PROPOSAL TO THE 7th EDITION OF FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE

PART I

TRANSMIT TO:
Division of State Fire Marshal
Casia Sinco
200 E. Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0342
Fax: 850/414-6119
E-mail: casia.sinco@myfloridacfo.com

NOTE: If you need further information on this process, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 850/413-3619.

Please review the evaluation criteria (Part II) and Fiscal Impact Statement before completing this proposal. A separate submittal is required for each proposed amendment.

Type or print legibly in black ink

Date 5-30-19 Proponent: Tom Hogarth Tel. No. (561) 383-2028
E-Mail Thomas.hogarth@palmbeachschools.org

Company Palm Beach County School District
Street Address 3661 Interstate Park Road North
City Riviera Beach State FL Zip 33404

Organization Represented (if any) Palm Beach County School District

Local Ordinance No.NA Jurisdiction Section/Paragraph

NFPA Standard No. and edition year NFPA 1 2018 Section/Paragraph 20.2.4.3
NFPA Standard No. and edition year NFPA 101 2018 Section/Paragraph 14.7.2.3 and 15.7.2.3

(Identical text in all referenced sections)

Indicate One (Designate by “X” at the end of the line):
1. X Revise section to read:
2. □Add new section to read:
3. □Delete section without substitution:
4. □Delete section and substitute the following:

Proposal (underline proposed new wording or strike-through the wording to be deleted):

Emergency egress drills shall be conducted as follows:

(1) Not less than one emergency egress drill shall be conducted every other month the facility is in session, unless both of the following criteria are met:
(a) In climates where the weather is severe, the monthly emergency drills shall be permitted to be deferred.
(b) The required number of emergency egress drills shall be conducted, and not less than four shall be conducted before the drills are deferred.

(2) All occupants of the building shall participate in the drill.

(3) One additional Two emergency egress drills, other than for educational occupancies that are open on a year-round basis, shall be required within the first 30 days of operation.
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Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Proposal (Note: State the problem that will be resolved by your recommendation; give the specific reason for your comment including copies of tests, research papers, fire experience, etc. If more than 200 words provide an abstract and describe the source document.) (Must be filled in to be considered):

This proposed change reduces the number of fire drills from 11 to 6 for most school calendars. Fire drills in schools is a necessary disruption to teaching. However, the requirement for monthly drills is excessive.

Published reports suggest the current requirement for school fire drills is tied to the Our Lady of the Angel School fire in Chicago in 1958. The building built in 1910 had no automatic fire alarm, no heat or smoke detectors, no alarm connection to the fire department, no fire-resistant stairwells, no heavy-duty fire doors from the stairwells to the second-floor corridor and was overcrowded. Improved Florida school design requirements, fire prevention features and fire protection systems have significantly reduced the risk of fires and associated injury in occupied schools. 75% of the school fires are limited to the object of origin. 17% of school fires are limited to the room of origin.

The current exception for severe weather demonstrates a reduction in the specified number is acceptable. Students are supervised by teachers and administrators during fire drill evacuations. The new requirement in Florida Statute 1006.07 to perform an equal number of active shooter drills adds to the teaching disruption.

[Signature]

Thomas Hogarth, PE, Fire Code and Building Code Administrator
Printed Name

To be considered, proposals must be received by July 1, 2019
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PART II

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<tr>
<th>FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE</th>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
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<tr>
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<td>LOG NUMBER</td>
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The base codes for the Florida Fire Prevention Code shall be **NFPA-1, 2018** and **NFPA-101, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT (select one)</th>
<th>STATEWIDE: X</th>
<th>COUNTY:</th>
<th>CITY:</th>
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Describe the geographical area of impact: **Benefits all K-12 Educational Facilities statewide**

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1. The proposal shall identify the code section or local ordinance to be modified.
2. The proposal (Part I and Part II) along with Financial Impact Statement may be submitted electronically; however, a hard copy is required as follow-up.

Submit this evaluation with each proposed amendment.

1. How does the proposal strengthen the base code to enhance safety in Florida?

   Fire drills are inherently disruptive to teaching at most grade levels. Students and staff become complacent with redundant drills. The reduction in the number of fire drills will be offset by an increase in the number of active shooter and other emergency drills.

2. Is the proposal easy to understand and how does it contribute to a user-friendly code?

   Yes, the format of the requirement remains unchanged.

3. Document the proposal’s technical merit and how it is supported by a scientific basis?

   The proposal reduces the frequency of fire drills to an acceptable number already allowed by the current exception for severe weather which does not normally apply to Florida.

4. Describe how will the proposal be enforceable?

   The number of drills performed are reported to the local fire authority and State Fire Marshal pursuant FAC 69A-58.004.

5. How does the proposal affect Florida’s diverse conditions such as climate, construction and population?

   There is no negative effect.
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Fiscal Impact Statement

Provide the estimated cost of the proposed amendment to the Florida Fire Prevention Code for each of the following questions. Cost data should be accompanied by a list of assumptions and support documentation.

1. Will the proposed amendment have an impact on the local entity relative to the implementation and enforcement of the proposed amendment?

X None

___ Minimal, Provide a brief explanation:

___ Other, Provide an explanation for estimate and methodology used:

2. Will the proposed amendment have an impact on the business/property owner relative to the cost of compliance with the proposed amendment?

X None

___ Minimal, Provide a brief explanation:

___ Other, Provide an explanation for estimate and methodology used:

3. Will the proposed amendment have an impact on small counties or small cities?
(A "small city" is defined by section 120.52, F.S., as any municipality that has an un-incarcerated population of 10,000 or less according to the most recent decennial census. A "small county" is defined by section 120.52, F.S., as any county that has an un-incarcerated population of 75,000 or less according to the most recent decennial census.)

X No adverse impact on small cities or small counties

___ Minimal, Provide a brief explanation:

___ Other, Provide an explanation for estimate and methodology used:

Provide a good faith estimate of the number and types of affected persons/entities:

(1) The number of individuals and entities likely to be required to comply with the rule:

3.4 million (Students and staff in all public and private schools in Florida)
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(2) A general description of the types of individuals likely to be affected by the rule:

Students and staff of all public and private schools in Florida.