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November 18, 2022

Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent
Duval County Schools
1701 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Dear Superintendent Greene,

This letter is to follow-up from the presentation to the State Board of Education on October 19, 2022, regarding district policies and procedures for student services sent to the Department.

Florida parents have a right to be fully informed of the education and the educational services being provided to their students. The Parents' Bill of Rights, which is now codified in chapter 1014 and section 1002.20, Florida Statutes (F.S.), outlines parents' rights regarding the education of their children. Additionally, section 1001.42(8)(c), F.S., requires a district to notify parents if there is a "change in the student's services or monitoring related to the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being and the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for the student." This could, depending on the unique factual circumstances, include matters related to a student's privacy, name and pronoun usage, and restroom and locker room usage. As a reminder, parents have civil and administrative remedies for school district violations of section 1001.42(8)(c), F.S. Also, please be aware of the requirements of the State Board of Education found in Rule 6A-10.086, Florida Administrative Code, addressing parental notification regarding bathrooms, locker rooms, and dressing rooms.

After initial review of the policies and procedures submitted by Duval County Schools, it appears that some of these policies or procedures may have not yet been updated to comply with revised Florida law and State Board of Education rule. This list is not exhaustive, and your district should strive to review all its policies and procedures for other provisions that may not comport with Florida law. Specifically,

- "SCHOOL LEVEL SUPPORT – Restrooms & Locker Rooms – School administrators will develop a plan on a case-by-case basis that meets privacy concerns." (p. 3/17).
- "SCHOOL LEVEL SUPPORT – Overnight Field Trips – School administrators will develop a plan on a case-by-case basis that meets privacy concerns." (p. 4/18).
- "GUIDELINES FOR TRANSGENDER STUDENTS – LGBTQ+ Student Support Action Steps – Disclosure by a student of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, absent other factors does not mandate reporting the disclosure to a parent." (p. 5/19).

JACOB OLIVA
SENIOR CHANCELLOR

Superintendent Greene
November 18, 2022
Page Two

The Department will provide an update on district policies and procedures for student services at the next State Board of Education meeting, which will include a status report of where each district is in the process of reviewing and, if necessary, amending its policies. Therefore, please evaluate your policies and let us know the status of your evaluation by December 9, 2022, so that we can inform the State Board. If you have an updated policy or procedure or clarification on the documents previously submitted, please email to ParentalRights@fldoe.org. Please feel free to contact me directly with questions or requests for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Oliva', written in a cursive style.

Jacob Oliva
Senior Chancellor