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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: September 9, 2022

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 1028 (2021) Water Safety, Ch. 2021-35, 89, Laws of Florida

Contact Information:

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DPS: 2022-147

Senate Bill 1028 (2021) created section (s.) 1003.225, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and requires public schools to provide parents with information on the important role water safety education courses and swimming lessons play in saving lives. This information must include local options for water safety courses and swimming lessons.

Section (s.) 1003.225, F.S. – Water safety and swimming certification:

- Defines water safety as age-appropriate education to promote safety in, on, and around bodies of water to reduce the risk of injury or drowning.
- Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, requires each public school to provide parents, either electronically or in hard copy, with information on the role swimming lessons and water safety education play in saving lives, including free and reduced cost options for swimming lessons and safety courses.
 - This information must be provided upon a parent’s initial enrollment of their child in a school.
 - If the student is 18 years of age or older, or is under the age of 21 and is enrolling in adult education classes, the information must be provided to the student.

For more information, please contact Healthy Schools at 850-245-7858 or email Cindy.Huffman1@fldoe.org.

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