MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
FROM: Jacob Oliva
DATE: September 4, 2020

SUBJECT: District Certification for 2018-19 School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR), Discipline Referral Action Data and Verification of Compliance with Policy Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment Required by Section 1006.147, Florida Statutes (F.S.) – Due September 18, 2020

Each year, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) collects data from districts relevant to school safety and student discipline. This data, collected through Survey 5, is then compiled by FDOE’s Bureau of PK-12 Education Information Services and is used for various federal and state-level reports: EDFacts, Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC), Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Report Card, Federal Gun-Free Schools Report (GFSR), and the Report on the Implementation of section 1006.147, F.S. Therefore, it is imperative that each district ensure the accuracy of the data it submits.

Additionally, the FDOE collects bullying- and harassment-related data pursuant to the requirements of the Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up for All Students Act (s. 1006.147, F.S.), which states that the distribution of Safe Schools Appropriation funds is contingent upon district compliance with all reporting requirements contained in the law. There are currently fourteen reporting requirements in s. 1006.147, F.S., with which districts must comply. Each district policy prohibiting bullying and harassment already contains all fourteen of these reporting requirements, as inclusion of these requirements was a prerequisite for policy certification by the FDOE.

One of these requirements specifies that an additional section be established in the School Report of Data Concerning School Safety and Discipline required under s. 1006.09(6), F.S. This additional section is for collecting data on incidents of bullying or harassment that were reported to school officials but then determined to be unsubstantiated. Furthermore, the law requires this section to include recommendations that were made once incidents were determined to be unsubstantiated.
In order to demonstrate compliance with the data reporting requirements of both s. 1006.09(6), F.S., and s. 1006.147, F.S., districts are requested to certify their prior year’s data annually. **Certification for the district’s 2019-20 data reporting will occur after Survey 5 closes on October 31, 2020.**

The District Certification for 2018-19 School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting, Discipline Referral Action Data and Verification of Compliance with Policy Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment, to be signed by the superintendent, is attached and may be printed when the data are certified as accurate and the appropriate recommendations for unsubstantiated incidents have been identified. Upon certification, return only the completed and signed two-page form by September 18, 2020, to Julie.Collins@fldoe.org.

JO/jc

Attachment

cc: School District Contacts, MIS  
    School District Contacts, Safe Schools  
    School District Contacts, Bullying Prevention