

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

IN RE: WAIVING STRICT DEM ORDER NO. 20-004
ADHERENCE TO SECTION 1008.22,
FLORIDA STATUTES PURSUANT
TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER
20-52, MADE NECESSARY BY THE
COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY

EMERGENCY ORDER

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order No. 20-52, declaring a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency; and,

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a severe threat to the entire State of Florida and requires that timely precautions are taken to protect the communities and general welfare of this State; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor has designated the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor has delegated to the State Coordinating Officer the authority to suspend the effect of any statute, rule, or order that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay any mitigation, response, or recovery action necessary to cope with this emergency; and,

WHEREAS, promoting the health and safety of each person connected with the State's education system is of paramount importance; and,

NOW THEREFORE, as State Coordinating Officer under Executive Order 20-52, I direct that all actions taken by the Department of Education must be informed by guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the State Health Officer and Surgeon General.

Pursuant to Section 2(C) of Executive Order No. 20-52, I hereby suspend and waive strict adherence to section 1008.22, Florida Statutes. In order to promote the health and safety of each

person connected with Florida's education system, the Department of Education is authorized to delay any assessment given by school districts under the statewide student assessment program for public schools under section 1008.22, F.S., and to modify or waive deadlines for the reporting of assessment results, and to lift or modify deadlines and requirements associated with the use of the assessments.

Further, the Department of Education is authorized to coordinate with school districts to adjust school calendars, including without limit, rescheduling, extending, or cancelling spring breaks. The Department of Education is also authorized to issue mandatory travel restrictions related to school field trips and any other school-sanctioned events in Florida's K-20 system of education.

I further direct the Department of Education to take all appropriate actions coordinated with Florida's school districts, state colleges and other educational providers to promote the health, safety, welfare and education of Florida students under the circumstances presented by this emergency. This authority includes programs administered by or through the Office of Early Learning, such as school readiness and voluntary pre-kindergarten and services delivered to students or other persons served by any division of the Department of Education, as provided in section 20.15, Florida Statutes.

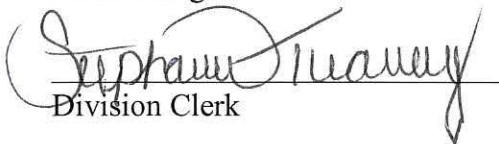
Because section 252.36(5)(a), Florida Statutes, allows the Governor to suspend the provisions of "any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for [the] conduct of state business", and because Executive Order No. 20-52 designates the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer for this emergency, the requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to this Order.

The effective date of this Order shall correspond with the effective dates of Executive Order No. 20-52.

By Order of the State Coordinating Officer executed this 13th day of March, 2020, in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

Jared Moskowitz
State Coordinating Officer
Florida Division of Emergency Management
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Filed on this date, with the designated Division Clerk, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.


Division Clerk

Date: 3/13/20