THE BROWARD COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES' SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE

INITIAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

June 4, 2018

Exhibit #8

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA OFFICE OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY

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March 5, 2018

TO:

All School Principals

All Pompano Administrative Complex Staff

FROM:

Valerie S. Wanza, Ph.D.

Chief School Performance and Accountability Officer

SUBJECT:

CAMPUS SECURITY REMINDERS

In the aftermath of the tragedy that occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Wednesday, February 14, 2018, I have received many inquiries regarding the security measures that schools currently employ to keep students and staff safe while on campus. I continue to assure all of our stakeholders that safety and security remain our highest priority. Below are reminders of expectations for you to review with the appropriate personnel at your location.

Campus Safety Reminders

School Safety Plans: All school safety plans must be regularly reviewed and updated as necessary. Input and expertise from appropriate District personnel, local law enforcement and fire officials must be incorporated into the plans. The plan must be clearly articulated to and implemented with all students, staff and stakeholder groups.

Student and Staff Identification Badges: All schools should have identification badges produced for students and staff members. A process for ensuring that the badges are worn at all times must be developed, communicated and initiated. Additionally, individuals visiting campuses must wear some form of identification (district-issued identification badge or site-based generated visitor or volunteer badge) while on campus.

Classroom Doors: All classroom doors must be locked at all times.

<u>Perimeter Gates</u>: Schools leaders should assess their campuses to determine the latest time that perimeter gates will be unlocked. Once the school day begins, all perimeter gates should be locked except for one gate to allow for parent and visitor access to the school. To the extent possible, this gate should be monitored at all times by school personnel. As schools prepare for dismissal, perimeter gates will have to open for the normal flow of traffic. At the conclusion of dismissal and staff departure, all gates should be secured again, except for those that are necessary for any after school activities and/or after school care programs.

<u>Student Uniforms</u>: Many schools have instituted a uniform policy for students. The expectations should be reiterated with parents and strictly enforced. Additionally, all schools must enforce the student dress code guidelines outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

<u>Emergency Drills</u>: Emergency preparedness and response drills/training should continue to occur on a regular basis. This includes fire drills and critical incident drills. Appropriate notice of the drills to essential stakeholders should be provided when necessary.

<u>Security Tracking and Response (STAR) System</u>: Upon entry to campus, all visitors must be processed through the STAR System. This includes, but is not limited to, parents, District staff, vendors, volunteers, and members of the public.



Campus Security Reminders Continued March 5, 2018 Page 2

<u>Monthly Stakeholder Meetings</u>: Input and feedback from stakeholders should be welcomed at monthly parent and community meetings. Minutes should be recorded, shared with stakeholders at subsequent meetings and filed as a part of school records.

<u>Communication of Events to Parents</u>: In the event of a critical incident or planned emergency drill, parents must be provided with timely, accurate and consistent information. A message should be sent via ParentLink capabilities and applicable social media outlets advising parents of the nature of the incident and an assurance of updates being communicated to them when the event has concluded.

Many of our buildings were designed and constructed at a time when schools were not targets for the violence we are currently witnessing. We must continue to be vigilant by addressing the most apparent risks first, while planning for long term strategies. Thank you for your courageous leadership during this difficult time. If you have questions or need clarification, please contact your cadre director.

VSW:tbm

cc:

School Board Members Superintendent's Senior Cabinet Office of School Performance & Accountability Senior Staff

