

2021590e1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2     An act relating to school safety; amending s.  
3     381.0056, F.S.; revising parent, guardian, or  
4     caregiver notification requirements that must be met  
5     before an involuntary examination of a minor; defining  
6     the term "a reasonable attempt to notify"; requiring a  
7     principal or his or her designee who successfully  
8     notifies any known emergency contact to share only the  
9     information necessary to alert such contact that the  
10    parent or caregiver must be contacted; requiring all  
11    such information to be in compliance with federal and  
12    state law; amending s. 394.463, F.S.; revising data  
13    reporting requirements for the Department of Children  
14    and Families; amending s. 1001.212, F.S.; revising  
15    data reporting requirements for the Office of Safe  
16    Schools; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; revising parent  
17    notification requirements; providing an exception;  
18    defining the term "a reasonable attempt to notify";  
19    requiring a principal or his or her designee who  
20    successfully notifies any known emergency contact to  
21    share only the information necessary to alert such  
22    contact that the parent or caregiver must be  
23    contacted; requiring all such information to be in  
24    compliance with federal and state law; providing that  
25    parents of public school students have a right to  
26    access school safety and discipline incidents as  
27    reported; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; revising parent  
28    notification requirements; defining the term "a  
29    reasonable attempt to notify"; requiring a principal

2021590e1

30 or his or her designee who successfully notifies any  
31 known emergency contact to share only the information  
32 necessary to alert such contact that the parent or  
33 caregiver must be contacted; requiring all such  
34 information to be in compliance with federal and state  
35 law; providing an exception; providing that parents of  
36 charter school students have a right to access school  
37 safety and discipline incidents as reported; amending  
38 s. 1006.07, F.S.; requiring codes of student conduct  
39 to include provisions relating to civil citation or  
40 similar prearrest diversion programs for specified  
41 purposes; requiring codes of student conduct to  
42 include provisions relating to the assignment of  
43 students to school-based intervention programs;  
44 prohibiting participation in such programs from being  
45 entered into a specified system under certain  
46 circumstances; authorizing certain procedures to  
47 include accommodations for specified drills; requiring  
48 district school boards to establish certain emergency  
49 response and emergency preparedness policies and  
50 procedures and provide timely notification to parents  
51 following certain unlawful acts or significant  
52 emergencies; creating reporting requirements for  
53 schools relating to involuntary examinations of  
54 minors; amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; revising training  
55 requirements for school safety officers; amending s.  
56 1008.386, F.S.; requiring that student identification  
57 cards issued to certain students by public schools  
58 include specified telephone numbers; amending s.

2021590e1

59 1011.62, F.S.; requiring that certain plans include  
60 procedures to assist certain mental and behavioral  
61 health providers in attempts to verbally de-escalate  
62 certain crisis situations before initiating an  
63 involuntary examination; requiring the procedures to  
64 include certain strategies; creating requirements for  
65 memoranda of understanding between schools and local  
66 mobile crisis response services; providing an  
67 effective date.

68  
69 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

70  
71 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
72 381.0056, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

73 381.0056 School health services program.—

74 (4) (a) Each county health department shall develop, jointly  
75 with the district school board and the local school health  
76 advisory committee, a school health services plan. The plan must  
77 include, at a minimum, provisions for all of the following:

- 78 1. Health appraisal;
- 79 2. Records review;
- 80 3. Nurse assessment;
- 81 4. Nutrition assessment;
- 82 5. A preventive dental program;
- 83 6. Vision screening;
- 84 7. Hearing screening;
- 85 8. Scoliosis screening;
- 86 9. Growth and development screening;
- 87 10. Health counseling;

2021590e1

88 11. Referral and followup of suspected or confirmed health  
89 problems by the local county health department;

90 12. Meeting emergency health needs in each school;

91 13. County health department personnel to assist school  
92 personnel in health education curriculum development;

93 14. Referral of students to appropriate health treatment,  
94 in cooperation with the private health community whenever  
95 possible;

96 15. Consultation with a student's parent or guardian  
97 regarding the need for health attention by the family physician,  
98 dentist, or other specialist when definitive diagnosis or  
99 treatment is indicated;

100 16. Maintenance of records on incidents of health problems,  
101 corrective measures taken, and such other information as may be  
102 needed to plan and evaluate health programs; except, however,  
103 that provisions in the plan for maintenance of health records of  
104 individual students must be in accordance with s. 1002.22;

105 17. Health information which will be provided by the school  
106 health nurses, when necessary, regarding the placement of  
107 students in exceptional student programs and the reevaluation at  
108 periodic intervals of students placed in such programs;

109 18. Notification to the local nonpublic schools of the  
110 school health services program and the opportunity for  
111 representatives of the local nonpublic schools to participate in  
112 the development of the cooperative health services plan; and

113 19. A reasonable attempt to notify ~~Immediate notification~~  
114 ~~to~~ a student's parent, guardian, or caregiver before ~~if~~ the  
115 student is removed from school, school transportation, or a  
116 school-sponsored activity to be ~~and~~ taken to a receiving

2021590e1

117 facility for an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463,  
118 including and subject to the requirements and exceptions  
119 established under ss. 1002.20(3) and 1002.33(9), as applicable.  
120 For purposes of this subparagraph, "a reasonable attempt to  
121 notify" means the exercise of reasonable diligence and care by  
122 the principal or the principal's designee to make contact with  
123 the student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency contact  
124 whom the student's parent or guardian has authorized to receive  
125 notification of an involuntary examination. At a minimum, the  
126 principal or the principal's designee must take the following  
127 actions:

128 a. Use available methods of communication to contact the  
129 student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency contact,  
130 including but not limited to, telephone calls, text messages, e-  
131 mails, and voice mail messages following the decision to  
132 initiate an involuntary examination of the student.

133 b. Document the method and number of attempts made to  
134 contact the student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency  
135 contact, and the outcome of each attempt.

136  
137 A principal or his or her designee who successfully notifies any  
138 other known emergency contact may share only the information  
139 necessary to alert such contact that the parent or caregiver  
140 must be contacted. All such information must be in compliance  
141 with federal and state law.

142 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 394.463, Florida  
143 Statutes, is amended to read:

144 394.463 Involuntary examination.—

145 (4) DATA ANALYSIS.—Using data collected under paragraph

2021590e1

146 (2) (a), the department shall, at a minimum, analyze data on both  
147 the initiation of involuntary examinations of children and the  
148 initiation of involuntary examinations of students who are  
149 removed from a school, identify any patterns or trends and cases  
150 in which involuntary examinations are repeatedly initiated on  
151 the same child or student, study root causes for such patterns,  
152 trends, or repeated involuntary examinations, and make  
153 recommendations to encourage the use of ~~for encouraging~~  
154 alternatives to eliminate ~~and eliminating~~ inappropriate  
155 initiations of such examinations. The department shall submit a  
156 report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the  
157 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
158 Representatives by November 1 of each odd-numbered ~~odd-numbered~~  
159 year.

160 Section 3. Subsection (7) of section 1001.212, Florida  
161 Statutes, is amended to read:

162 1001.212 Office of Safe Schools.—There is created in the  
163 Department of Education the Office of Safe Schools. The office  
164 is fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education. The  
165 office shall serve as a central repository for best practices,  
166 training standards, and compliance oversight in all matters  
167 regarding school safety and security, including prevention  
168 efforts, intervention efforts, and emergency preparedness  
169 planning. The office shall:

170 (7) Provide data to support the evaluation of mental health  
171 services pursuant to s. 1004.44. Such data must include, for  
172 each school, the number of involuntary examinations as defined  
173 in s. 394.455 which are initiated at the school, on school  
174 transportation, or at a school-sponsored activity and the number

2021590e1

175 of children for whom an examination is initiated.

176 Section 4. Paragraph (1) of subsection (3) of section  
177 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (25) is  
178 added to that section, to read:

179 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
180 school students must receive accurate and timely information  
181 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
182 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
183 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
184 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

185 (3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

186 (1) *Notification of involuntary examinations.*—

187 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., the public school  
188 principal or the principal's designee shall make a reasonable  
189 attempt to immediately notify the parent of a student before the  
190 student ~~who~~ is removed from school, school transportation, or a  
191 school-sponsored activity to be ~~and~~ taken to a receiving  
192 facility for an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463.  
193 For purposes of this subparagraph, "a reasonable attempt to  
194 notify" means the exercise of reasonable diligence and care by  
195 the principal or the principal's designee to make contact with  
196 the student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency contact  
197 whom the student's parent or guardian has authorized to receive  
198 notification of an involuntary examination. At a minimum, the  
199 principal or the principal's designee must take the following  
200 actions:

201 a. Use available methods of communication to contact the  
202 student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency contact,  
203 including but not limited to, telephone calls, text messages, e-

2021590e1

204 mails, and voice mail messages following the decision to  
205 initiate an involuntary examination of the student.

206 b. Document the method and number of attempts made to  
207 contact the student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency  
208 contact, and the outcome of each attempt.

209  
210 A principal or his or her designee who successfully notifies any  
211 other known emergency contact may share only the information  
212 necessary to alert such contact that the parent or caregiver  
213 must be contacted. All such information must be in compliance  
214 with federal and state law.

215 2. The principal or the principal's designee may delay the  
216 required notification for no more than 24 hours after the  
217 student is removed if:

218 a. The principal or the principal's designee deems the  
219 delay to be in the student's best interest and ~~if~~ a report has  
220 been submitted to the central abuse hotline, pursuant to s.  
221 39.201, based upon knowledge or suspicion of abuse, abandonment,  
222 or neglect; or

223 b. The principal or principal's designee reasonably  
224 believes that such delay is necessary to avoid jeopardizing the  
225 health and safety of the student.

226 3. Before a principal or his or her designee contacts a law  
227 enforcement officer, he or she must verify that de-escalation  
228 strategies have been utilized and outreach to a mobile response  
229 team has been initiated unless the principal or the principal's  
230 designee reasonably believes that any delay in removing the  
231 student will increase the likelihood of harm to the student or  
232 others. This requirement does not supersede the authority of a



2021590e1

233 law enforcement officer to act under s. 394.463.

234  
235 Each district school board shall develop a policy and procedures  
236 for notification under this paragraph.

237 (25) SAFE SCHOOLS.—

238 (a) School safety and emergency incidents.—Parents of  
239 public school students have a right to timely notification of  
240 threats, unlawful acts, and significant emergencies pursuant to  
241 s. 1006.07(4) and (7).

242 (b) School environmental safety incident reporting.—Parents  
243 of public school students have a right to access school safety  
244 and discipline incidents as reported pursuant to s. 1006.07(9).

245 Section 5. Paragraph (q) of subsection (9) of section  
246 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (r) is  
247 added to that subsection, to read:

248 1002.33 Charter schools.—

249 (9) CHARTER SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS.—

250 (q)1. The charter school principal or the principal's  
251 designee shall make a reasonable attempt to ~~immediately~~ notify  
252 the parent of a student before the student ~~who~~ is removed from  
253 school, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity to  
254 be ~~and~~ taken to a receiving facility for an involuntary  
255 examination pursuant to s. 394.463. For purposes of this  
256 subparagraph, "a reasonable attempt to notify" means the  
257 exercise of reasonable diligence and care by the principal or  
258 the principal's designee to make contact with the student's  
259 parent, guardian, or other known emergency contact whom the  
260 student's parent or guardian has authorized to receive  
261 notification of an involuntary examination. At a minimum, the

2021590e1

262 principal or the principal's designee must take the following  
263 actions:

264 a. Use available methods of communication to contact the  
265 student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency contact,  
266 including but not limited to, telephone calls, text messages, e-  
267 mails, and voice mail messages following the decision to  
268 initiate an involuntary examination of the student.

269 b. Document the method and number of attempts made to  
270 contact the student's parent, guardian, or other known emergency  
271 contact, and the outcome of each attempt.

272  
273 A principal or his or her designee who successfully notifies any  
274 other known emergency contact may share only the information  
275 necessary to alert such contact that the parent or caregiver  
276 must be contacted. All such information must be in compliance  
277 with federal and state law.

278 2. The principal or the principal's designee may delay  
279 notification for no more than 24 hours after the student is  
280 removed if:

281 a. The principal or the principal's designee deems the  
282 delay to be in the student's best interest and ~~if~~ a report has  
283 been submitted to the central abuse hotline, pursuant to s.  
284 39.201, based upon knowledge or suspicion of abuse, abandonment,  
285 or neglect; or

286 b. The principal or the principal's designee reasonably  
287 believes that such delay is necessary to avoid jeopardizing the  
288 health and safety of the student.

289 3. Before a principal or his or her designee contacts a law  
290 enforcement officer, he or she must verify that de-escalation

2021590e1

291 strategies have been utilized and outreach to a mobile response  
292 team has been initiated unless the principal or the principal's  
293 designee reasonably believes that any delay in removing the  
294 student will increase the likelihood of harm to the student or  
295 others. This requirement does not supersede the authority of a  
296 law enforcement officer to act under s. 394.463.

297

298 Each charter school governing board shall develop a policy and  
299 procedures for notification under this paragraph.

300 (r)1. Parents of charter school students have a right to  
301 timely notification of threats, unlawful acts, and significant  
302 emergencies pursuant to s. 1006.07(4) and (7).

303 2. Parents of charter school students have a right to  
304 access school safety and discipline incidents as reported  
305 pursuant to s. 1006.07(9).

306 Section 6. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (4) of  
307 section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraphs  
308 (n) and (o) of subsection (2) and subsection (10) are added to  
309 that section, to read:

310 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student  
311 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall  
312 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the  
313 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper  
314 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the  
315 welfare of students, including:

316 (2) CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT.—Adopt a code of student  
317 conduct for elementary schools and a code of student conduct for  
318 middle and high schools and distribute the appropriate code to  
319 all teachers, school personnel, students, and parents, at the

2021590e1

320 beginning of every school year. Each code shall be organized and  
321 written in language that is understandable to students and  
322 parents and shall be discussed at the beginning of every school  
323 year in student classes, school advisory council meetings, and  
324 parent and teacher association or organization meetings. Each  
325 code shall be based on the rules governing student conduct and  
326 discipline adopted by the district school board and shall be  
327 made available in the student handbook or similar publication.  
328 Each code shall include, but is not limited to:

329 (n) Criteria for recommending to law enforcement that a  
330 student who commits a criminal offense be allowed to participate  
331 in a civil citation or similar prearrest diversion program as an  
332 alternative to expulsion or arrest. All civil citation or  
333 similar prearrest diversion programs must comply with s. 985.12.

334 (o) Criteria for assigning a student who commits a petty  
335 act of misconduct, as defined by the district school board  
336 pursuant to s. 1006.13(2)(c), to a school-based intervention  
337 program. If a student's assignment is based on a noncriminal  
338 offense, the student's participation in a school-based  
339 intervention program may not be entered into the Juvenile  
340 Justice Information System Prevention Web.

341 (4) EMERGENCY DRILLS; EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.—

342 (a) Formulate and prescribe policies and procedures, in  
343 consultation with the appropriate public safety agencies, for  
344 emergency drills and for actual emergencies, including, but not  
345 limited to, fires, natural disasters, active assailant ~~shooter~~  
346 and hostage situations, and bomb threats, for all students and  
347 faculty at all public schools of the district comprised of  
348 grades K-12. Drills for active assailant ~~shooter~~ and hostage

2021590e1

349 situations shall be conducted in accordance with developmentally  
350 appropriate and age-appropriate procedures at least as often as  
351 other emergency drills. District school board policies shall  
352 include commonly used alarm system responses for specific types  
353 of emergencies and verification by each school that drills have  
354 been provided as required by law and fire protection codes and  
355 may provide accommodations for drills conducted by exceptional  
356 student education centers. District school boards shall  
357 establish ~~The~~ emergency response and emergency preparedness  
358 policies and procedures that include, but are not limited to,  
359 identifying ~~policy shall identify~~ the individuals responsible  
360 for contacting the primary emergency response agency and the  
361 emergency response agency that is responsible for notifying the  
362 school district for each type of emergency.

363 (b) Provide timely ~~Establish model emergency management and~~  
364 ~~emergency preparedness procedures, including emergency~~  
365 notification to parents of threats pursuant to policies adopted  
366 under subsection (7) and procedures pursuant to paragraph (a),  
367 ~~for~~ the following unlawful acts or significant emergencies that  
368 occur on school grounds, during school transportation, or during  
369 school-sponsored activities ~~life-threatening emergencies:~~

370 1. Weapons possession or use when there is intended harm  
371 toward another person ~~Weapon-use~~, hostage, and active assailant  
372 ~~shooter~~ situations. The active assailant ~~shooter~~ situation  
373 training for each school must engage the participation of the  
374 district school safety specialist, threat assessment team  
375 members, faculty, staff, and students and must be conducted by  
376 the law enforcement agency or agencies that are designated as  
377 first responders to the school's campus.

2021590e1

378 2. Murder, homicide, or manslaughter.

379 3. Sex offenses, including rape, sexual assault, or sexual  
380 misconduct with a student by school personnel.

381 ~~2. Hazardous materials or toxic chemical spills.~~

382 ~~4.3. Natural ~~Weather~~ emergencies, including hurricanes,~~  
383 ~~tornadoes, and severe storms.~~

384 ~~5.4. Exposure as a result of a manmade emergency.~~

385 (10) REPORTING OF INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATIONS.—Each district  
386 school board shall adopt a policy to require the district  
387 superintendent to annually report to the department the number  
388 of involuntary examinations, as defined in s. 394.455, which are  
389 initiated at a school, on school transportation, or at a school-  
390 sponsored activity.

391 Section 7. Present paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of  
392 section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph  
393 (d), and a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, to  
394 read:

395 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For the  
396 protection and safety of school personnel, property, students,  
397 and visitors, each district school board and school district  
398 superintendent shall partner with law enforcement agencies or  
399 security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school  
400 officers at each school facility within the district, including  
401 charter schools. A district school board must collaborate with  
402 charter school governing boards to facilitate charter school  
403 access to all safe-school officer options available under this  
404 section. The school district may implement any combination of  
405 the options in subsections (1)-(4) to best meet the needs of the  
406 school district and charter schools.

2021590e1

407 (2) SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER.—A school district may commission  
408 one or more school safety officers for the protection and safety  
409 of school personnel, property, and students within the school  
410 district. The district school superintendent may recommend, and  
411 the district school board may appoint, one or more school safety  
412 officers.

413 (c) School safety officers must complete mental health  
414 crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a  
415 national organization with expertise in mental health crisis  
416 intervention. The training shall improve officers' knowledge and  
417 skills as first responders to incidents involving students with  
418 emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation  
419 skills to ensure student and officer safety.

420  
421 If a district school board, through its adopted policies,  
422 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any  
423 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school  
424 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety  
425 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the  
426 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource  
427 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school  
428 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.  
429 1011.62(15) and shall be retained by the school district.

430 Section 8. Section 1008.386, Florida Statutes, is amended  
431 to read:

432 1008.386 Florida student identification ~~numbers~~.—

433 (1) When a student enrolls in a public school in this  
434 state, the district school board shall request that the student  
435 provide his or her social security number and shall indicate

2021590e1

436 whether the student identification number assigned to the  
437 student is a social security number. A student satisfies this  
438 requirement by presenting his or her social security card or a  
439 copy of the card to a school enrollment official. However, a  
440 student is not required to provide his or her social security  
441 number as a condition for enrollment or graduation. The  
442 Commissioner of Education shall assist school districts with the  
443 assignment of student identification numbers to avoid  
444 duplication of any student identification number.

445 (2) The department shall establish a process for assigning  
446 a Florida student identification number to each student in the  
447 state, at which time a school district may not use social  
448 security numbers as student identification numbers in its  
449 management information systems.

450 (3) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, any student  
451 identification card issued by a public school to students in  
452 grades 6 through 12 must include the telephone numbers for  
453 national or statewide crisis and suicide hotlines and text  
454 lines.

455 (4) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to  
456 implement this section.

457 Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (16) of section  
458 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

459 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual  
460 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each  
461 district for operation of schools is not determined in the  
462 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing  
463 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as  
464 follows:



2021590e1

465 (16) MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION.—The mental health  
466 assistance allocation is created to provide funding to assist  
467 school districts in establishing or expanding school-based  
468 mental health care; train educators and other school staff in  
469 detecting and responding to mental health issues; and connect  
470 children, youth, and families who may experience behavioral  
471 health issues with appropriate services. These funds shall be  
472 allocated annually in the General Appropriations Act or other  
473 law to each eligible school district. Each school district shall  
474 receive a minimum of \$100,000, with the remaining balance  
475 allocated based on each school district's proportionate share of  
476 the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student  
477 enrollment. Charter schools that submit a plan separate from the  
478 school district are entitled to a proportionate share of  
479 district funding. The allocated funds may not supplant funds  
480 that are provided for this purpose from other operating funds  
481 and may not be used to increase salaries or provide bonuses.  
482 School districts are encouraged to maximize third-party health  
483 insurance benefits and Medicaid claiming for services, where  
484 appropriate.

485 (b) The plans required under paragraph (a) must be focused  
486 on a multitiered system of supports to deliver evidence-based  
487 mental health care assessment, diagnosis, intervention,  
488 treatment, and recovery services to students with one or more  
489 mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and to  
490 students at high risk of such diagnoses. The provision of these  
491 services must be coordinated with a student's primary mental  
492 health care provider and with other mental health providers  
493 involved in the student's care. At a minimum, the plans must

2021590e1

494 include the following elements:

495 1. Direct employment of school-based mental health services  
496 providers to expand and enhance school-based student services  
497 and to reduce the ratio of students to staff in order to better  
498 align with nationally recommended ratio models. These providers  
499 include, but are not limited to, certified school counselors,  
500 school psychologists, school social workers, and other licensed  
501 mental health professionals. The plan also must identify  
502 strategies to increase the amount of time that school-based  
503 student services personnel spend providing direct services to  
504 students, which may include the review and revision of district  
505 staffing resource allocations based on school or student mental  
506 health assistance needs.

507 2. Contracts or interagency agreements with one or more  
508 local community behavioral health providers or providers of  
509 Community Action Team services to provide a behavioral health  
510 staff presence and services at district schools. Services may  
511 include, but are not limited to, mental health screenings and  
512 assessments, individual counseling, family counseling, group  
513 counseling, psychiatric or psychological services, trauma-  
514 informed care, mobile crisis services, and behavior  
515 modification. These behavioral health services may be provided  
516 on or off the school campus and may be supplemented by  
517 telehealth.

518 3. Policies and procedures, including contracts with  
519 service providers, which will ensure that students who are  
520 referred to a school-based or community-based mental health  
521 service provider for mental health screening for the  
522 identification of mental health concerns and ensure that the

2021590e1

523 assessment of students at risk for mental health disorders  
524 occurs within 15 days of referral. School-based mental health  
525 services must be initiated within 15 days after identification  
526 and assessment, and support by community-based mental health  
527 service providers for students who are referred for community-  
528 based mental health services must be initiated within 30 days  
529 after the school or district makes a referral.

530 4. Strategies or programs to reduce the likelihood of at-  
531 risk students developing social, emotional, or behavioral health  
532 problems, depression, anxiety disorders, suicidal tendencies, or  
533 substance use disorders.

534 5. Strategies to improve the early identification of  
535 social, emotional, or behavioral problems or substance use  
536 disorders, to improve the provision of early intervention  
537 services, and to assist students in dealing with trauma and  
538 violence.

539 6. Procedures to assist a mental health services provider  
540 or a behavioral health provider as described in subparagraph 1.  
541 or subparagraph 2., respectively, or a school resource officer  
542 or school safety officer who has completed mental health crisis  
543 intervention training in attempting to verbally de-escalate a  
544 student's crisis situation before initiating an involuntary  
545 examination pursuant to s. 394.463. Such procedures must include  
546 strategies to de-escalate a crisis situation for a student with  
547 a developmental disability as that term is defined in s.  
548 393.063.

549 7. Policies of the school district must require that in a  
550 student crisis situation, school or law enforcement personnel  
551 must make a reasonable attempt to contact a mental health

2021590e1

552 professional who may initiate an involuntary examination  
553 pursuant to s. 394.463, unless the child poses an imminent  
554 danger to themselves or others, before initiating an involuntary  
555 examination pursuant to s. 394.463. Such contact may be in  
556 person or using telehealth as defined in s. 456.47. The mental  
557 health professional may be available to the school district  
558 either by contracts or interagency agreements with the managing  
559 entity, one or more local community behavioral health providers,  
560 or the local mobile response team or be a direct or contracted  
561 school district employee.

562 Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.