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K12: 2006-28

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Cheri Pierson Yecke, Ph.D.

DATE: March 3, 2006

SUBJECT: **Blending Perspectives: School Incidents and the Law Training**

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE), Office of Safe and Healthy Schools, Safe and Drug-Free Schools (SDFS) Program, is offering *Blending Perspectives: School Incidents and the Law* regional trainings.

The purpose for the training is to assist school administrators such as Principal/Assistant Principals and School Resource Officers (SROs) to work toward more consensus-building in dealing with school incidents of crime and violence. School districts are encouraged to send two-person teams that consist of a SRO and a school administrator from individual schools, as preference in registration will be given to the school administrator/SRO teams. Single registrations or other team combinations are also welcome.

The training is designed to:

- Enhance collaboration of existing school/law enforcement partnership.
- Identify the challenges in determining and reporting crime and violent incidents on school campuses and assist school teams in coming to consensus on reporting.
- Identify indicators for risk behaviors associated with violence, crime, and substance-abuse, and
- Identify age-appropriate and developmental issues as they related to criminal intent.

During the training, the school administrators/SRO teams will interact and share their knowledge and experience with others. Presenters with expertise in criminology, behavioral science, and law enforcement will challenge teams to make crucial decisions on criminal-intent and school safety issues which affect the reporting of these incidents on school campuses. Speakers and sponsors for the training come from multiple agencies and organizations including Florida Department of Education, Attorney General's Office, Department of Juvenile Justice, County School Police Chiefs/SROs from the local community and from other regions, and youth from the surrounding county(ies).

There are five regional *Blending Perspectives: School Incidents and the Law* Training events offered:

- Orlando – March 23-24, 2006, Sheraton Safari Hotel, Lake Buena Vista
- Tampa – May 30-31, 2006, University of South Florida Downtown Center
- Tallahassee – June 19-20, 2006, Tallahassee Community College
- Palm Beach – June 12-13, 2006, and June 14-15, 2006, Safe Schools Institute, Palm Beach County Schools

Each school team can register for training under **"Highlights"** at:

http://www.firn.edu/doe/besss/safehome.htm.

Please register for training by March 15, 2006. Space is limited to 120 participants at each location, and registration will be accepted on a space-available basis.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Carol Gagliano, Instructional Designer, Office of Safe and Healthy Schools.

CPY:cg