



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool Update

**Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School
Public Safety Commission**



Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool (FSSAT)

Section 1006.1493, F.S.

In accordance with ss. 119.071(3)(a) and 281.301, F.S., data and information related to security risk assessments administered pursuant to this section and s. 1006.07(6), F.S., and the security information contained in the annual report required ... are **confidential and exempt from public records requirements**.

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool

2001 – Safe Passage Act

- Best practices for safety and security self-assessment.

2013 – General Appropriations Act

- Funds for the development of the safe-schools security assessments.

2018 – SB 7026

- Requires school security risk assessments and third-party evaluation of FSSAT.

2019 – SB 7030

- Revised school assessment deadlines and requires attestation of assessment completion.

2021-2022 – 6A-1.0018, F.A.C.

- Specifies deadline for the district assessments and requires accuracy of school information within FSSAT.

2022 – HB 1421

- Adds requirement to address preparedness, response, and reunification policies and procedures.

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool – Annual Timeline

May 1

- Assessments open

June

- Annual district School Safety Specialist training

October 1

- School Security Risk Assessments due

October 15

- District reports to Florida Department of Education (FDOE) completion of all school assessments

November 1

- District Best Practices Assessment due

December 1

- Implementation report to the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House of Representatives

December 31

- School Hardening Needs report due

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool

2020 Implementation

April 24, 2020: School and district assessments go-live in FSSAT.

October 1, 2020: School security risk assessments submitted for 3,705 campuses (complete).

October 15, 2020: All districts reported school assessment completion.

November 1, 2020: All but three districts submitted school assessment findings and school board action.

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool

2021 Implementation

April 28, 2021: School and district assessments go-live in FSSAT.

October 1, 2021: School security risk assessments submitted for 3,711 campuses (complete).

October 15, 2021: All districts reported school assessment completion.

November 1, 2021: All districts submitted school assessment findings and school board action.

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool Third Party Review (MGT 2019) - Update

Technical recommendations:

- Increase the platform's **security and protocols**. *(complete)*
- Revise the survey construction to **gather more accurate and robust data**. *(complete)*
- Improve the **user experience and tool functionality**.
(ongoing)
- **Prepopulate** boilerplate sections of the assessment.
(complete)
- Create a **knowledge management system** for sharing and storing critical safety and security information. *(ongoing)*

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool Third Party Review Update

Content Recommendations:

- Revise content to **collect more robust information** on safety and security details of schools. *(ongoing)*
- Include **introductory explanatory briefs** to provide users with a **rationale** for questions in each section, and the **benefits** for the school, district, and state in gathering such information. *(complete)*

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool Third Party Review Update

Implementation Recommendations:

- Provide **user training and support** that offers initial (new user), just-in-time, and on-going professional development for all system users. *(complete)*
- Ensure training includes formal training regarding information **security standards and protocols**, and that the **rationale** for the FSSAT is communicated clearly to users.
- Conduct an **annual review** to ensure it follows current laws and statutes, and to make sure it aligns with the latest in national safety and security standards. *(ongoing)*

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool Third Party Review Update

Implementation Recommendations:

- Conduct a **yearly audit** of the FSSAT at the school-level, either comprehensively or through a sampling of the schools. Establish a feedback loop for submitted FSSAT school and district reports. *(ongoing)*
- Provide district-generated **guidelines, templates, support, and oversight** to their schools regarding the development and implementation of **improvement plans**. *(ongoing)*
- Establish a **set annual schedule** regarding FSSAT submissions, reviews, and feedback to establish a routine schedule and expectations for FDOE, the districts, and the schools. *(ongoing)*



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