



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Office of Safe Schools Update

State Board of Education

January 13, 2021

Tim Hay
Executive Director
Office of Safe Schools

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)



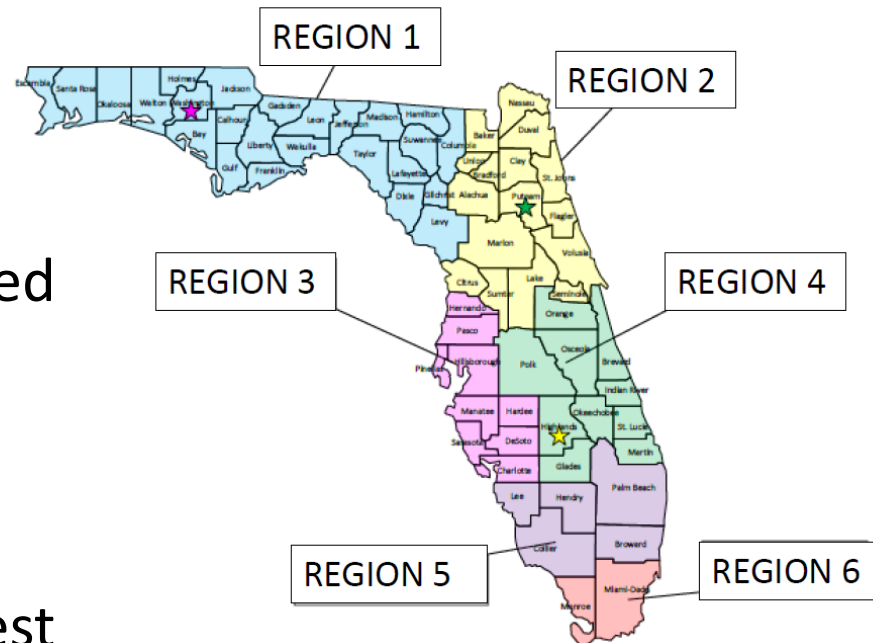
- New stand-alone SESIR Rule approved in May 2020 (Rule [6A-1.0017](#))
 - Rule provides clarity in reporting requirements and addresses concerns raised by MSD Commission
 - Rule was developed with feedback and assistance from district safety specialists and partners from other agencies, including FDLE 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)



www.FLDOE.org



www.FLDOE.org