

Florida Senate President, Speaker of the House and Polk Legislators Fail to Support Public Education

For the past two decades the Legislature has graded teachers, education staff professionals and schools, as well as students. The Florida Education Association decided it's about time that legislators get a grade for their work as well.

The FEA **Legislative Report Card** measures Florida legislators' overall support for public education during the 2017 and 2018 legislative sessions, with each lawmaker receiving a letter grade of **A, B, C, D or F**. Members of the Polk Legislative Delegation are listed below followed by the Speaker of the House and Senate President.

Representative **Ben Albritton** had a combined score of 12.5%: Final Grade=**F**

Representative **Colleen Burton** had a combined score of 0.00%: Final Grade=**F**

Representative **Sam Killebrew** had a combined score of 30.0%: Final Grade=**F**

Representative **Mike La Rosa** had a combined score of 0.00%: Final Grade=**F**

Senator **Denise Grimsley** had a combined score of 66.21%: Final Grade=**D**

Senator **Tom Lee** had a combined score of 63.89%: Final Grade=**D**

Senator **Keli Stargel** had a combined score of 25.00%: Final Grade=**F**

House Speaker Richard Corcoran had a combined score of 0.00%: Final Grade=**F**

Senate President Joe Negron had a combined score of 8.34%: Final Grade=**F**

The FEA Legislative Report Card measures Florida legislators' overall support for public education — including students, teachers, and education staff professionals.

Scores and letter grades are based on the following criteria:

- Committee and floor votes during the 2017 and 2018 legislative sessions and interim committee weeks;
- Behind-the-scenes work to advance or impede FEA priority issues; and
- Accessibility of the legislator and staff in Tallahassee, FL to FEA staff and leaders.

Additionally, emphasis continues to be given to votes and other actions involving union rights. We believe it is important to hold lawmakers accountable at a time when both public and private sector unions and the right to bargain collectively are under severe attack.

This score takes into account **13 bills during the 2017 session** and **7 bills during the 2018 session**, including several recorded amendment votes. Some of the bills include taking away union protections; expands and creates new vouchers for students to attend private school; permits teachers and education staff to carry concealed weapons on campus; prohibits a school board from granting extension of contracts for effective or highly effective teachers and support personnel; and changes the timeframe for a school that receives a D or F to be turned over to a for-profit charter company; etc.