



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

February 12, 2020

Commissioner Richard Corcoran
Department of Education
Turlington Building, Suite 1514
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Secretary Jonathan Satter
Department of Management Services
4050 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Commissioner Corcoran and Secretary Satter:

Last year, my administration requested the impanelment of a Statewide Grand Jury to examine and review school safety measures throughout the state. This request was granted and the Statewide Grand Jury released its Second Interim Report highlighting concerns in need of action by government officials. Today, we are taking that action.

Accordingly, I am directing the Department of Education to do the following:

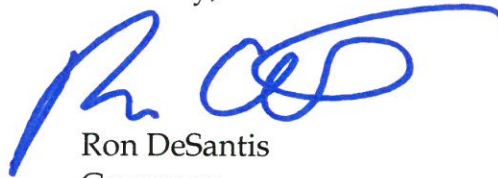
- 1.) Support legislation to provide the Department of Education's Inspector General with the authority to investigate school district compliance with school safety requirements;
- 2.) Collaborate with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to develop best practices and strengthen threat assessment processes in our schools with the goal of increasing coordination and information-sharing across agencies;
- 3.) Develop an education program on the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program for school districts, law enforcement and the general public to better inform on what is required and expected of recent graduates;
- 4.) Develop a strategy to answer questions and provide feedback on how to effectively use the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR) System;
- 5.) Undertake a review of all SESIR-defined incidents to ensure these definitions align with Florida's Criminal Code; and
- 6.) Finalize rulemaking to improve reporting challenges on SESIR.

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I am further directing the Department of Management Services, in consultation with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of Education, and local law enforcement, to identify and recommend ways to increase efficiencies and improve coordination with emergency communications systems, including communications between citizens, E911 dispatch, law enforcement, fire and rescue, and medical personnel.

In Florida, we have taken steps toward improving the safety of our schools, but as the Statewide Grand Jury has confirmed, more work remains to be done. It is my goal that our schools are places where we foster positive learning environments, where our students are secure and protected. My hope is that these directives will bring us one step closer to that goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ron DeSantis', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Ron DeSantis
Governor