

# SB 7026 Public Safety

“MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS  
HIGH SCHOOL SAFETY ACT”



# Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program

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- ▶ Established IF the sheriff so chooses to aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises.
- ▶ A school guardian has no authority to act in an law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant incident on a school premises.
- ▶ Individuals who “exclusively perform classroom duties” are excluded from participating in the program.
- ▶ This limitation does not apply to JROTC classroom teachers, a current service member, or a current or former law enforcement officer.

# Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program – Requirements for Participation

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- ▶ Hold a valid license issued under s. 790.06
- ▶ Complete 132 total hours of Required Training
- ▶ Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a licensed psychologist
- ▶ Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent random drug tests
- ▶ Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual basis
- ▶ Successfully complete at least 12 hours of a certified nationally recognized diversity training program

# Coach Aaron Feis

## Guardian Program - Funding

- ▶ \$67 million in nonrecurring funds appropriated to the DOE to allocate to sheriff's offices who establish a guardian program.
- ▶ Funds are for screening-related and training-related costs and a one-time stipend of \$500 to school guardians who participate in the program.
- ▶ The Governor has requested the school board, in consultation with the County Sheriff determine how many people they intend to train using the guardian program by July 1, 2018.
- ▶ The Governor has indicated he intends to work with DOE and the Legislature to redirect any unused funding from the guardian program to hire additional school resource officers.

# Employment of Retired Law Enforcement - FRS

- ▶ A retired law enforcement officer may be reemployed as a school resource officer by an employer that participates in FRS and receive compensation from that employer and retirement benefits after meeting the statutory definition of termination.
- ▶ May not receive both a salary and requirement benefits for 6 calendar months immediately subsequent to the date of retirement.

# Community Action Treatment (CAT) Teams

- ▶ DCF shall contract for CAT teams throughout the state with the managing entities to:
  - ▶ Provide community-based behavioral health and support services to children from 11-13 years of age, adolescents, and young adults from 18-21 years of age with serious behavior health conditions who are at risk of out-of-home placement.
  - ▶ Address the therapeutic needs of the person receiving treatment and assist caregivers and parents with obtaining services.
  - ▶ Make referrals to specialized treatment providers and follow up to ensure services are received.
- ▶ Teams shall be available at all times.
- ▶ Must coordinate with other key entities to provide necessary services.

# Community Action Treatment (CAT) Teams

- ▶ \$9.8 million in recurring funds allocated to DCF to competitively procure for additional CAT teams to ensure reasonable access among all counties.

# Written Threats

- ▶ The bill makes it a 2nd degree felony for any person to make, post, or transmit a threat in writing or other record, including an electronic record, to conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism, in any manner that would allow another person to view the threat.
- ▶ A felony conviction of the 2nd degree carries maximums of a \$10,000 fine, 15 years in prison, and the loss of various rights due to a felony conviction including the loss of voting rights and the ability to serve in the military.



# School Safety Awareness Program

- ▶ FDLE shall competitively procure a mobile suspicious activity reporting tool that allows students and the community to relay information anonymously concerning unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, to appropriate public safety agencies.
- ▶ Program shall be named FortifyFL.
- ▶ Information reported using the tool must be promptly forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency or school official and if the reporting party chose to disclose his or her identity, the information shall be maintained as confidential.
- ▶ FDLE and DOE's Office of Safe Schools shall develop and provide a comprehensive training and awareness program on the use of the tool.

# School Safety Awareness Program

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- ▶ \$400,000 (\$300,000 in nonrecurring and \$100,000 in recurring funds) appropriated to FDLE to competitively procure proposals for the development or acquisition of the tool.
- ▶ Tool shall be implemented no later than January 31, 2019.

# MSDHS Public Safety Commission

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- ▶ 16 member commission created within the FDLE to investigate the system failures in the MSDHS shooting and prior mass violence incidents in this state and develop recommendations for system improvements.
- ▶ Among the commission's duties are to make specific recommendations for improving law enforcement and school resource officer incident response.
- ▶ The Commission must make specific recommendations for determining the appropriate ratio of school resource officers per school by school type. At a minimum, the methodology for determining the ratio should include the school location, student population, and school design.
- ▶ Initial report of findings and recommendations are due to the Governor, Senate President and Speaker of the House by January 1, 2019.

# Office of Safe Schools

- ▶ Created within the DOE to serve as the central repository for best practices, training standards, and compliance oversight in all matters regarding school safety and security.
- ▶ The office is tasked with:
  - ▶ Establishing and updating the school security risk assessment tool
  - ▶ Providing ongoing Professional Development
  - ▶ Providing technical assistance and guidance to school districts on safety and security recommendations
  - ▶ Develop and implement a school safety specialist training program

# Office of Safe Schools

- ▶ Review and provide recommendations on the security risk assessments
- ▶ Coordinate with the FDLE to provide a centralized integrated data repository and data analytics resources to improve access to timely, complete and accurate information from multiple sources
- ▶ Maintain confidentiality requirements attached to information provided to the centralized integrated data repository
- ▶ Award grants to schools to improve the safety and security of school buildings based upon recommendations of the security risk assessment
- ▶ Disseminate, in consultation with the FDLE, to participating schools, awareness and educational materials on the school safety awareness program
- ▶ The Governor has stated a Director for the office will be hired by May 1, 2018.

# Educational Multiagency Services

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- ▶ The multiagency network for students with emotional and behavioral disabilities works with education, mental health, child welfare, and juvenile justice professionals, along with other agencies and families, to provide children with mental illness or emotional and behavioral problems and their families with access to the services and supports they need to succeed.

# Educational Multiagency Services

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- ▶ The multiagency network shall:
  - ▶ Support and represent the needs of students in each school district in joint planning with fiscal agents of children's mental health funds, including the expansion of school-based mental health services, transition services, and integrated education and treatment programs
  - ▶ Improve coordination of services for children with or at risk of emotional or behavioral disabilities and their families.
  - ▶ Increase parent and youth involvement development with local systems of care.
  - ▶ Facilitate student and family access to effective services and programs for students with and at risk of emotional or behavioral disabilities.

# Control of Students

- ▶ Requires each student at the time of initial registration for school to note any referrals to mental health services.
- ▶ Authorizes a school district to refer a student who has been admitted after an expulsion order from another district to mental health services.
- ▶ Requires districts to add to the student code of conduct the option to refer a violent or disruptive student to mental health services instead of placement in an alternative center.



# Control of Students

- ▶ Requires a student who is determined to have brought a firearm or weapon to school, to any function, or onto any school-sponsored transportation to be referred to mental health services identified by the school district.
- ▶ Requires a student who has been determined to make a threat or false report involving a school or school personnel's property be referred to mental health services identified by the school district for evaluation or treatment when appropriate.

# Student Crime Watch Program

- ▶ Requires districts, by resolution of the school board to implement a student crime watch program to promote responsibility among students and improve school safety.
- ▶ The program shall allow students and the community to anonymously relay information concerning unsafe and potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or threat of these activities, to appropriate public safety agencies and school officials.

# Emergency Drills and Emergency Procedures

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- ▶ Requires districts to formulate and prescribe policies and procedures, in consultation with the appropriate public safety agencies for active shooter and hostage situations for all K-12 students and faculty.
- ▶ Active Shooter Response Drills shall be conducted at least as often as other emergency drills (The Governor has stated one per semester – two total per year).
- ▶ Emergency response policies developed must identify the individuals responsible for contacting the primary emergency response agency.

# Emergency Drills and Emergency Procedures

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- ▶ Active shooter situation training must engage the participation of the district school safety specialist, threat assessment team members, faculty, staff, and students and must be conducted by the law enforcement agency or agencies that are designated as first responders to the school's campus.
- ▶ The district must establish a schedule to test the functionality and coverage capacity of all emergency communication systems and determine if adequate signal strength is available in all areas of the school's campus.

# Safety and Security Best Practices

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- ▶ Requires each superintendent to establish policies and procedures for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including the assessment of and intervention with individuals whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of the school community.

# District School Safety Specialist

- ▶ Each Superintendent is required to designate a school administrator as the school safety specialist for the district.
- ▶ The specialist must earn a certificate of completion of the training provided by the DOE's office of safe schools within 1 year after appointment and is responsible for the supervision and oversight for all school safety and security personnel, policies, and procedures in the school district.

# District School Safety Specialist

- ▶ The School Safety Specialist shall:
  - ▶ Review policies and procedures for compliance with state law and rules.
  - ▶ Provide the necessary training and resources to students and school district staff in matters relating to youth mental health awareness and assistance; emergency procedures, including active shooter training; and school safety and security.
  - ▶ Serve as the school district liaison with public safety and community agencies and organizations in matters of school safety and security.
  - ▶ Conduct a school security risk assessment at each public school using the tool developed by the office of safe schools and based upon the finding provide recommendations to the school board on which strategies and activities they should implement to improve safety and security.
  - ▶ Coordinate with the appropriate public safety agencies to conduct a tour of a school's campus every 3 years and provide recommendations related to school safety. The recommendations made by the public safety agencies must be considered as part of the recommendations to the school board.

# Threat Assessment Teams

- ▶ Each district school board shall adopt policies for the establishment of threat assessment teams at each school whose duties include the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff or students.
- ▶ Policies shall include procedures for referrals to mental health services identified by the district when appropriate.
- ▶ Threat assessment teams shall include persons with expertise in counseling, instruction, school administration, and law enforcement.
- ▶ They shall identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported and provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school or self.



# Threat Assessment Teams

- ▶ Team members may obtain criminal history record information if a determination has been made that a student poses a threat of violence to him/herself or others or exhibits significantly disruptive behavior or need for assistance.
- ▶ All local agencies and programs that provide services to students experiencing or at risk of an emotional disturbance or mental illness may share records or confidential information if it's necessary to ensure access to appropriate services for the student or to ensure the safety of the student or others.
- ▶ Each team shall report quantitative data on its activities to the Office of Safe Schools.

# Threat Assessment Teams – Zero Tolerance Policy

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- ▶ Requires school boards to add to their zero tolerance policy the following provisions:
  - ▶ Threat assessment teams must consult with law enforcement when a student exhibits a pattern of behavior, based upon previous acts or the severity of an act, that would pose a threat to school safety.
  - ▶ If a student commits more than one misdemeanor, the threat assessment team must consult with law enforcement to determine if the act should be reported to law enforcement.

# Safety in Construction Planning

- ▶ School Boards must allow the law enforcement agency or agencies that are designated as first responders to the district/schools' campuses to them once every 3 years.
- ▶ Any changes related to school safety and emergency issues recommended by a law enforcement agency based on a campus tour must be documented by the district school board.

# Safe Schools Officers

- ▶ Each district school board and superintendent shall partner with law enforcement agencies to **establish or assign** one or more safe-school officers at each school facility within the district by implementing any combination of the following options which best meets the needs of the school district:
  - ▶ SROs/YRDs
  - ▶ School Safety Officers (District Police Force)
  - ▶ Guardian Program

# Safe Schools Officers

- 1.) Establish a school resource officer program through a cooperative agreement with law enforcement agencies.
  - Must undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation and be certified law enforcement officers with the power of arrest.
  - Must complete mental health crisis intervention training.
- 2.) Commission one or more school safety officers. (District Police Force)
  - Must undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation and be law enforcement officers with the power of arrest.
  - May be employed by either a law enforcement agency or a district school board.
- 3.) At the school district's discretion, participate in the Guardian program if such program is established by the Sheriff.

# Safe Schools Officers – Funding

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- ▶ \$97.5 million in recurring funds appropriated to the Safe Schools Allocation in addition to the safe schools funds previously appropriated in the FEFP.
- ▶ Minimum allocation of \$250,000 to each district, with the balance of funds being appropriated based on each district's FTE.
- ▶ Each district must use these funds exclusively for hiring or contracting for school resource officers, which shall be in addition to the number of officers employed or contracted for in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
- ▶ In 2018-2019 Budget, the SJCSD is receiving \$2,006,131 in total safe schools funds - \$1.4 million of which must be used exclusively for SROs.

# Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool

- ▶ DOE's Office of Safe Schools is tasked with contracting with a security consulting firm that specializes in the development of risk assessment software solutions and has experience in conducting security assessment of public facilities to develop, update, and implement a risk assessment tool.
- ▶ The tool shall be known as the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool (FSSAT).
- ▶ The tool must help school officials identify threats, vulnerabilities, and appropriate safety controls for the schools that they supervise and must be used at each public school site in the state.

# Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool

- ▶ By December 1, 2018 and annually after that date, the DOE must report to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House on the status of implementation across school districts and schools.
- ▶ The report must include a summary of the positive school safety measures in place at the time of the assessment and any recommendation for policy changes or funding needed to facilitate continued school safety planning, improvement, and response at the state, district, or school levels.
- ▶ Data and information related to the security risk assessments are exempt from public record.



# Mental Health Assistance Allocation

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- ▶ The Mental Health Assistance Allocation is created to provide funding to assist school districts in establishing or expanding school-based mental health care.
- ▶ School districts must develop and submit a detailed plan outlining the local program and planned expenditures to the school board for approval.
- ▶ Charter schools must develop and submit their plan to their governing body for approval and after approval provide it to the school's sponsor.
- ▶ Plans must be submitted to the Commissioner of Education by August 1 of each fiscal year.
- ▶ Beginning September 30, 2019 and annually thereafter, each district shall submit to the DOE a report on its program outcomes and expenditures for the previous year.

# Mental Health Assistance Allocation

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- ▶ Plans must be focused on delivering evidence-based mental health care treatment to children and include the following elements:
  - 1) Provision of mental health assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment, and recovery services to students with one or more mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and students at high risk of such diagnoses.
  - 2) Coordination of such services with a student's primary care provider and with other mental health providers involved in the student's care.
  - 3) Direct employment of such service providers, or a contract-based collaborative effort or partnership with one or more local community mental health programs, agencies, or providers.

# Mental Health Assistance Allocation - Funding

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- ▶ \$69.2 million in recurring funds allocated through the FEFP
- ▶ Each district shall receive a minimum of \$100,000 with the remaining balance allocated based on each district's share of FTE.
- ▶ At least 90% of a district's allocation must be spent on specific services to students and the coordination of such services with providers involved in the student's care (Options 1 & 2)
- ▶ Funds may not supplant funds that are provided for this purpose from other operating funds and may not be used to increase salaries or provide bonuses.
- ▶ Districts are encouraged to maximize third party health insurance benefits and Medicaid claiming for services, where appropriate.
- ▶ SJCSD receives \$995,078 through the allocation.

# Youth Mental Health Awareness and Assistance Training

- ▶ Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the DOE shall establish an evidence-based youth mental health awareness and assistance training program to help school personnel identify and understand the signs of emotional disturbance, mental illness, and substance use disorders and provide such personnel with the skills to help the person with the disorder.
- ▶ The DOE will select a national authority on youth mental health awareness and assistance to facilitate providing the training, using a trainer certification model, to all school personnel in elementary, middle and high schools.

# Youth Mental Health Awareness and Assistance Training

- ▶ Each school safety specialist shall earn, or designate one or more individuals to earn, certification as a trainer.
- ▶ The School Safety specialist shall ensure all school personnel within the district receives the training.
- ▶ District's are required to notify all school personnel who have received the training of mental health services that are available in the district, and the individual to contact if a student needs services.
- ▶ \$6.7 million allocated to DOE for training \$500,000 in recurring and \$6.2 million nonrecurring

# FCO Cost for Physical Security of School Buildings

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- ▶ Cost per student station does not include the cost for:
  - ▶ Security entries
  - ▶ Checkpoint construction
  - ▶ Lighting specifically designed for entry point security
  - ▶ Security cameras
  - ▶ Automatic locks and locking devices
  - ▶ Electronic security systems
  - ▶ Fencing designed to prevent intruder entry into a building
  - ▶ Bullet-proof glass
  - ▶ Other capital construction items approved by the school safety specialist to ensure building security for new educational, auxiliary, or ancillary facilities
- ▶ Costs for these items must be below 2 percent per student station.

# Fixed Capital Outlay Grants for Physical Security of School Buildings

- ▶ \$98.9 million appropriated to the DOE to implement a grant program that will provide awards to schools to fund, in whole or in part, the fixed capital outlay costs associated with improving the physical security of school buildings as identified by a security risk assessment completed before August 1, 2018.
- ▶ By August 31, 2018, DOE shall submit the grant guidelines with specific evaluation criteria.
- ▶ Application deadline for districts is December 1, 2018.
- ▶ DOE will award grants no later than January 15, 2019.



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