



April 12, 2022

Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor of Florida
The Capitol
400 S Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis,

At a time when K-12 education has become increasingly political, it's more important than ever to recognize actions that foster an environment primed for student success and parental engagement in the classroom. That is why our organization, *Free to Learn*, is writing to applaud the signing of HB 1467, or the Curriculum Transparency Bill.

Over the last two years we have seen students fall farther and farther behind because of school shutdowns, virtual learning, and overall poor leadership from adults entrusted with our children's success. Instead of a focused recovery, these institutional education entities are currently engaged in a widespread push to de-emphasize academic achievement in the name of activism. This political agenda does not benefit students and is also out of touch with the academic achievement parents seek for their children. *Free to Learn* and the parents we support want an education system that will set our children up for productive and successful adult lives.

We understand far too well that many decisions about curriculum are often made without an opportunity for parental engagement. It is only with a supportive environment, like that created with the Curriculum Transparency Bill, that parents can hold the education establishment accountable for the instructional materials being utilized in the classroom.

Additionally, we applaud the limit of school board member terms to 12 years. This new system of checks and balances only stands to benefit students. It's important that elected education leadership is responsive to and representative of their constituency. Longtime school board members risk becoming too comfortable with the status quo, and easily swayed by powerful institutional entities which can make them lose touch with their ultimate customers – K-12 students and their parents.

We strongly believe that the Curriculum Transparency Bill will empower parents to advocate on behalf of their children and ensure the next generation has an opportunity to attain the education they deserve. Thank you for your strong leadership and willingness to stand up for parents.

Alleigh Marré

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President, Free to Learn Coalition