MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents
    District School Finance Officers

FROM: Linda Champion

DATE: June 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Educational Facilities Security Grant – Senate Bill 7026

The purpose of this memo is to provide school districts with educational facilities security grant guidelines, specific evaluation criteria, as well as pertinent deadlines. Section 44 of Senate Bill 7026 (Chapter 2018-3, Laws of Florida) appropriated $98,962,286 in nonrecurring funds to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) to implement a grant program that provides capital outlay funds to improve the physical security of school buildings based on a security risk assessment required by sections 1006.07 and 1006.1493, Florida Statutes (F.S.), to be completed before August 1, 2018. District preliminary allocations will be determined in June 2018 based on 2017-18 capital outlay full-time equivalent student membership, with no district receiving less than $100,000. A grant application template will be provided to school districts no later than August 31, 2018. Completed applications must be submitted to the FDOE as soon as possible, but no later than December 1, 2018. The FDOE will award grants no later than January 15, 2019. Completed applications received prior to December 1, 2018, will be processed within 30 days of receipt of a completed application. School districts are to provide charter schools their proportionate share of funds upon receipt of the charter school’s security risk assessment and receipt of funds from the FDOE.

In his letter dated March 23, 2018, Governor Scott stated that although the funding for school hardening will be distributed as quickly as possible, school districts should use existing funding to make any critical safety improvements immediately. Security risk assessments must be conducted in consultation with local law enforcement. Based on the security risk assessment, the campus tours, standard best practices and lessons learned, local law enforcement and campus assessment teams can outline protective measures the school district should consider to enhance the security posture of each campus. Proposed expenditures for the Educational Facilities Security Grant must meet the following criteria and be:

- A fixed capital outlay expenditure;
- Associated with improving the physical safety and security of school buildings;
- Identified by a security risk assessment completed prior to August 1, 2018;
- Used for items other than code compliance deficiencies; and

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Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations
• In addition to or augment existing security features.

These funds are nonrecurring, and may not be used to pay for expenditures related to maintenance of existing security features, administration or compensation of school district employees.

The items listed below are examples and may be considered when addressing school security and are provided here for information only. Please note this is not a comprehensive list.

- Secured entries
- Metal Detectors
- Steel Doors
- Separate visitor entry
- Lighting specifically designed for entry point security
- Security system
- Voice annunciated emergency address system
- Fencing designed to prevent intruder entry into a facility
- Public view monitor in visitor entry so visitors see themselves entering
- Key-lockable door hardware, lockable from inside classroom that meets “one motion egress”
- Bullet-resistant film
- Duress buttons in normally occupied spaces
- Separate vehicular and pedestrian traffic
- Security cameras
- Checkpoint construction
- Remotely controlled access gates
- Automatic locks and locking devices
- Laminated glass
- Increased corridor lighting
- Door closures that do not allow doors to be held open
- Access control systems
- Bullet-resistant glass
- Elimination of hiding places in corridor
- Narrow vision panels on doors so that intruder cannot break glass and unlock door
- Side lights positioned away from door so that intruder cannot break glass and unlock door
- Gridded small sidelights, preventing entry by an intruder

Your efforts in providing a safe and secure learning environment for Florida’s public school students are appreciated.

LC/me

cc: District School Facilities Directors
    Mark Eggers, Assistant Deputy Commissioner