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November 18, 2022

Mr. Addison Davis, Superintendent
Hillsborough County Public Schools
901 East Kennedy Boulevard
Tampa, Florida 33602

Dear Superintendent Davis,

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 Hillsborough County Public 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, including those referenced above and section 1000.05, F.S. 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, the "Hillsborough County Public Schools Policy Manual – Policy Number 2260.63 – Racial Equity Policy," includes the following:

- "Purpose: Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS) students deserve respectful learning environments in which their racial and ethnic diversity is valued and contributes to successful academic outcomes. This policy confronts the institutional racism that results in predictably lower academic achievement for students of color than for their white peers. Understanding and addressing institutional racism will increase achievement, including on-time graduation, for ALL students, while narrowing the gaps between the highest and lowest-performing students." (p.1).

JACOB OLIVA
SENIOR CHANCELLOR

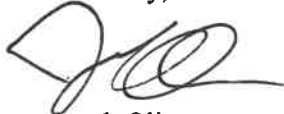
Superintendent Davis
November 18, 2022
Page Two

The “Hillsborough County Public Schools: Creating Safe Schools for All Students – Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Questioning/Queer (LGBTQ+) Critical Resource & Support Guide for Staff,” includes the following:

- “III. Creating Safe and Supportive Environments – A. Access to Restrooms and Sex-Segregated Facilities, B. Affirmed Names and Gender Pronouns, D. Coming Out and Confidentiality.” (pp. 12-16).

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,



Jacob Oliva
Senior Chancellor