

School Police and District Security
Ian A. Moffett, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECEIVE THE STATE-MANDATED ANNUAL FLORIDA SAFE SCHOOLS ASSESSMENT TOOL (FSSAT) SELF-ASSESSMENT, AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REPORT THE SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND SCHOOL BOARD ACTION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES AND STUDENT AND SCHOOL SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Safe Passage Legislation requires school districts to use the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) "Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool" to conduct a self-assessment of their current safety and security practices. The self-assessment is completed each year by July 1st.

Section 40 of the Safe Passage legislation states:

1. The "Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool" developed by OPPAGA and approved by the Commissioner of Education shall be reviewed annually by OPPAGA and the Partnership for School Safety and Security established in s. 1006.07(6), Florida Statutes, and each entity shall make recommendations to the Commissioner of Education for the addition, revision, or deletion of best practices.
2. Each school district shall use the "Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool" to conduct a self-assessment of the school district's current safety and security practices. Based on these self-assessment findings, the Superintendent of each school district shall provide recommendations to the School Board, which identifies strategies, and activities that the school district should implement in order to improve school safety and security. By July 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, each school board must receive the self-assessment results at a publicly noticed school board meeting to provide the public with an opportunity to hear the school board members discuss and take action on the report findings.

The self-assessment considered safety in the broadest sense. The "Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool" includes physical security and facilities, fire and casualty safety, regulations associated with safety or risk management departments, violence prevention and other activities linked to law enforcement and security departments and the all-hazard approach to critical incidents that is the basis of emergency management.

The information gathered in this Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool (FSSAT) is classified as For Official Use Only (FOUO), is protected from public disclosure under s.281.301 FS and is exempt from public records requests under s.119.071(12) (d) FS.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. receive the "Safety and Security Best Practices" assessment results; and
2. authorize the Superintendent of Schools to report the self-assessment results and School Board action to the Commissioner of Education.