2008-2009 Safe Schools Appropriation
Conference Report on House Bill 5001

The Legislature appropriates Safe Schools funds as a part of the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) in the annual Appropriations Act. FEFP funds go directly to school districts according to a formula based on the number of full-time equivalent students and additional factors that may be specified by proviso. The law governing how these funds are to be allocated and used for 2008-09 reads as follows [formatting added]:

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 81, $73,587,827 is for Safe Schools activities and shall be allocated as follows:

$71,538 shall be distributed to each district, and the remaining balance shall be allocated as follows:

- two-thirds based on the latest official Florida Crime Index provided by the Department of Law Enforcement and
- one-third based on each district’s share of the state’s total unweighted student enrollment.

Safe Schools activities include:

1. after school programs for middle school students;
2. other improvements to enhance the learning environment, including implementation of conflict resolution strategies;
3. alternative school programs for adjudicated youth;
4. suicide prevention programs; and
5. other improvements to make the school a safe place to learn.

Each district shall determine, based on a review of its existing programs and priorities, how much of its total allocation to use for each authorized Safe Schools activity.

------Proviso Language, Specific Appropriation 81, page 22, Chapter 2008-152, Laws of Florida