

Student Safety

- ∞ When students aren't safe, they can't learn.
- ∞ The day of the callous attitude of "boys will be boys" is over. Bullying destroys lives, that of the victim and the bully.
- ∞ We must not turn our backs on the plague of violence in Florida's schools. There is a solution and it is our obligation implement programs we know work.
- ∞ Everyday, businesses across Florida provide training to their employees on how to diffuse situations with hostile customers. Likewise, we need to train teachers to effectively intervene when hostility occurs among students.
- ∞ Bullying is as harmful to the bully as it is to his victim. Unchecked, bullying leads people to believe that harassing others is a way to get ahead in life.
- ∞ Florida's students deserve schools that are places of learning, not training camps for intolerance, intimidation and violence.
- ∞ We can no longer require responsible parents to make a daily choice between their children's safety and their education.
- ∞ School violence undermines the best effort of teachers and the community's investment in education.
- ∞ 1 in 12 children miss one day of school each month because they fear for their safety. Absenteeism and dropout rates would decline with a uniform, statewide policy prohibition of biased-based harassment and violence.