWER**

Lt. Governor	Janette Nunez	Miami-Dade
Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs	Nikki Fried	Broward
Speaker of the House	Chris Sprowls	Pinellas
Senate Rules Chair	Kathleen Passidomo	Collier
Senate PK-12 Education Vice-Chair	Manny Diaz	Miami-Dade
House K-12 Education and Employment Chair	Chris Latvala	Pinellas



	GFCSB	STATE	PERCENTAGE	
Senators	20	40	50.0%	
Representatives	55	120	45.8%	

### **LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

The GFCSB has taken the lead in the **drafting** and **passing** of the following **significant policies**:

- Safe School funding;
- Pre-K funding;
- Certificates of Participation authorization (COPS);
- Small and Minority Business authority;
- School Crossing Guards funding;
- **Property Insurance** flexibility from Capital Outlay (\$100 per student);
- RLE Limit of 90 percent (provided an estimated \$56.9 million of savings in 2017-18 to the Collier, Monroe and Sarasota Taxpayers);
- Special Required Educational Facilities (SREF) flexibility, providing millions of dollars in potential savings;
- Tax Roll protection through Value Adjustment Board reforms;
- Summer School funding (now incorporated in (CSI);
- Enterprise Resource System flexibility from Capital Outlay protection;
- Adult-Handicapped funding;

- Accountability and Testing reforms;
  - Eliminated grades 3-through 6 **Computer-based** requirement and provided **Paper/Pencil** option;
  - Required DOE to provide **Testing Calendar**;
  - Eliminated **Value Adjusted Model** (VAM);
  - Worked to reduced or eliminated **High Stakes Tests**;
  - Eliminated **Algebra II EOC** requirement;
  - Provided more **Instructional Time.**
- SREF flexibility;
- **Certification** flexibility addressing teacher shortage;
- Redirecting "Best and Brightest" to greater numbers of teachers;
- Achieving equitable distribution of **minimum teacher salary** funding;
- Bilingual funding;
- Class-size Penalty mitigation;
- School Safety Zones preventing drugs, guns, and pornography;
- Categorical Funding flexibility; and,
- Impact Fee authority protection.



### **OPPOSING AND DEFEATING BAD LEGISLATION:**

The **GFCSB** has successfully fought against legislation that would hurt school districts. Proposals recently defeated:

- Breaking-up school districts;
- Eliminating Appointed Superintendents;
- Eliminating funding to assist **Refugee and Immigrant Students** and their families;
- **Term-limits** for school board members;
- Sharing **referendum revenue** retroactively with charter schools; and,
- Funding **Starting Teacher Pay Fund** only Where Pay was Low



#### THE GFCSB CONTINUES TO FIGHT FOR:

- Achieving a **District Cost Differential** policy that properly reflects the higher cost of living in our districts;
- Protecting the appropriation authority of the 1.5 mill LDM for Capital Purposes for the School Board; and,
- Achieving same flexibility as charter schools.



### K-12 UNWEIGHTED STUDENTS

RANK	DISTRICT	STUDENTS	%
11	Monroe	8,492.00	.3
10	Charlotte	15,621.03	.5
9	Martin	18,924.40	.7
8	St. Lucie	41 ,813.64	1.4
7	Sarasota	44,148.97	1.5
6	Collier	47,797.31	1.7
5	Manatee	50,268.49	1.7
4	Pinellas	98,219.02	3.4
3	Palm Beach	194,621.41	6.7
2	Broward	268,588.65	9.3
1	Miami-Dade	344,920.54	11.9
	GFCSB	1,133,415.46	39.2
	State	2,890,177.27	100.0



## WEIGHTED FTE STUDENTS

RANK	DISTRICT	STUDENTS	%
11	Monroe	9,294.18	.30
10	Charlotte	17, 149.88	.55
9	Martin	20,547.63	.66
8	St. Lucie	45, 112.75	1.44
7	Sarasota	49,734.82	1.59
6	Collier	53,669.29	1.72
5	Manatee	54,688.89	1.75
4	Pinellas	108,933.68	3.49
3	Palm Beach	219,511.35	7.03
2	Broward	296,452.57	9.50
1	Miami-Dade	380,775.27	12.19
	GFCSB	1,255,870.31	40.21
	State	3,123,300.51	100.00



### DISTRICT COST DIFFERENTIAL

RANK	DISTRICT	DCD
1	Collier	1.0500
2	Monroe	1.0478
3	Palm Beach	1.0413
4	Broward	1.0179
5	Martin	1.0165
6	Miami-Dade	1.0142
7	Sarasota	1.0068
8	St. Lucie	1.0010
9	Pinellas	0.9981
10	Manatee	0.9873
11	Charlotte	0.9879
Highest	Collier	1.0500
Lowest	Hamilton	0.9247



### K-12 TOTAL FUNDS PER UFTE

RANK	DISTRICT	\$ PER UFTE
1	Monroe	10,192.69
2	Collier	9,177.40
3	Sarasota	8,545.29
4	Palm Beach	8,328.65
5	Martin	8,236.47
6	Charlotte	8,031.86
7	Miami-Dade	7,994.85
8	Pinellas	7,980.91
9	Broward	7,804.91
10	St. Lucie	7,721.08
11	Manatee	7,684.19
Highest	Monroe	10,192.69
Lowest	Osceola	7,499.91
Average	State	7,839.58



# **2020 School Taxable Property**

RANK	DISTRICT	SCHOOL TAX VALUE
1	Charlotte	20,540,743,730
2	Martin	25,156,346,106
3	St. Lucie	26,331,788,876
4	Monroe	31,517,070,218
5	Manatee	44,706,033,617
6	Sarasota	70,337,946,332
7	Pinellas	98,372,094,479
8	Collier	103,752,282,918
9	Palm Beach	221,779,817,231
10	Broward	228,162,250,460
11	Miami-Dade	356,396,466,488
	GFCSB – 54% of Total	1,227,052,840,455
	State – 100% of Total	2,294,773,411 ,715



### **GFCSB PARTNERS**

**Acceleration Academies** 

**BENCOR** 

Edmentum

**FBMC Benefits** 

Management

**NEOLA** 

Trane

