6A-1.0018 School Safety Requirements and Monitoring

(1) through (7) No change.

(8) Alyssa’s Alert. Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, school districts are required to implement a mobile panic alert system that meets all requirements of Section 1006.07(4)(c), F.S. Districts are authorized to select, free of charge, a system under Department contract, or locally fund a system of their choice. The systems under contract with the Department are posted at http://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/.

(a) Mobile panic alert systems must include mobile devices placed throughout each school campus. In determining the number and placement of devices needed to afford all staff members the ability to silently and easily activate a panic alert in the event of an on-campus emergency, districts must consider using a combination of fixed panic alert buttons, mobile and desktop applications, landline phone capabilities, and wearable panic alerts (such as on a lanyard).

(b) By August 1, 2022, school districts must include Alyssa’s Alert in their local emergency policies and procedures required by Section 1006.07(4)(a), F.S. The Alyssa’s Alert policies and procedures must be developed in consultation with the county 911 authority and local emergency management office to ensure that the system selected by the district integrates with local public safety answering point (PSAP) infrastructure to transmit calls and mobile activations.

(9) No change.

(10) Threat assessment teams.

(a) through (g) No change.

(h) Notification to Parents.

1. Each district must establish policies to provide notification to parents of threats and unlawful acts or significant emergencies as defined in Section 1006.07(4)(b), F.S., that occur on school grounds, during school transportation, or during school-sponsored activities.

2. District policies must address the timing, content, scope, and manner of notification, circumstances when law enforcement must be consulted, and the person or entity with responsibility for parental notification, and involvement of the threat assessment team. In making these determinations, district policies must take into consideration the nature of the reported threat or incident, whether the threat or incident is ongoing or resolved, whether the threat is transient or substantive, and whether there is an imminent threat of harm to students and the
campus community.

3. In the case of an imminent threat of harm to students, including an active assailant incident or hostage situation, notification to parents must be made as soon as practicable. Such notification should be made in consultation with local law enforcement and first responders in order to avoid compromising the safety of students and the efficacy of the emergency response and investigation.

4. In determining the content of notifications to parents, districts must consider including specific information about the threat or incident necessary to inform parents and safeguard the community as determined by the threat assessment team, or other person or entity responsible for parent notification. Such information may include the date and time of the incident, the location and nature of the threat or incident, how and whether the threat or incident was resolved, a description of the suspect (where applicable), crime prevention and safety tips, and crime and threat reporting information.

5. Notifications must be made in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g, 34 C.F.R. Part 99, and Section 1002.22, F.S.

   (11) through (14) No change.

(15) Emergency drills.

(a) Active assailant shooter and hostage situation drills must be conducted at least as often as fire drills are required by the Florida Fire Prevention Code, as adopted by the State Fire Marshal, available at www.myfloridacfo.com.

(b) Districts must document completion of emergency drills at all school facilities in the district.

(c) Active assailant and hostage situation drills must be conducted in accordance with developmentally appropriate and age-appropriate procedures. Districts are authorized to develop policies that provide for accommodations for drills conducted by exceptional student education (ESE) centers, as defined in Section 1003.57(1)(a)1.a., F.S. District accommodations for drills conducted at ESE centers, if any, must be included in the written policies and procedures for exceptional students that are submitted to the Department in accordance with Rule 6A-6.03411(2), F.A.C.

(16) through (21) No change.

Rulemaking Authority 1001.02(2)(n) FS. Law Implemented 1001.11(9), 1001.212(4), (12), (14), (15), 1006.07(6), (7), (9), 1006.12(5), 1006.1493, FS. History–New 7-14-21.