

## **SB 364 – Relating to Accelerated High School Graduation Options**

### **Options for 2004-05 9<sup>th</sup> Graders**

- ☛ 24-Credit Option
- ☛ 18-Credit Three-Year College Prep Option-REVISED
- ☛ 18-Credit Three-Year Career Prep Option-REVISED

### **Prior to Selecting Option**

- ☛ School personnel meet with student and parents.
- ☛ Student submits signed parental consent for three-year, 18-credit options.
- ☛ Student must have achieved Level 3 in reading, math, and writing on most recent FCAT.

### **Information to Students**

- ☛ Beginning in 2004-05, districts will provide students in grades 6-9 with specific information about graduation options.

### **Timeline for Selection of Option**

- ☛ Selection of graduation option must be completed prior to the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Students who do not select an option shall be considered to have selected the 4-year, 24-credit option.
- ☛ School boards to establish policies for extending deadline in specified circumstances.

### **Accelerated Graduation Option**

- ☛ Students must earn passing scores on the FCAT or scores that are concordant.
- ☛ Students must achieve a cumulative weighted GPA of at least 3.0 and a weighted GPA of at least 3.0 in specified courses.

### **Notification to Parents**

- ☛ If a student is not “on track” at the end of grade 10, parents must be notified.
- ☛ A student who has selected one of the accelerated 3-year graduation options shall move to the student 4-year program if the student:
  - Elects to change to the 4-year program.
  - Fails to earn 5 credits by the end of 9<sup>th</sup> grade or fails to earn 11 credits by the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - Does not achieve a score of 3 or higher on the Grade 10 FCAT Writing assessment.
  - Has not achieved the minimum required GPA for the accelerated option.

### **Equivalencies for Standardized Tests**

- ☛ Commissioner to approve the use of the SAT and act as alternative assessments.
- ☛ Students are required to take the grade 10 FCAT a total of three times without earning a passing score to use the scores on the alternative assessments. (Does not apply to a student who is a new student in grade 12.)