Safety and Security Best Practices **8.37**

1. Introduction. Florida Statute 1006.07(6) requires the School Board to establish policies and procedures for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including the assessment and intervention with students and other individuals whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of the school community.

2. Preventive Measures. The policy and procedures adopted by the School Board for the prevention of violence on school grounds include:

   a. The Student Code of Conduct annually adopted by the School Board, which establishes standards of acceptable student conduct, enumerates disciplinary consequences for acts of violence and other misconduct, and provides the process due students who are charged with acts of misconduct. At the beginning of the school year, the Code of Conduct is distributed electronically or by hand to all District students and parents.

   b. The School Board's Zero Tolerance for Crimes and Victimization policy and procedures are codified in Rule 5.13. The rule requires that acts that pose a threat to student or school safety shall be reported to the principal and law enforcement agencies, provides for protection of students who have been victims of violent crime, lists violent offenses for which expulsion is mandatory, and lists alternative responses to acts that threaten school safety.

   c. Rule 3.06, prohibiting campus disorders and trespassing.

   d. Rule 3.15, prohibiting the possession, use or distribution of alcohol or drugs on school property or at school functions.

   e. Rule 3.21, prohibiting bullying and harassment and providing procedures for the investigation and disposition of complaints of bullying and harassment.

   f. Rule 5.11, establishing procedures for student detention, search and seizure.

   g. Rule 5.12, authorizing the expulsion of students for acts of violence and other serious acts of misconduct.

   h. The assignment of a school safety officer to each District school.

   i. Rule 5.26, prohibiting dating violence.

   j. Rule 5.27, prohibiting hazing.

k. Rules 6.104 and 7.142, providing for background screening of District employees and contractors.

l. Rule 6.40, prohibiting District employees from violating the law and providing for the processing and disposition of any such violation of law.

m. Rule 8.01, prohibiting possession of firearms on school property except when required by employment duties.

n. Rule 8.03, requiring District to conduct annual security risk assessments at each District school.

o. Rule 8.07, requiring the adoption of an active assailant response plan.

p. Rule 8.08, providing for school-based threat assessment teams.

q. The District will include Alyssa's Alert Mobile Panic Alarm policies and procedures in its Emergency Operations Plan.

3. School Safety Specialist. The Superintendent shall designate a school safety specialist for the District. The school safety specialist must be a school administrator employed by the District or a law enforcement officer employed by the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office ("SJCSO"). The District shall comply with applicable statutory requirements in regard to the designation of any school safety specialist from the sheriff's office. The school safety specialist shall:

   a. Review District policies and procedures for compliance with state law and rules, including the District's timely and accurate submission of school environmental safety incident reports to the Department of Education pursuant to Florida Statute 1001.212(8).

   b. Provide the necessary training and resources to District students and staff in matters relating to youth mental health awareness and assistance; emergency procedures, including active shooter training; and school safety and security.

   c. Serve as the District liaison with local public safety agencies and national, state, and community agencies and organizations in matters of school safety and security.

   d. Conduct the annual risk assessment at each public school as required by School Board Rule 8.03(4).

4. Non-compliance. Any instance of non-compliance found by the school safety specialist in the course of his or her compliance review under

subsection 8.37(3)(a) or otherwise brought to his or her attention shall be resolved as follows:

a. Deficiencies relating to safe-school officer coverage must be resolved by the following school day.

b. The Office of Safe Schools at *safeschools@fldoe.org* must be notified within 24 hours of any deficiencies relating to safe-school officer coverage and any instance of non-compliance that is determined to be an imminent threat to the health, safety, or welfare of students or staff.

c. Other deficiencies that are not corrected within 60 days shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools within three days.

5. Coordination With Public Safety Agencies. The school safety specialist must coordinate with public safety agencies that are designated first responders to a schools campus to tour each school's campus once every three years and to provide recommendations related to school safety. The completion of such tours and any recommendations must be documented in each school's security risk assessment. The agencies' safety recommendations shall be included in the school safety specialist's report to the Superintendent and the school board

6. Charter School Safety Requirements. The school safety specialist is responsible for monitoring charter school safety requirements. To ensure that the school safety specialist is able to monitor and report on school safety and security at a charter school, each charter school must comply with charter school safety requirements set forth in Rule 6A-1.0018, FAC.

7. Supplemental Law Enforcement Coverage. The principal or designee shall determine whether it is necessary to arrange for law enforcement officers to provide security at school activities and events that take place outside of regular school hours, taking into account such factors as number of persons present, the ratio of staff members to students and other safety measures available. The principal or designee shall coordinate with the appropriate law enforcement agencies to secure such supplemental law enforcement coverage.

8. Superintendent. The Superintendent is authorized to adopt procedures and guidelines to implement this rule.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	**1001.41; 1001.48, F.S.**
LAWS IMPLEMENTED:	**1006.07(6)(c), F.S.**
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULES	**6A-1.0018, F.A.C.**
HISTORY:	**Adopted: 11/12/19** **Revised: 06/14/22; __/__/26**