

Richard Corcoran Commissioner of Education

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State Board of Education

MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: September 20, 2019

SUBJECT: Child Trafficking Prevention Education

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In Florida, child trafficking prevention has been identified as a high priority by Commissioner Corcoran. The K-12 comprehensive health education concepts of injury prevention/safety and internet safety are the most pertinent in which to address child trafficking prevention education. These concepts are included as part of required instruction through section 1003.42 (2)(n), Florida Statutes, but did not include an assurance mechanism to support and verify that instruction was being delivered.

Florida is third in the nation for numbers of reported cases of human trafficking and the average age of trafficked youth is 11 to 13 years old. In 2018, there were 767 human trafficking cases reported in Florida. Of those cases, 149 were minors.

<u>Rule 6A-1.094123, F.A.C.</u>, was approved by the State Board of Education on September 20, 2019. This rule requires school districts to annually provide instruction to students in grades K-12 related to child trafficking prevention and awareness, and institutes procedures for school districts to document planning and delivery of instruction. The child trafficking prevention education should advance each year through developmentally appropriate instruction and skill building using the adopted health education standards found at <u>www.cpalms.org</u>. Decisions about which course(s) will be used to deliver this instruction and curricula used will be determined at the school district level. The rule will be in effect for the 2019-2020 school year.

By December 1 of each year, each school district must submit an implementation plan to the commissioner at <u>ChildTraffickingPrevention@fldoe.org</u> and post the plan on the school district website. The implementation plan must include:

- (a) The methods in which instruction will be delivered for each grade level;
- (b) The professional qualifications of the person delivering instruction; and
- (c) A description of the materials and resources utilized to deliver instruction.

Additionally, by July 1 of each year, each school district must submit an annual report to the commissioner to verify completion of the instruction.

More information on the details of this rule is forthcoming.

JACOB OLIVA CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS