## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION fldoe.org

## State Board of Education

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Commissioner of Education

August 6, 2021

## Charter School Governing Boards:

As we move toward the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, the Office of Safe Schools would like to remind our charter school partners that all Florida public schools, including charters, must implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responder agencies beginning with the 2021-2022 school year per section 1006.07(4), Florida Statutes. Such system, known as "Alyssa's Alert," must integrate with local public safety answering point infrastructure to transmit 911 calls and mobile activations.

If your charter school(s) intend to take advantage of Alyssa's Alert services provided under the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) contract, you must communicate to your school district whether you intend to align with the district's Alyssa's Alert provider or select a different vendor. Each district will need to submit the charter school's selection to the Office of Safe Schools on behalf of those schools within their district via the District Contractor Selection form. This form is located on our website at <a href="https://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/">https://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/</a>.

At this moment, the FDOE has fully executed contracts with the nine providers listed below:

- 911 Cellular
- AppArmor
- ARES
- AT&T
- Centegix
- Guard911
- Intrado
- Motorola
- Raptor

Please visit the Alyssa's Alert page on the <u>Office of Safe Schools website</u> for additional information as well as a product introduction submitted by each FDOE Alyssa's Alert vendor.

While we recognize that charter schools have the autonomy to select the vendor that best meets their safety needs, district and charter school safety personnel are strongly encouraged to work collaboratively with their county 911 coordinators to ensure for necessary interoperability between the districts, response agencies and 911 public safety answering points (PSAP). Additional information about Florida 911, as well a link to the county 911 coordinators can be found at <a href="https://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/alyssas-alert.stml">https://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/alyssas-alert.stml</a>.

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We understand that some charter schools already have this technology in place. As long as the technology meets all the statutory requirements, it is not necessary to make any changes.

We appreciate your continued patience as we move through this process and will keep you informed as new information becomes available.

Sincerely,

Tim Hay

Timothy Hay Executive Director, Office of Safe Schools