MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: April 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Statewide Threat Assessment Training in Florida

The Florida Department of Education’s (FDOE) Office of Safe Schools and Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services have partnered together to bring a unique and timely training opportunity to Florida school districts. Senate Bill 7026 identified a requirement for each district school board to adopt policies for the establishment of threat assessment teams at each school, whose duties include the coordination of resources, assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff or students. Additionally, while some individuals may pose a threat to the safety of others, there is potential for some individuals to also pose a threat to themselves. For this reason, FDOE is inviting representatives from across the state to take part in train-the-trainer Statewide Threat Assessment Training.

The training will consist of three, four-day training opportunities to be held in Central Florida, conducted by national experts in the field, Dr. Dewey Cornell and Dr. Scott Poland. Dr. Cornell developed the Virginia Model Threat Assessment, which is regarded as the eminent resource for assessing threats in schools, and Dr. Poland is a nationally recognized expert on school crisis, youth violence, suicide intervention and self-injury. This training is designed to allow representatives from each school district to gain the skills necessary to then conduct smaller training sessions with the threat assessment teams at each school within the school district. The training specifics are provided below.

Training 1:
May 21-24, 2019
Polk State College
Advanced Technology Center
310 Technology Drive
Bartow, FL 33830
Training 2:
July 23-26, 2019
Polk State College
Center for Public Safety
1251 Jim Keene Boulevard
Winter Haven, FL 33880

Training 3:
July 30-August 2, 2019
Valencia College
District Office
1768 Park Center Drive
Orlando, FL 32835

Please identify an appropriate staff member within your district (School Safety Specialist or other designee) to register for one of the three training options by May 10, 2019 by providing the name, district, contact number and email address to Brooks Rumenik at Brooks.Rumenik@fldoe.org. Additional information will be provided to each registrant on an individual basis.

For more information, please contact Brooks Rumenik.

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