



Education Action Group Report to the Membership May 2025

Summary:

Our primary purpose is to advocate for students in Hillsborough and Pasco Counties and across the State of Florida. Specifically, to fully fund our K-12 public schools including faculty and staff, school facilities, and safe transportation; to ensure transparency and oversight of all public money spent on education; and to address issues impacting student mental health, safety, transportation, and curriculum.

Accomplishments:

Worked with other public school advocacy organizations, including but not limited to Families for Strong Public Schools, Hillsborough County PTA and other leagues across the state, to reach our objective that all Florida students have access to local public schools that have the flexibility to meet their unique needs

- Caring, committed, qualified teachers and education support professionals including mental health support professionals and services,
- Well-maintained, clean, safe school facilities, including ample classroom space equipped with updated technology and all supplies needed to support curriculum,
- Current curriculum developed by educational experts that is science-based,
- Safe transportation to and from school, and
- Equity in curriculum, assessments, teacher qualifications, and resources at all schools receiving public funds.

We continue to work with our partners on both state and federal legislation impacting public education including but not limited to public school funding, charter and voucher school standards, and a reduction of high stakes testing. During the 2024 election, we worked with partners to support the successful Hillsborough County Tax Referendum for one millage in additional taxes to support teacher/support staff/bus driver pay and bring back college & career counselors to every high school, a goal we have worked towards since they were eliminated in 2021. (A similar referendum passed in 2022 in Pasco County).

Upcoming Important Dates or Events:

The Education Action Group meets during the Monthly Issues Update Meetings and with the Statewide Alliance which holds meetings every other Friday 3pm-4pm.

2025-2026 Objectives:

To continue to work with the school district and state legislators to fully fund public education as required by the Florida constitution “for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high-quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high-quality education.”

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Potter & Damaris Allen, Co-Chairs