MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Hershel Lyons

DATE: September 28, 2018

SUBJECT: District Certification of Safe-School Officers for 2018-19 School Year as Required by Section 1006.12, Florida Statutes (F.S.) – Due October 5, 2018

The 2018 Legislature passed, and Governor Scott signed into law, Senate Bill 7026. As such, section (s.) 1006.12, F.S., was amended, in part, to read:

Safe-school officers at each public school.—For the protection and safety of school personnel, property, students, and visitors, each district school board and school district 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:

1. Establish school resource officer programs, through a cooperative agreement with law enforcement agencies.
2. Commission one or more school safety officers for the protection and safety of school personnel, property, and students within the school district. The district school superintendent may recommend, and the district school board may appoint, one or more school safety officers.
3. At the school district’s discretion, participate in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program if such program is established pursuant to s. 30.15, to meet the requirement of establishing a safe-school officer.

Additionally, the new law created s. 1001.212, F.S., establishing the Florida Department of Education’s Office of Safe Schools to serve as a central repository for best practices, training standards and compliance oversight in all matters regarding school safety and security. In line with the Office of Safe Schools responsibilities and in order to demonstrate compliance with the statutory requirement of s. 1006.12, F.S., we are requesting that each school district certify that one or more safe-school officers have been established or assigned at each school facility within the district.
Section 1006.12(4), F.S., provides a public records exemption as it pertains to safe-school officers:

(4) Any information that would identify whether a particular individual has been appointed as a safe-school officer pursuant to this section held by a law enforcement agency, school district, or charter school is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

The District Certification for 2018-19 Safe-School Officers, to be signed by the superintendent, is attached and may be printed when the requested information is certified as accurate and complete.

Upon certification, return only the completed and signed attached form by October 5, 2018, to Brooks.Rumenik@fldoe.org, deputy director in the Office of Safe Schools.

HL/br

Attachment

cc: School Safety Specialist