By Senator Bullard

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39-00418-16 2016490

A bill to be entitled An act relating to student discipline; creating s. 1006.01, F.S.; defining terms; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; revising the duties of the district school boards relating to student discipline and school safety; requiring school districts to adopt standards for intervention, rather than a code of student conduct, which standards include specified requirements; requiring a school district to meaningfully involve the community in creating and applying certain policies; requiring a school district to fund and support the implementation of school-based restorative justice practices; requiring a school district to hire staff members to improve the school climate and safety; requiring a school district to annually survey parents, students, and teachers regarding school safety and discipline issues; amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; revising the qualifications of a school resource officer and a school safety officer; authorizing a school resource officer and a school safety officer to arrest a student only for certain violations of law; requiring a school resource officer and a school safety officer to immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee if the officer arrests a student in a school-related incident; prohibiting an officer from arresting or referring a student to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system for petty acts of misconduct; providing an exception; requiring written

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39-00418-16 2016490

documentation of an arrest or referral to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system; requiring each law enforcement agency that serves a school district to enter into a cooperative agreement with the district school board, ensure the training of school resource officers and school safety officers as specified, and develop minimum qualifications for the selection of such officers; amending s. 1006.13, F.S.; requiring each district school board to adopt a policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system, rather than a policy of zerotolerance for crime and victimization; revising and providing requirements for a policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system; providing that a school's authority and discretion to use other disciplinary consequences and interventions is not limited by specified provisions; conforming terminology; requiring each district school board, in collaboration with students, educators, parents, and stakeholders, to enter into cooperative agreements with a county sheriff's office and a local police department for specified purposes; revising the requirements for these agreements; requiring each school district to annually review the cost, effectiveness, and necessity of its school safety programs and to submit findings to the Department of Education; requiring a school district to arrange and pay for transportation for a student in certain circumstances; requiring, rather than encouraging, a

39-00418-16 2016490

school district to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to a law enforcement agency unless the use of such alternatives poses a threat to school safety; requiring each school district to submit to the department its policies and agreements by a specified date each year; requiring the department to develop by a specified date a model policy for referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system; requiring the Commissioner of Education to report by a specified date each year to the Governor and the Legislature on the implementation of policies on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system; amending ss. 1002.20, 1002.23, 1002.33, 1003.02, 1003.32, 1003.53, 1003.57, 1006.09, 1006.10, 1006.147, 1006.15, 1007.271, and 1012.98, F.S.; conforming cross-references and provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Section 1006.01, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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 $\underline{\text{1006.01 Definitions.-As used in part I of this chapter, the}}$  term:

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(1) "Exclusionary consequence" means a consequence of a student's serious breach of the standards for intervention, as provided in s. 1006.07(2), which results in the student being barred from attending school.

39-00418-16 2016490

(2) "Exclusionary discipline" means a disciplinary, punitive practice that removes a student from instruction time in his or her regular classrooms and may include in-school suspension during class time, out-of-school suspension, transfer to an alternative school, or expulsion. Absences due to exclusionary discipline are considered excused absences.

- (3) "Restorative circle" means a common space where at least one individual guides a discussion in which each participant has an equal opportunity to speak and in which participants take turns speaking about a topic and using a talking piece, a physical object that is used to assist communication between participants.
- (4) "Restorative group conferencing" means an intervention in which a facilitator leads the individuals who were involved in an incident, whether they were harmed or caused the harm, as well as their families or other supporters, in a face-to-face process designed to address the harm, resolve any conflict, and prevent recurrence of the harm based on the ideas of restorative justice practices and mutual accountability.
- (5) "Restorative justice" means an intervening approach to justice which addresses root causes of harm that is a result of unjust behavior and which emphasizes repair of the harm and giving equal attention to accountability, growth, community safety, the harmed student's needs, and the student offender's needs.
- Section 2. Section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall

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39-00418-16 2016490

provide for the proper accounting for all students; for the attendance and control of students at school; for the creation of a safe and effective learning environment, regardless of the student's race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity; and for the proper attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the welfare of students, including the use of:

- (1) <u>INTERVENTIONS FOR AND DISCIPLINE</u> CONTROL OF STUDENTS.— Each school district shall:
- (a) Adopt rules for the control, discipline, in-school suspension, suspension, and expulsion of students and decide all cases recommended for expulsion. Suspension hearings are exempt exempted from the provisions of chapter 120. Expulsion hearings are  $\frac{\text{shall be}}{\text{governed}}$  by ss. 120.569 and 120.57(2) and  $\frac{\text{are}}{\text{shall}}$ exempt from s. 286.011. However, the student's parent must be given notice of the provisions of s. 286.011 and may elect to have the hearing held in compliance with that section. The district school board may prohibit the use of corporal punishment $_{T}$  if the district school board adopts or has adopted a written program of alternative control or discipline. In order to fulfill the paramount duty of this state to make adequate provisions for the education of all children residing within its borders in accordance with s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution, the district school board shall make every effort to reduce exclusionary discipline for minor misbehavior.
- (b) Require each student at the time of initial registration for school in the school district to note previous school expulsions, arrests resulting in a charge, and juvenile justice actions the student has had, and have the authority as

39-00418-16 2016490

the district school board of a receiving school district to honor the final order of expulsion or dismissal of a student by any in-state or out-of-state public district school board or private school, or lab school, for an act that which would have been grounds for expulsion according to the receiving district school board's standards for intervention code of student conduct, in accordance with the following procedures:

- 1. A final order of expulsion shall be recorded in the records of the receiving school district.
- 2. The expelled student applying for admission to the receiving school district shall be advised of the final order of expulsion.
- 3. The district school superintendent of the receiving school district may recommend to the district school board that the final order of expulsion be waived and the student be admitted to the school district, or that the final order of expulsion be honored and the student not be admitted to the school district. If the student is admitted by the district school board, with or without the recommendation of the district school superintendent, the student may be placed in an appropriate educational program at the direction of the district school board.
- (2) STANDARDS FOR INTERVENTION CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT.—

  Each school district shall adopt clear standards for intervention, formerly known as a code of student conduct, which create a safe, supportive, and positive school climate and which address misbehavior with interventions and consequences aimed at understanding and addressing the causes of misbehavior, resolving conflicts, meeting students' needs, and keeping

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39-00418-16 2016490\_\_

students in school and teaching them to respond in ageappropriate ways a code of student conduct for elementary schools and a code of student conduct for middle and high schools and distribute the appropriate code to all teachers, school personnel, students, and parents, at the beginning of every school year. The process for adopting standards for intervention must include meaningful involvement among parents, students, teachers, and the community. The standards for intervention must be organized and written in language that is understandable to students and parents and translated into all languages represented by the students and their parents; discussed at the beginning of every school year in student classes, school advisory council meetings, and parent and teacher association or organization meetings; made available at the beginning of every school year in the student handbook or similar publication distributed to all teachers, school personnel, students, and parents; and posted on the school district's website. The standards for intervention must Each code shall be organized and written in language that is understandable to students and parents and shall be discussed at the beginning of every school year in student classes, school advisory council meetings, and parent and teacher association or organization meetings. Each code shall be based on the rules governing student conduct and discipline adopted by the district school board and shall be made available in the student handbook or similar publication. Each code shall include, but need is not be limited to, the following:

(a) Consistent policies and specific grounds for disciplinary action, including in-school suspension, out-of-

39-00418-16 2016490

school suspension, expulsion, <u>interventions</u>, <u>supports</u>, and any disciplinary action that may be imposed for the possession or use of alcohol on school property or while attending a school function or for the illegal use, sale, or possession of controlled substances as defined in chapter 893.

- (b) Procedures to be followed for acts requiring discipline, including corporal punishment.
- (c) A discipline chart or matrix indicating that a student is not subject to exclusionary discipline for unexcused tardiness, lateness, absence, or truancy; for violation of the school dress code or rules regarding school uniforms; or for behavior infractions that do not endanger the physical safety of other students or staff members, including, but not limited to, insubordination, defiance, disobedience, disrespect, or minor classroom disruptions. The discipline chart or matrix must also:
- 1. Provide guidance on appropriate interventions and consequences to be applied to behaviors or behavior categories as provided in subparagraph 2. The school district may define specific interventions and provide a list of interventions that must be used and documented before exclusionary discipline is considered unless a behavior poses a serious threat to school safety. The interventions may include, but are not limited to:
- a. Having a private conversation with the student about his or her behavior and underlying issues that may have precipitated the behavior.
- b. Providing an opportunity for the student's anger, fear, or anxiety to subside.
- c. Providing restorative justice practices using a schoolwide approach of informal and formal techniques to foster

39-00418-16 2016490

a sense of school community and to manage conflict by repairing harm and restoring positive relationships.

- d. Providing reflective activities, such as requiring the student to write an essay about his or her behavior.
- e. Participating in skill building and conflict resolution activities, such as social-emotional cognitive skill building, restorative circles, and restorative group conferencing.
  - f. Revoking student privileges.
- g. Referring a student to a school counselor or social worker.
  - h. Speaking to a student's parent.
- <u>i. Referring a student to intervention outside the school</u> setting.
- j. Ordering in-school detention or in-school suspension during lunch, after school, or on the weekends.
- 2. Outlining specific behaviors or behavior categories.

  Each behavior or behavior category must include clear maximum consequences to prevent inappropriate exclusionary consequences for minor misbehavior and petty acts of misconduct and set clear requirements that must be satisfied before the school imposes exclusionary discipline. The chart or matrix must show that exclusionary discipline is a last resort to be used only in cases of serious misconduct when in-school interventions and consequences that do not lead to exclusionary consequences are insufficient. The following behaviors, which must be accompanied by appropriate intervention services, such as substance abuse counseling, anger management counseling, or restorative justice practices, may result in exclusionary discipline and in notification of a law enforcement agency if the behavior is a

2016490 39-00418-16 262 felony or a serious threat to school safety: 263 a. Illegal sale of a controlled substance, as defined in chapter 893, by a student on school property or in attendance at 264 265 a school function. 266 b. Violation of the district school board's sexual 267 harassment policy. 268 c. Possession, display, transmission, use, or sale of a firearm or weapon, as defined in s. 790.001 or 18 U.S.C. s. 921, 269 270 or an object that is used as, or is intended to function as, a 271 weapon, while on school property or in attendance at a school 272 function. 273 d. Making a threat or intimidation using any pointed or 274 sharp object or the use of any substance or object as a weapon 275 with the threat or intent to inflict bodily harm. 276 e. Making a threat or a false report, as provided in ss. 277 790.162 and 790.163, respectively. 278 f. Homicide. 279 g. Sexual battery. 280 h. Armed robbery. 281 i. Aggravated battery. 282 j. Battery or aggravated battery on a teacher, other school 283 personnel, or district school board personnel. 284 k. Kidnapping. 285 l. Arson. 286 (d) A glossary of clearly defined terms and behaviors. 287 (e) An explanation of the responsibilities, dignity, and 288 rights of and respect for students, including, but not limited 289 to, a student's right not to be discriminated against based on

race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or

39-00418-16 2016490

gender identity; a student's right to participate in student publications, school programs, and school activities; and a student's right to exercise free speech, to assemble, and to maintain privacy.

- (f) An explanation of the school's dress code or rules regarding school uniforms and notice that students have the right to dress in accordance with their stated gender within the constraints of the school's dress code.
- (g) Notice that violation of transportation policies of a district school board by a student, including disruptive behavior on a school bus or at a school bus stop, is grounds for disciplinary action by the school.
- (h) Notice that a student who is determined to have brought a weapon or firearm, as defined in s. 790.001 or 18 U.S.C. s.

  921, to school, to a school function, or onto school-sponsored transportation, or to have possessed a weapon or firearm at school, will be expelled from the student's regular school for at least 1 full year and referred to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system; and notice that a district school superintendent may consider the requirement of 1-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis and may request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if:
  - 1. The request for modification is in writing; and
- 2. The modification is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school district.
- (i) Notice that a student who is determined to have made a threat or false report, as provided in ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving the school's or school personnel's

39-00418-16 2016490

property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity may be expelled from the student's regular school for at least 1 full year, with continuing educational services, and referred to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system. A district school superintendent may consider the requirement of a 1-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis and may request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if:

- 1. The request for modification is in writing; and
- 2. The modification is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school district.
- (j) A clear and complete explanation of due process rights afforded to a student, including a student with a disability, and the types of exclusionary discipline to which a student may be subjected.
- (c) An explanation of the responsibilities and rights of students with regard to attendance, respect for persons and property, knowledge and observation of rules of conduct, the right to learn, free speech and student publications, assembly, privacy, and participation in school programs and activities.
- (d)1. An explanation of the responsibilities of each student with regard to appropriate dress, respect for self and others, and the role that appropriate dress and respect for self and others has on an orderly learning environment. Each district school board shall adopt a dress code policy that prohibits a student, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment.

39-00418-16 2016490

2. Any student who violates the dress policy described in subparagraph 1. is subject to the following disciplinary actions:

a. For a first offense, a student shall be given a verbal warning and the school principal shall call the student's parent or guardian.

b. For a second offense, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period of time not to exceed 5 days and the school principal shall meet with the student's parent or guardian.

c. For a third or subsequent offense, a student shall receive an in-school suspension pursuant to s. 1003.01(5) for a period not to exceed 3 days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school principal shall call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

(e) Notice that illegal use, possession, or sale of controlled substances, as defined in chapter 893, by any student while the student is upon school property or in attendance at a school function is grounds for disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.

(f) Notice that use of a wireless communications device includes the possibility of the imposition of disciplinary action by the school or criminal penalties if the device is used in a criminal act. A student may possess a wireless communications device while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function. Each district school board

39-00418-16 2016490 shall adopt rules governing the use of a wireless communications 378 379 device by a student while the student is on school property or 380 in attendance at a school function. 381 (g) Notice that the possession of a firearm or weapon as 382 defined in chapter 790 by any student while the student is on 383 school property or in attendance at a school function is grounds 384 for disciplinary action and may also result in criminal 385 prosecution. Simulating a firearm or weapon while playing or wearing clothing or accessories that depict a firearm or weapon 386 or express an opinion regarding a right guaranteed by the Second 387 388 Amendment to the United States Constitution is not grounds for 389 disciplinary action or referral to the criminal justice or 390 juvenile justice system under this section or s. 1006.13. 391 Simulating a firearm or weapon while playing includes, but is 392 not limited to: 393 1. Brandishing a partially consumed pastry or other food 394 item to simulate a firearm or weapon. 395 2. Possessing a toy firearm or weapon that is 2 inches or 396 less in overall length. 397 3. Possessing a toy firearm or weapon made of plastic snap-398 together building blocks. 399 4. Using a finger or hand to simulate a firearm or weapon. 400 5. Vocalizing an imaginary firearm or weapon. 6. Drawing a picture, or possessing an image, of a firearm 401 402 or weapon. 403 7. Using a pencil, pen, or other writing or drawing utensil 404 to simulate a firearm or weapon. 405 406 However, a student may be subject to disciplinary action if

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39-00418-16 2016490

simulating a firearm or weapon while playing substantially disrupts student learning, causes bodily harm to another person, or places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm. The severity of consequences imposed upon a student, including referral to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, must be proportionate to the severity of the infraction and consistent with district school board policies for similar infractions. If a student is disciplined for such conduct, the school principal or his or her designee must call the student's parent. Disciplinary action resulting from a student's clothing or accessories shall be determined pursuant to paragraph (d) unless the wearing of the clothing or accessory causes a substantial disruption to student learning, in which case the infraction may be addressed in a manner that is consistent with district school board policies for similar infractions. This paragraph does not prohibit a public school from adopting a school uniform policy.

- (h) Notice that violence against any district school board personnel by a student is grounds for in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or imposition of other disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.
- (i) Notice that violation of district school board transportation policies, including disruptive behavior on a school bus or at a school bus stop, by a student is grounds for suspension of the student's privilege of riding on a school bus and may be grounds for disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.
  - (j) Notice that violation of the district school board's

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39-00418-16 2016490

sexual harassment policy by a student is grounds for in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or imposition of other disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.

(k) Policies to be followed for the assignment of violent or disruptive students to an alternative educational program.

(1) Notice that any student who is determined to have brought a firearm or weapon, as defined in chapter 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school-sponsored transportation, or to have possessed a firearm at school, will be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full year and referred to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system. District school boards may assign the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion. District school superintendents may consider the 1year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if the request for modification is in writing and it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system.

(m) Notice that any student who is determined to have made a threat or false report, as defined by ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity will be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full year and referred for criminal prosecution. District school

39-00418-16 2016490

boards may assign the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion. District school superintendents may consider the 1-year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system.

- (3) COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN POLICY CREATION STUDENT CRIME WATCH PROGRAM.—Each school district shall ensure the meaningful involvement of parents, students, teachers, and the community in creating and applying policies regarding student discipline and school safety By resolution of the district school board, implement a student crime watch program to promote responsibility among students and to assist in the control of criminal behavior within the schools.
- (4) EMERGENCY DRILLS AND; EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.—Each school district shall:
- (a) Formulate and prescribe policies and procedures for emergency drills and for actual emergencies, including, but not limited to, fires, natural disasters, and bomb threats, for all the public schools of the district which comprise grades K-12. District school board policies <u>must shall</u> include commonly used alarm system responses for specific types of emergencies and verification by each school that drills have been provided as required by law and fire protection codes. The emergency response agency that is responsible for notifying the school district for each type of emergency must be listed in the district's emergency response policy.

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39-00418-16 2016490

(b) Establish model emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures, including emergency notification procedures pursuant to paragraph (a), for the following lifethreatening emergencies:

- 1. Weapon-use and hostage situations.
- 2. Hazardous materials or toxic chemical spills.
- 3. Weather emergencies, including hurricanes, tornadoes, and severe storms.
  - 4. Exposure as a result of a manmade emergency.
- (5) EDUCATIONAL SERVICES IN DETENTION FACILITIES. Each school district shall offer educational services to minors who have not graduated from high school and eligible students with disabilities under the age of 22 who have not graduated with a standard diploma or its equivalent who are detained in a county or municipal detention facility as defined in s. 951.23. These educational services must shall be based upon the estimated length of time the student will be in the facility and the student's current level of functioning. A county sheriff or chief correctional officer, or his or her designee, shall notify the district school superintendent, superintendents or his or her designee when their designees shall be notified by the county sheriff or chief correctional officer, or his or her designee, upon the assignment of a student under the age of 21 is assigned to the facility. A cooperative agreement with the district school board and applicable law enforcement units shall develop a cooperative agreement be developed to address the notification requirement and the provision of educational services to such these students.
  - (6) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—Each school

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39-00418-16 2016490

district shall use the Safety and Security Best Practices developed by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a self-assessment of the school districts' current safety and security practices. Based on these self-assessment findings, the district school superintendent shall provide recommendations to the district school board which identify strategies and activities that the district school board should implement in order to improve school safety and security. Annually Each district school board must annually receive the self-assessment results at a publicly noticed district school board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to hear the district school board members discuss and take action on the report findings. Each district school superintendent shall report the self-assessment results and school board action to the commissioner within 30 days after the district school board meeting.

(7) RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES.—Each school district shall provide funding for, train school staff members on, and support the implementation of school-based restorative justice practices. Schools shall use these practices to foster a sense of school community and to resolve conflict by encouraging the reporting of harm and by restoring positive relationships. There are various ways to use these practices in the schools and in the juvenile justice system where students and educators work together to set academic goals, develop core values for the classroom, and resolve conflicts. Many types of restorative justice practices, such as restorative circles, may be used to promote a positive learning environment and to confront issues as they arise. Some common restorative circles that schools use

39-00418-16 2016490

for discipline may include, but need not be limited to:

- (a) Discipline circles that address the harm that occurred, repair the harm, and develop solutions to prevent recurrence of the harm among the parties involved.
- (b) Proactive behavior management circles that use role play to develop positive behavioral models for students.
- (8) SUPPORT STAFF.—Each school district shall provide funding to hire staff members to improve school climate and safety, such as social workers, counselors, and restorative justice coordinators, at the nationally recommended ratio of 250 students to 1 counselor in order to reduce dependency on school safety officers, school resource officers, and other school resources.
- (9) SURVEYS.—Each school district shall annually survey parents, students, and teachers regarding school safety and disciplinary issues.
- Section 3. Section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1006.12 School resource officers and school safety officers.—
- (1)  $\underline{A}$  district school <u>board</u> boards may establish  $\underline{a}$  school resource officer <u>program</u> programs, through a cooperative agreement with  $\underline{a}$  law enforcement <u>agency</u> agencies or in accordance with subsection (2).
- (a) Each school resource officer must officers shall be a certified law enforcement officer officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), and have been who are employed for at least 2 years by a law enforcement agency as defined in s. 943.10(4). The powers and duties of a law enforcement officer shall continue

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39-00418-16 2016490

throughout the employee's tenure as a school resource officer.

- (b) A school resource officer officers shall abide by district school board policies and shall consult with and coordinate activities through the school principal, but is shall be responsible to the law enforcement agency in all matters relating to employment, subject to agreements between the a district school board and the a law enforcement agency. A school resource officer's activities that conducted by the school resource officer which are part of the regular instructional program of the school are shall be under the direction of the school principal.
- (c) A school resource officer may arrest a student only for a violation of law which constitutes a serious threat to school safety and only after consultation with the school principal or the principal's designee, documented attempts at intervention or in-school consequences, and pursuant to the standards for intervention and the cooperative agreement as described in ss. 1006.07 and 1006.13, respectively. If a school resource officer arrests a student in a school-related incident, the officer shall immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee. A school resource officer may not arrest or otherwise refer a student to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system for a petty act of misconduct unless it is determined that the failure to do so would endanger the physical safety of other students or staff at the school. Such determination must be documented in a written report to the principal or the principal's designee which includes a description of the behavior at issue and an explanation of why an arrest or referral was necessary.

39-00418-16 2016490

(2) (a) Each school safety officer must officers shall be a law enforcement officer officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), certified under the provisions of chapter 943 and have been employed for at least 2 years by either a law enforcement agency or by the district school board. If the officer is employed by the district school board, the district school board is the employing agency for purposes of chapter 943, and must comply with the provisions of that chapter.

- (b) A district school board may 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.
- (c) A school safety officer may has and shall exercise the power to make arrests for violations of law on district school board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such property, who violate any law on such property under the same conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests. A school safety officer may arrest a student only for a violation of law which constitutes a serious threat to school safety and only after consultation with the school principal or the principal's designee, documented attempts at intervention or in-school consequences, and pursuant to the standards for intervention and the cooperative agreement as described in ss. 1006.07 and 1006.13, respectively. If a school safety officer arrests a student in a school-related incident, the officer shall immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee. A school safety officer may not arrest or otherwise

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39-00418-16 2016490

639 refer a student to the criminal justice system or the juvenile 640 justice system for a petty act of misconduct unless it is 641 determined that the failure to do so would endanger the physical 642 safety of other students or staff at the school. Such 643 determination must be documented in a written report to the 644 principal or the principal's designee which includes a 645 description of the behavior at issue and an explanation of why an arrest or referral was necessary A school safety officer has 646 647 the authority to carry weapons when performing his or her official duties. 648

- (d) A district school board may enter into mutual aid agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided in chapter 23. A school safety officer's salary may be paid jointly by the district school board and the law enforcement agency, as mutually agreed to.
- (3) Each law enforcement agency serving a school district shall do all of the following:
- (a) Enter into a cooperative agreement with the district school board pursuant to s. 1006.13.
- (b) Ensure that each school resource officer and school safety officer is trained to use appropriate and positive interactions with students in different stages of mental, emotional, and physical development and to implement the range of interventions and school-based consequences that should be used to avoid an arrest. Training must include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Child and adolescent development and psychology;
  - 2. Teaching students to respond in age-appropriate ways;
  - 3. Cultural differences and unconscious bias;

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39-00418-16 2016490

- 4. Restorative justice practices;
- 5. Rights of students with disabilities and appropriate responses to their behaviors;
  - 6. Practices that improve the school climate; and
- 7. The creation of safe environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students.
- (c) Establish the following minimum qualifications for the selection of school resource officers and school safety officers:
- 1. Proficiency in verbal, written, and interpersonal skills that include public speaking;
- 2. Knowledge and experience in matters involving cultural diversity and sensitivity;
- 3. Training in best practices for working with students as specified in paragraph (b);
- $\underline{\text{4. Commitment to serving as a positive role model for}}$  students;
- 5. Passion for and desire to interact positively with students; and
- 6. An employment record with no history of excessive force or racial bias.
- Section 4. Section 1006.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1006.13 Policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system of zero tolerance for crime and victimization.
- (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to promote a safe and supportive learning environment in schools, to protect students and staff from conduct that poses a serious threat to

39-00418-16 2016490

school safety, and to encourage schools to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to law enforcement agencies by addressing disruptive behavior through restitution, civil citation, teen court, neighborhood restorative justice, or similar programs. The Legislature finds that referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system zero-tolerance policies are not intended to be rigorously applied to petty acts of misconduct and misdemeanors, including, but not limited to, minor fights or disturbances. The Legislature finds that zero-tolerance policies on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system must apply equally to all students regardless of their economic status, race, or disability.

- (2) Each district school board shall adopt a policy <u>on</u> referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system which <del>of zero tolerance that:</del>
- (a) Clearly limits the role of law enforcement intervention to serious threats to school safety and delineates clear roles in which school principals and their designees, under the constraints of the standards for intervention as described in s. 1006.07 and other district policies, are the final decision makers on disciplinary consequences, including referrals to law enforcement agencies.
- (b) Defines criteria for reporting to a law enforcement agency any act that occurs whenever or wherever students are within the jurisdiction of the district school board and that poses a serious threat to school safety. An act that does not pose a serious threat to school safety must be handled within the school's disciplinary system.

39-00418-16 2016490

 $\underline{\text{(c)}}$  Defines acts that pose a serious threat to school safety, including, but not limited to, those acts or behaviors specified in s. 1006.07(2)(c)2.

- (d) (e) Defines petty acts of misconduct, including, but not limited to, behavior that could amount to the misdemeanor criminal charge of disorderly conduct, disturbing a school function, loitering, simple assault or battery, affray, theft of less than \$300, trespassing, vandalism of less than \$1,000, criminal mischief, and other behavior that does not pose a serious threat to school safety.
- (e) Specifies that students may not be arrested or otherwise referred to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system for petty acts of misconduct unless it is determined that the failure to do so would endanger the physical safety of other students or staff at the school. Such determination must be documented in a written report that includes a description of the behavior at issue and an explanation of why an arrest or referral was necessary.
- $\underline{\text{(f)}}$  Minimizes the victimization of students, staff, or volunteers, including taking all steps necessary to protect the victim of any violent crime from any further victimization.
- $\underline{(g)}$  (e) Establishes a procedure that provides each student with the opportunity for a review of the disciplinary action imposed pursuant to s. 1006.07.
- (h) Establishes data-sharing protocols so that each school district receives, at least twice a year, a report on the number of school-based arrests of students. All data must be disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, school, offense, and the name of the law enforcement officer involved and match the

39-00418-16 2016490

school district's records on grade, disability, and status as a limited English proficient student.

- (3) This section does not limit a school's authority and discretion under law to use other disciplinary consequences and interventions as appropriate to address school-based incidents.
- <u>(4) (3)</u> The policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system Zero-tolerance policies must require a student who is students found to have committed one of the following offenses to be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full year, and to be referred to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system:
- (a) Bringing a firearm or weapon, as defined in  $\underline{s.790.001}$  or 18 U.S.C.  $\underline{s.921}$  chapter 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school-sponsored transportation or possessing a firearm at school.
- (b) Making a threat or false report, as <u>provided in defined</u> by ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity.

 $\underline{A}$  district school <u>board</u> <u>boards</u> may assign the student to a disciplinary program for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion.  $\underline{A}$  district school <u>superintendent</u> <u>superintendents</u> may consider the 1-year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if the request

39-00418-16 2016490

for modification is in writing and it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system. If a student committing any of the offenses in this subsection is a student who has a disability, the district school board shall comply with applicable State Board of Education rules.

- (5)(4)(a) Each district school board, in collaboration with students, educators, parents, and stakeholders, shall enter into cooperative agreements with the county sheriff's office and local police department specifying guidelines for ensuring that acts that pose a serious threat to school safety, whether committed by a student or adult, are reported to a law enforcement agency. Such agreements must:
- (a) (b) The agreements must Include the role of school safety officers and school resource officers, if applicable, in handling reported incidents that pose a serious threat to school safety and, circumstances in which school officials may handle incidents without filing a report with a law enforcement agency, and a procedure for ensuring that school personnel properly report appropriate delinquent acts and crimes.
- (b) (c) Clarify that Zero-tolerance policies do not require the reporting of petty acts of misconduct and misdemeanors may not be reported to a law enforcement agency, including, but not limited to, disorderly conduct, disturbing disrupting a school function, loitering, simple assault or battery, affray, theft of less than \$300, trespassing, and vandalism of less than \$1,000, criminal mischief, and other misdemeanors that do not pose a serious threat to school safety.
- (c) (d) Clarify the role of the school principal in ensuring shall ensure that all school personnel are properly informed of

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39-00418-16 2016490

as to their responsibilities regarding crime reporting, that appropriate delinquent acts and crimes are properly reported, and that actions taken in cases with special circumstances are properly taken and documented.

- (d) Specify training for each school resource officer and school safety officer on school grounds to foster appropriate and positive interactions with students in different stages of mental, emotional, and physical development and to implement the range of interventions and school-based consequences that should be used to avoid an arrest. Training must include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Child and adolescent development and psychology;
  - 2. Teaching students to respond in age-appropriate ways;
  - 3. Cultural differences and unconscious bias;
  - 4. Restorative justice practices;
- 5. Rights of students with disabilities and appropriate responses to their behaviors;
  - 6. Practices that improve the school climate; and
- 7. The creation of safe environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students.
- (e) Include clear guidelines for selecting school resource officers and school safety officers, who must meet the following minimum qualifications:
- 1. Proficiency in verbal, written, and interpersonal skills that include public speaking;
- 2. Knowledge and experience in matters involving cultural diversity and sensitivity;
- 3. Training in best practices for working with students as specified in paragraph (d);

39-00418-16 2016490

4. Commitment to serving as a positive role model for students;

- 5. Passion for and desire to interact positively with students; and
- 6. An employment record with no history of excessive force or racial bias.
- (f) Require a school district to annually review the cost and effectiveness of its school safety programs, including the use of school safety officers, school resource officers, and other security measures, to report its findings to the Department of Education by August 1 of each school year, and to use these findings to reevaluate and improve school safety programs.
- (6) (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each district school board shall adopt rules providing that <u>a any</u> student found to have committed <u>an any</u> offense in s. 784.081(1), (2), or (3) shall be expelled or placed in an alternative school setting or other program, as appropriate. Upon being charged with the offense, <u>and pending disposition</u>, the student shall be removed from the classroom immediately and placed in an alternative school setting <u>pending disposition</u>.
- (7) (a) (6) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law prohibiting the disclosure of the identity of a minor, if a whenever any student who is attending a public school is adjudicated guilty of or delinquent for, or is found to have committed, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony violation of:
  - 1. Chapter 782, relating to homicide;
  - 2. Chapter 784, relating to assault, battery, and culpable

39-00418-16 2016490

negligence;

- 3. Chapter 787, relating to kidnapping, false imprisonment, luring or enticing a child, and custody offenses;
  - 4. Chapter 794, relating to sexual battery;
  - 5. Chapter 800, relating to lewdness and indecent exposure;
  - 6. Chapter 827, relating to abuse of children;
  - 7. Section 812.13, relating to robbery;
- 8. Section 812.131, relating to robbery by sudden snatching;
  - 9. Section 812.133, relating to carjacking; or
  - 10. Section 812.135, relating to home-invasion robbery,

and, before or at the time of such adjudication, withholding of adjudication, or plea, the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> was attending a school attended by the victim or a sibling of the victim of the offense, the Department of Juvenile Justice shall notify the appropriate district school board of the adjudication or plea, the requirements <u>of in</u> this paragraph, and whether the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> is prohibited from attending that school or riding on a school bus <u>if whenever</u> the victim or a sibling of the victim is attending the same school or riding on the same school bus, except as provided pursuant to a written disposition order under s. 985.455(2). Upon receipt of such notice, the district school board shall take appropriate action to effectuate the provisions in paragraph (b).

(b) Each district school board shall adopt a cooperative agreement with the Department of Juvenile Justice which establishes guidelines for ensuring that  $\underline{a}$  any no contact order entered by a court is reported and enforced and that all of the

39-00418-16 2016490

necessary steps are taken to protect the victim of the offense. Any student offender described in paragraph (a), who is not exempt exempted as provided in paragraph (a), may not attend the any school attended by the victim or a sibling of the victim of the offense or ride on a school bus on which the victim or a sibling of the victim is riding. The district school board shall allow the student offender shall be permitted by the district school board to attend another school within the district in which the student offender resides, only if the other school is not attended by the victim or sibling of the victim. Another district school board may allow of the offense; or the student offender may be permitted by another district school board to attend a school in that district if the student offender is unable to attend any school in the district in which the student offender resides.

- (c) If the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> is unable to attend any other school in the district in which the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> resides and is prohibited from attending a school in another school district, the district school board in the school district in which the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> resides shall take every reasonable precaution to keep the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> separated from the victim while on school grounds or on school transportation. The steps <u>to be</u> taken by a district school board to keep the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> separated from the victim must include, but are not limited to, in-school suspension of the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> and the scheduling of classes, lunch, or other school activities of the victim and the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> so as not to coincide.
- (d) The <u>student</u> offender, or the parents of the <u>student</u> offender if the student offender is a juvenile, shall arrange

39-00418-16 2016490

and pay for transportation associated with or required by the student's offender's attending another school or that would be required as a consequence of the prohibition against riding on a school bus on which the victim or a sibling of the victim is riding. If the student is experiencing homelessness as described in s. 1003.01(12) or belongs to a family whose income does not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty level, the school district shall arrange and pay for the transportation. However, The student offender or the parents of the student offender may not be charged for existing modes of transportation which that can be used by the student offender at no additional cost to the district school board.

- (8) (7) Any disciplinary or prosecutorial action taken against a student who violates the a zero-tolerance policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system must be based on the particular circumstances of the student's misconduct.
- (9) (8) A school district shall districts are encouraged to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to a law enforcement agency agencies unless the use of such alternatives will pose a threat to school safety. By August 1 of each year, a school district shall provide to the department all policies and agreements adopted or implemented pursuant to this section.
- (10) To assist a school district in developing policies that ensure students are not arrested or otherwise referred to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system for petty acts of misconduct, the department shall, by March 1, 2017, in collaboration with students, educators, parents, and stakeholders, develop and provide to each school district a

39-00418-16 2016490\_\_

model policy.

(11) On or before January 1 of each year, the Commissioner of Education shall report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the implementation of this section. The report must include data regarding school-based arrests and referrals of students to law enforcement agencies.

Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public school students must receive accurate and timely information regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:

(5) SAFETY.—In accordance with the provisions of  $\underline{s}$ .  $\underline{1006.13(7)}$   $\underline{s}$ .  $\underline{1006.13(6)}$ , students who have been victims of certain felony offenses by other students, as well as the siblings of the student victims, have the right to be kept separated from the student offender both at school and during school transportation.

Section 6. Subsection (5) of section 1002.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.23 Family and School Partnership for Student Achievement  $\operatorname{Act}$ .

(5) Each school district shall develop and disseminate a parent guide to successful student achievement, consistent with the guidelines of the Department of Education, which addresses what parents need to know about their child's educational

39-00418-16 2016490

progress and how parents can help their child to succeed in school. The guide must:

- (a) Be understandable to students and parents;
- (b) Be distributed to all parents, students, and school personnel at the beginning of each school year;
- (c) Be discussed at the beginning of each school year in meetings of students, parents, and teachers;
- (d) Include information concerning services, opportunities, choices, academic standards, and student assessment; and
- (e) Provide information on the importance of student health and available immunizations and vaccinations, including, but not limited to:
- 1. A recommended immunization schedule in accordance with United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations.
- 2. Detailed information regarding the causes, symptoms, and transmission of meningococcal disease and the availability, effectiveness, known contraindications, and appropriate age for the administration of any required or recommended vaccine against meningococcal disease, in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The parent guide <u>described in this subsection</u> may be included as a part of the <u>standards for intervention under s. 1006.07</u> eode of student conduct that is required in s. 1006.07(2).

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39-00418-16 2016490

1002.33 Charter schools.-

- (7) CHARTER.—The major issues involving the operation of a charter school shall be considered in advance and written into the charter. The charter shall be signed by the governing board of the charter school and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.
- (a) The charter shall address and criteria for approval of the charter shall be based on:
- 1. The school's mission, the students to be served, and the ages and grades to be included.
- 2. The focus of the curriculum, the instructional methods to be used, any distinctive instructional techniques to be employed, and identification and acquisition of appropriate technologies needed to improve educational and administrative performance which include a means for promoting safe, ethical, and appropriate uses of technology which comply with legal and professional standards.
- a. The charter shall ensure that reading is a primary focus of the curriculum and that resources are provided to identify and provide specialized instruction for students who are reading below grade level. The curriculum and instructional strategies for reading must be consistent with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and grounded in scientifically based reading research.
- b. In order to provide students with access to diverse instructional delivery models, to facilitate the integration of technology within traditional classroom instruction, and to provide students with the skills they need to compete in the 21st century economy, the Legislature encourages instructional

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39-00418-16 2016490

methods for blended learning courses consisting of both traditional classroom and online instructional techniques. Charter schools may implement blended learning courses which combine traditional classroom instruction and virtual instruction. Students in a blended learning course must be fulltime students of the charter school and receive the online instruction in a classroom setting at the charter school. Instructional personnel certified pursuant to s. 1012.55 who provide virtual instruction for blended learning courses may be employees of the charter school or may be under contract to provide instructional services to charter school students. At a minimum, such instructional personnel must hold an active state or school district adjunct certification under s. 1012.57 for the subject area of the blended learning course. The funding and performance accountability requirements for blended learning courses are the same as those for traditional courses.

- 3. The current incoming baseline standard of student academic achievement, the outcomes to be achieved, and the method of measurement that will be used. The criteria listed in this subparagraph shall include a detailed description of:
- a. How the baseline student academic achievement levels and prior rates of academic progress will be established.
- b. How these baseline rates will be compared to rates of academic progress achieved by these same students while attending the charter school.
- c. To the extent possible, how these rates of progress will be evaluated and compared with rates of progress of other closely comparable student populations.

39-00418-16 2016490

The district school board is required to provide academic student performance data to charter schools for each of their students coming from the district school system, as well as rates of academic progress of comparable student populations in the district school system.

- 4. The methods used to identify the educational strengths and needs of students and how well educational goals and performance standards are met by students attending the charter school. The methods shall provide a means for the charter school to ensure accountability to its constituents by analyzing student performance data and by evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of its major educational programs. Students in charter schools shall, at a minimum, participate in the statewide assessment program created under s. 1008.22.
- 5. In secondary charter schools, a method for determining that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation in s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282.
- 6. A method for resolving conflicts between the governing board of the charter school and the sponsor.
- 7. The admissions procedures and dismissal procedures, including the school's <u>standards for intervention</u> <del>code of student conduct</del>.
- 8. The ways by which the school will achieve a racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or within the racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the same school district.
- 9. The financial and administrative management of the school, including a reasonable demonstration of the professional experience or competence of those individuals or organizations

39-00418-16 2016490

applying to operate the charter school or those hired or retained to perform such professional services and the description of clearly delineated responsibilities and the policies and practices needed to effectively manage the charter school. A description of internal audit procedures and establishment of controls to ensure that financial resources are properly managed must be included. Both public sector and private sector professional experience shall be equally valid in such a consideration.

- 10. The asset and liability projections required in the application which are incorporated into the charter and shall be compared with information provided in the annual report of the charter school.
- 11. A description of procedures that identify various risks and provide for a comprehensive approach to reduce the impact of losses; plans to ensure the safety and security of students and staff; plans to identify, minimize, and protect others from violent or disruptive student behavior; and the manner in which the school will be insured, including whether or not the school will be required to have liability insurance, and, if so, the terms and conditions thereof and the amounts of coverage.
- 12. The term of the charter which shall provide for cancellation of the charter if insufficient progress has been made in attaining the student achievement objectives of the charter and if it is not likely that such objectives can be achieved before expiration of the charter. The initial term of a charter shall be for 4 or 5 years. In order to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a

39-00418-16 2016490

municipality or other public entity as provided by law are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district school board. A charter lab school is eligible for a charter for a term of up to 15 years. In addition, to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a private, not-for-profit, s. 501(c)(3) status corporation are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district school board. Such long-term charters remain subject to annual review and may be terminated during the term of the charter, but only according to the provisions set forth in subsection (8).

- 13. The facilities to be used and their location. The sponsor may not require a charter school to have a certificate of occupancy or a temporary certificate of occupancy for such a facility earlier than 15 calendar days before the first day of school.
- 14. The qualifications to be required of the teachers and the potential strategies used to recruit, hire, train, and retain qualified staff to achieve best value.
- 15. The governance structure of the school, including the status of the charter school as a public or private employer as required in paragraph (12)(i).
- 16. A timetable for implementing the charter which addresses the implementation of each element thereof and the date by which the charter shall be awarded in order to meet this timetable.
- 17. In the case of an existing public school that is being converted to charter status, alternative arrangements for current students who choose not to attend the charter school and

39-00418-16 2016490

for current teachers who choose not to teach in the charter school after conversion in accordance with the existing collective bargaining agreement or district school board rule in the absence of a collective bargaining agreement. However, alternative arrangements shall not be required for current teachers who choose not to teach in a charter lab school, except as authorized by the employment policies of the state university which grants the charter to the lab school.

- 18. Full disclosure of the identity of all relatives employed by the charter school who are related to the charter school owner, president, chairperson of the governing board of directors, superintendent, governing board member, principal, assistant principal, or any other person employed by the charter school who has equivalent decisionmaking authority. For the purpose of this subparagraph, the term "relative" means father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister.
- 19. Implementation of the activities authorized under s. 1002.331 by the charter school when it satisfies the eligibility requirements for a high-performing charter school. A high-performing charter school shall notify its sponsor in writing by March 1 if it intends to increase enrollment or expand grade levels the following school year. The written notice shall specify the amount of the enrollment increase and the grade levels that will be added, as applicable.
  - Section 8. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section

39-00418-16 2016490

1003.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.02 District school board operation and control of public K-12 education within the school district.—As provided in part II of chapter 1001, district school boards are constitutionally and statutorily charged with the operation and control of public K-12 education within their school district. The district school boards must establish, organize, and operate their public K-12 schools and educational programs, employees, and facilities. Their responsibilities include staff development, public K-12 school student education including education for exceptional students and students in juvenile justice programs, special programs, adult education programs, and career education programs. Additionally, district school boards must:

- (1) Provide for the proper accounting for all students of school age, for the attendance and control of students at school, and for proper attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the welfare of students in the following areas:
  - (c) Control of students.-
- 1. Adopt rules for the control, attendance, discipline, inschool suspension, suspension, and expulsion of students and decide all cases recommended for expulsion.
- 2. Maintain <u>standards for intervention</u> a <u>code of student</u> conduct as provided in chapter 1006.
- Section 9. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 1003.32, 1216 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 1217 1003.32 Authority of teacher; responsibility for control of students; district school board and principal duties.—Subject to

39-00418-16 2016490\_\_

law and to the rules of the district school board, each teacher or other member of the staff of any school shall have such authority for the control and discipline of students as may be assigned to him or her by the principal or the principal's designated representative and shall keep good order in the classroom and in other places in which he or she is assigned to be in charge of students.

- (1) In accordance with this section and within the framework of the district school board's standards for intervention code of student conduct, teachers and other instructional personnel shall have the authority to undertake any of the following actions in managing student behavior and ensuring the safety of all students in their classes and school and their opportunity to learn in an orderly and disciplined classroom:
  - (a) Establish classroom rules of conduct.
- (b) Establish and implement consequences, designed to change behavior, for infractions of classroom rules.
- (c) Have disobedient, disrespectful, violent, abusive, uncontrollable, or disruptive students removed from the classroom for behavior management intervention.
- (d) Have violent, abusive, uncontrollable, or disruptive students directed for information or assistance from appropriate school or district school board personnel.
- (e) Assist in enforcing school rules on school property, during school-sponsored transportation, and during schoolsponsored activities.
- (f) Request and receive information as to the disposition of any referrals to the administration for violation of

classroom or school rules.

- (g) Request and receive immediate assistance in classroom management if a student becomes uncontrollable or in case of emergency.
- (h) Request and receive training and other assistance to improve skills in classroom management, violence prevention, conflict resolution, and related areas.
- (i) Press charges if there is a reason to believe that a crime has been committed on school property, during school-sponsored transportation, or during school-sponsored activities.
- (j) Use reasonable force, according to standards adopted by the State Board of Education, to protect himself or herself or others from injury.
- (k) Use corporal punishment according to school board policy and at least the following procedures, if a teacher feels that corporal punishment is necessary:
- 1. The use of corporal punishment shall be approved in principle by the principal before it is used, but approval is not necessary for each specific instance in which it is used. The principal shall prepare guidelines for administering such punishment which identify the types of punishable offenses, the conditions under which the punishment shall be administered, and the specific personnel on the school staff authorized to administer the punishment.
- 2. A teacher or principal may administer corporal punishment only in the presence of another adult who is informed beforehand, and in the student's presence, of the reason for the punishment.
  - 3. A teacher or principal who has administered punishment

shall, upon request, provide the student's parent with a written explanation of the reason for the punishment and the name of the other adult who was present.

(3) A teacher may send a student to the principal's office to maintain effective discipline in the classroom and may recommend an appropriate consequence consistent with the standards for intervention student code of conduct under s. 1006.07. The principal shall respond by employing the teacher's recommended consequence or a more serious disciplinary action if the student's history of disruptive behavior warrants it. If the principal determines that a lesser disciplinary action is appropriate, the principal should consult with the teacher before prior to taking disciplinary action.

Section 10. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (1) of section 1003.53, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.53 Dropout prevention and academic intervention.-

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- (c) A student shall be identified as being eligible to receive services funded through the dropout prevention and academic intervention program based upon one of the following criteria:
- 1. The student is academically unsuccessful as evidenced by low test scores, retention, failing grades, low grade point average, falling behind in earning credits, or not meeting the state or district proficiency levels in reading, mathematics, or writing.
- 2. The student has a pattern of excessive absenteeism or has been identified as a habitual truant.
  - 3. The student has a history of disruptive behavior in

39-00418-16 2016490

school or has committed an offense that warrants out-of-school suspension or expulsion from school according to the district school board's <u>standards for intervention</u> code of student conduct. For the purposes of this program, "disruptive behavior" is behavior that:

- a. Interferes with the student's own learning or the educational process of others and requires attention and assistance beyond that which the traditional program can provide or results in frequent conflicts of a disruptive nature while the student is under the jurisdiction of the school either in or out of the classroom; or
- b. Severely threatens the general welfare of students or others with whom the student comes into contact.
- 4. The student is identified by a school's early warning system pursuant to s. 1001.42(18)(b).
- (d)1. "Second chance schools" means district school board programs provided through cooperative agreements between the Department of Juvenile Justice, private providers, state or local law enforcement agencies, or other state agencies for students who have been disruptive or violent or who have committed serious offenses. As partnership programs, second chance schools are eligible for waivers by the Commissioner of Education from State Board of Education rules that prevent the provision of appropriate educational services to violent, severely disruptive, or delinquent students in small nontraditional settings or in court-adjudicated settings.
- 2. District school boards seeking to enter into a partnership with a private entity or public entity to operate a second chance school for disruptive students may apply to the

39-00418-16 2016490

Department of Education for startup grants. These grants must be available for 1 year and must be used to offset the startup costs for implementing such programs off public school campuses. General operating funds must be generated through the appropriate programs of the Florida Education Finance Program. Grants approved under this program shall be for the full operation of the school by a private nonprofit or for-profit provider or the public entity. This program must operate under rules adopted by the State Board of Education and be implemented to the extent funded by the Legislature.

- 3. A student enrolled in a sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, or tenth grade class may be assigned to a second chance school if the student meets the following criteria:
- a. The student is a habitual truant as defined in s. 1003.01.
- b. The student's excessive absences have detrimentally affected the student's academic progress and the student may have unique needs that a traditional school setting may not meet.
- c. The student's high incidences of truancy have been directly linked to a lack of motivation.
- d. The student has been identified as at risk of dropping out of school.
- 4. A student who is habitually truant may be assigned to a second chance school only if the case staffing committee, established pursuant to s. 984.12, determines that such placement could be beneficial to the student and the criteria included in subparagraph 3. are met.
  - 5. A student may be assigned to a second chance school if

39-00418-16 2016490

the district school board in which the student resides has a second chance school and if the student meets one of the following criteria:

- a. The student habitually exhibits disruptive behavior in violation of the <u>standards for intervention</u> <del>code of student</del> <del>conduct</del> adopted by the district school board.
- b. The student interferes with the student's own learning or the educational process of others and requires attention and assistance beyond that which the traditional program can provide, or, while the student is under the jurisdiction of the school either in or out of the classroom, frequent conflicts of a disruptive nature occur.
- c. The student has committed a serious offense which warrants suspension or expulsion from school according to the district school board's <u>standards for intervention</u> <del>code of student conduct</del>. For the purposes of this program, "serious offense" is behavior which:
- (I) Threatens the general welfare of students or others with whom the student comes into contact;
  - (II) Includes violence;
  - (III) Includes possession of weapons or drugs; or
- (IV) Is harassment or verbal abuse of school personnel or other students.
- 6. Prior to assignment of students to second chance schools, district school boards are encouraged to use alternative programs, such as in-school suspension, which provide instruction and counseling leading to improved student behavior, a reduction in the incidence of truancy, and the development of more effective interpersonal skills.

7. Students assigned to second chance schools must be evaluated by the district school board's child study team before placement in a second chance school. The study team shall ensure that students are not eligible for placement in a program for emotionally disturbed children.

8. Students who exhibit academic and social progress and who wish to return to a traditional school shall complete a character development and law education program and demonstrate preparedness to reenter the regular school setting prior to reentering a traditional school.

Section 11. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 1003.57, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.57 Exceptional students instruction.—

(1)

- (h) School personnel may consider any unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining whether a change in placement is appropriate for a student who has a disability and violates a district school board's standards for intervention code of student conduct. School personnel may remove and place such student in an interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 school days, without regard to whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability, if the student:
- 1. Carries a weapon to or possesses a weapon at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of the school district;
- 2. Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance, while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction

of the school district; or

3. Has inflicted serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of the school district.

Section 12. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and subsection (4) of section 1006.09, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1006.09 Duties of school principal relating to student discipline and school safety.—

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- (c) The principal or the principal's designee may recommend to the district school superintendent the expulsion of any student who has committed a serious breach of conduct, including, but not limited to, willful disobedience, open defiance of authority of a member of his or her staff, violence against persons or property, or any other act which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of the school. A recommendation of expulsion or assignment to a second chance school may also be made for any student found to have intentionally made false accusations that jeopardize the professional reputation, employment, or professional certification of a teacher or other member of the school staff, according to the district school board's standards for intervention board code of student conduct. Any recommendation of expulsion must shall include a detailed report by the principal or the principal's designated representative on the alternative measures taken prior to the recommendation of expulsion.
- (4) When a student has been the victim of a violent crime perpetrated by another student who attends the same school, the

39-00418-16 2016490

school principal shall make full and effective use of the provisions of subsection (2) and  $\underline{s.\ 1006.13(7)}\ \underline{s.\ 1006.13(6)}$ . A school principal who fails to comply with this subsection  $\underline{is}$  shall be ineligible for any portion of the performance pay or the differentiated pay under  $s.\ 1012.22$ . However, if any party responsible for notification fails to properly notify the school, the school principal  $\underline{is}\ \underline{shall}\ \underline{be}\ \underline{eligible}\ for\ the$  performance pay or differentiated pay.

Section 13. Subsection (2) of section 1006.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.10 Authority of school bus drivers and district school boards relating to student discipline and student safety on school buses.—

(2) The district school board shall require a system of progressive discipline of transported students for actions which are prohibited by the standards for intervention code of student conduct. Disciplinary actions, including suspension of students from riding on district school board owned or contracted school buses, shall be subject to district school board policies and procedures and may be imposed by the principal or the principal's designee may delegate any disciplinary authority to school bus drivers except for suspension of students from riding the bus.

Section 14. Paragraph (n) of subsection (4) of section 1006.147, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.147 Bullying and harassment prohibited.-

(4) Each school district shall adopt a policy prohibiting bullying and harassment of a student or employee of a public K-12 educational institution. Each school district's policy shall

39-00418-16 2016490

be in substantial conformity with the Department of Education's model policy. The school district bullying and harassment policy shall afford all students the same protection regardless of their status under the law. The school district may establish separate discrimination policies that include categories of students. The school district shall involve students, parents, teachers, administrators, school staff, school volunteers, community representatives, and local law enforcement agencies in the process of adopting the policy. The school district policy must be implemented in a manner that is ongoing throughout the school year and integrated with a school's curriculum, a school's discipline policies, and other violence prevention efforts. The school district policy must contain, at a minimum, the following components:

(n) A procedure for publicizing the policy, which must include its publication in the standards for intervention code of student conduct required under  $\underline{s.\ 1006.07}\ \underline{s.\ 1006.07(2)}$  and in all employee handbooks.

Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1006.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.15 Student standards for participation in interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular student activities; regulation.—

- (3) (a) To be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student activities, a student must:
- 1. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester or a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1002.3105(5) or

1509 s. 1003.4282.

2. Execute and fulfill the requirements of an academic performance contract between the student, the district school board, the appropriate governing association, and the student's parents, if the student's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the courses required by s. 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282. At a minimum, the contract must require that the student attend summer school, or its graded equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11, as necessary.

- 3. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282 during his or her junior or senior year.
- 4. Maintain satisfactory conduct, including adherence to the school's appropriate dress code and other standards for intervention under s. 1006.07 codes of student conduct policies described in s. 1006.07(2). If a student is convicted of, or is found to have committed, a felony or a delinquent act that would have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon established and published district school board policy.

Section 16. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.

1535 (5)

(b) Each president, or designee, of a postsecondary institution offering a college credit dual enrollment course

39-00418-16 2016490\_\_

1538 must:

1. Provide a copy of the institution's current faculty or adjunct faculty handbook to all faculty members teaching a dual enrollment course.

- 2. Provide to all faculty members teaching a dual enrollment course a copy of the institution's current student handbook, which may include, but is not limited to, information on registration policies, the <u>standards for intervention student</u> code of conduct, grading policies, and critical dates.
- 3. Designate an individual or individuals to observe all faculty members teaching a dual enrollment course, regardless of the location of instruction.
- 4. Use the same criteria to evaluate faculty members teaching a dual enrollment course as the criteria used to evaluate all other faculty members.
- 5. Provide course plans and objectives to all faculty members teaching a dual enrollment course.

Section 17. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 1012.98, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.98 School Community Professional Development Act.-

- (4) The Department of Education, school districts, schools, Florida College System institutions, and state universities share the responsibilities described in this section. These responsibilities include the following:
- (b) Each school district shall develop a professional development system as specified in subsection (3). The system shall be developed in consultation with teachers, teachereducators of Florida College System institutions and state universities, business and community representatives, and local

39-00418-16 2016490

education foundations, consortia, and professional organizations. The professional development system must:

- 1. Be approved by the department. All substantial revisions to the system shall be submitted to the department for review for continued approval.
- 2. Be based on analyses of student achievement data and instructional strategies and methods that support rigorous, relevant, and challenging curricula for all students. Schools and districts, in developing and refining the professional development system, shall also review and monitor school discipline data; school environment surveys; assessments of parental satisfaction; performance appraisal data of teachers, managers, and administrative personnel; and other performance indicators to identify school and student needs that can be met by improved professional performance.
- 3. Provide inservice activities coupled with followup support appropriate to accomplish district-level and school-level improvement goals and standards. The inservice activities for instructional personnel shall focus on analysis of student achievement data, ongoing formal and informal assessments of student achievement, identification and use of enhanced and differentiated instructional strategies that emphasize rigor, relevance, and reading in the content areas, enhancement of subject content expertise, integrated use of classroom technology that enhances teaching and learning, classroom management, parent involvement, and school safety.
- 4. Include a master plan for inservice activities, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, for all district employees from all fund sources. The master plan shall be

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39-00418-16 2016490

updated annually by September 1, must be based on input from teachers and district and school instructional leaders, and must use the latest available student achievement data and research to enhance rigor and relevance in the classroom. Each district inservice plan must be aligned to and support the school-based inservice plans and school improvement plans pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). Each district inservice plan must provide a description of the training that middle grades instructional personnel and school administrators receive on the district's standards for intervention code of student conduct adopted pursuant to s. 1006.07; integrated digital instruction and competency-based instruction and CAPE Digital Tool certificates and CAPE industry certifications; classroom management; student behavior and interaction; extended learning opportunities for students; and instructional leadership. District plans must be approved by the district school board annually in order to ensure compliance with subsection (1) and to allow for dissemination of research-based best practices to other districts. District school boards must submit verification of their approval to the Commissioner of Education no later than October 1, annually. Each school principal may establish and maintain an individual professional development plan for each instructional employee assigned to the school as a seamless component to the school improvement plans developed pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). An individual professional development plan must be related to specific performance data for the students to whom the teacher is assigned, define the inservice objectives and specific measurable improvements expected in student performance as a result of the inservice activity, and include an evaluation

component that determines the effectiveness of the professional development plan.

- 5. Include inservice activities for school administrative personnel that address updated skills necessary for instructional leadership and effective school management pursuant to s. 1012.986.
- 6. Provide for systematic consultation with regional and state personnel designated to provide technical assistance and evaluation of local professional development programs.
- 7. Provide for delivery of professional development by distance learning and other technology-based delivery systems to reach more educators at lower costs.
- 8. Provide for the continuous evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of professional development programs in order to eliminate ineffective programs and strategies and to expand effective ones. Evaluations must consider the impact of such activities on the performance of participating educators and their students' achievement and behavior.
  - 9. For middle grades, emphasize:
- a. Interdisciplinary planning, collaboration, and instruction.
- b. Alignment of curriculum and instructional materials to the state academic standards adopted pursuant to s. 1003.41.
- c. Use of small learning communities; problem-solving, inquiry-driven research and analytical approaches for students; strategies and tools based on student needs; competency-based instruction; integrated digital instruction; and project-based instruction.

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1654	Each school that includes any of grades 6, 7, or 8 must include
1655	in its school improvement plan, required under s. 1001.42(18), a
1656	description of the specific strategies used by the school to

Section 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

implement each item listed in this subparagraph.

Page 58 of 58