



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

**SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK IN FLORIDA**

**WHEREAS**, Florida's children and their families deserve access to a high quality education that is not limited by zip code or income; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida is the nation's leader in providing students and their families with educational freedom, earning the number one in the nation ranking for the Center for Education Reform's Parent Power Index!; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida provides an unmatched array of full- and part-time public and private choice options including public charter schools, university lab schools, collegiate high schools, home education, Family Empowerment Scholarships, Tax Credit Scholarships, Hope Scholarships, Opportunity Scholarships, reading scholarships, public school open enrollment, virtual instruction, Career and Professional Education Academies, dual enrollment, voluntary prekindergarten, gifted enrollment, transportation scholarships, and numerous college and career ready accelerated course options; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 1.1 million K-12 Florida students learn full time through a state created public or private choice option, larger than the total of student enrollment of 35 states, and 200,000 other Florida students attend private schools without any state scholarships; and

**WHEREAS**, according to EdChoice, Florida is number one in state spending on private choice, and Florida represented one-third of the nation's 660,000 total private choice enrollments in the 2021-2022 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Federation for Children, Florida is number one in the nation for enrollments in education savings accounts, tax credit scholarship programs, and traditional vouchers; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Center for Education Reform, Florida ranks number one in private choice policies, number two in public charter school policies, number three in digital and personalized learning policies, and number three in teacher quality policies; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, the Heritage Foundation ranked Florida number one in its first ever Education Freedom Report Card "for empowering parents in their children's education and supporting education freedom"; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, Florida's more than 360,000 students in 703 public charter schools make Florida number three in charter school enrollments and number five in charter school laws; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida's choice laws prioritize the needs of low-income families, students with unique abilities, foster or out-of-home care students, dependents of law enforcement officers, students of military families, and siblings; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 80 percent of Florida's students are already eligible for private choice options; and

**WHEREAS**, School Choice Week in Florida is recognized across the country by millions of students, parents, educators, schools, and organizations to raise awareness of the need for educational freedom.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing January 22-28, 2023, as *School Choice Week in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 22nd day of January, in the year two thousand twenty-three.

  
Governor