

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Update Item
September 15, 2022

SUBJECT: Final Report of the Twentieth Statewide Grand Jury

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

N/A

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On August 19, 2022, the Twentieth Statewide Grand Jury released its Final Report and Presentment. The Grand Jury was impaneled pursuant to Governor DeSantis' petition in February 2019 "to examine the crimes and wrongs that precipitated the Marjory Stoneman Douglas school shooting."

Five districts were named in the Final Report (Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Orange and Duval) for findings related to one or more of the four issues examined by the Statewide Grand Jury:

- Whether refusal or failure to follow the mandates of school-related safety laws, such as the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Act, results in unnecessary and avoidable risk to students across the state;
- Whether public entities committed – and continue to commit – fraud and deceit by accepting state funds conditioned on implementation of certain safety measures while knowingly failing to act;
- Whether school officials committed – and continue to commit – fraud and deceit by mismanaging, failing to use, and diverting funds from multimillion dollar bonds specifically solicited for school safety initiatives; and
- Whether school officials violated – and continue to violate – state law by systematically underreporting incidents of criminal activity to the Department of Education.

Supporting Documentation Included: N/A

Facilitator/Presenter: Tim Hay, Executive Director, Office of Safe Schools