



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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Office of Safe Schools Update

State Board of Education

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Office of Safe Schools (OSS)

Our mission:

Support districts in providing a safe and secure learning environment for students and educators

OSS serves as a central repository for best practices, training standards and compliance oversight in all matters regarding school safety and security

2018 Legislation: SB 7026

- Senate Bill 7026 included:

- MSD Public Safety Commission
- Creation of the Office of Safe Schools
- Designation of a School Safety Specialist in each district
- FortifyFL
- Safe-School Officer requirement
- Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program
- Expansion of mental health efforts
- School Self-Assessment requirement (FSSAT)
- Additional funds for school safety and mental health
- Safety training and drill requirements



2019 Legislation: SB 7030

- Senate Bill 7030 included:
 - Development of a behavioral threat assessment tool
 - Requirement for SESIR rule for incident reporting
 - Clarification of school safety requirements for charter schools
 - School Hardening and Harm Mitigation Workgroup
 - Requirements for promoting FortifyFL by school districts
 - Compliance authority for FDOE on school safety issues



Behavioral Threat Assessment

- In Aug. 2019, DOE adopted the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) model for behavioral threat assessment to be used in schools statewide.
- OSS provides train-the-trainer seminars for district threat assessment liaisons and provides training directly to school threat assessment team members.
- By Aug. 2020, OSS reviewed all district and charter school procedures for compliance with statutory requirements and alignment to CSTAG model.

School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR)



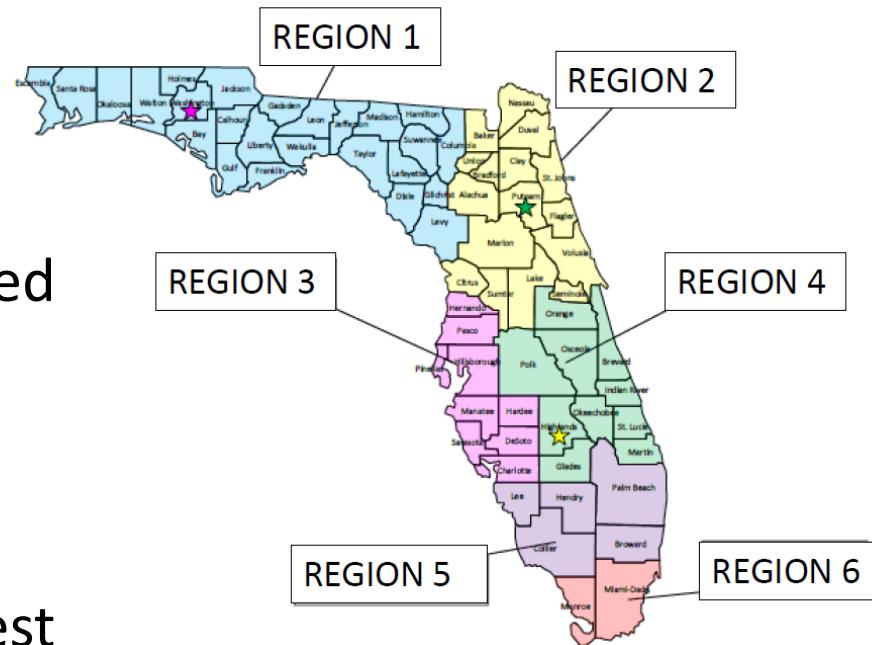
- New stand-alone SESIR Rule approved in May 2020 (Rule [6A-1.0017](#))
 - Rule provides clarity in reporting requirements and addresses concerns raised by MSD Commission
 - Rule was developed with feedback and assistance from district safety specialists and partners from other agencies, including FDLE and DJJ
- OSS updated SESIR website and training materials to correspond with the new rule
- OSS continues to provide training to districts and charter schools concerning SESIR reporting

Regional Staff Assigned to Visit Schools

Realigned 10 DOE positions for the Office, to include 6 regional compliance and support personnel

Compliance Authority

- Announced and unannounced monitoring visits to schools
- School visits are documented via the Florida Safe School Assessment Tool (FSSAT)
- Staff provide technical assistance and guidance on safety requirements and best practices
- Issues are relayed for prompt remediation



Enhancing Compliance Efforts

- Regional staff provided with ongoing training
- Focus on specific vulnerabilities and communicating concerns of noncompliance
- OSS working with General Counsel to establish a rule to:
 - Identify concerns of noncompliance
 - Clarify steps taken to communicate and address issues
 - Resolve the concerns in a timely manner



School Safety Support and Intervention

The Office will focus on elements required in statute such as:

- safe-school officer on every campus
- threat assessment teams – training, composition, etc.
- active assailant response plan/training
- SESIR reporting
- emergency drills
- promoting FortifyFL
- mobile panic alert system (for 2021-22 school year)



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