## FLORIDA SCHOOLS SAFETY PORTAL (FSSP)

## **5 Things Parents Should Know**





A Florida state law passed in 2019 led to the establishment of a "centralized integrated data repository and analytic resource" designed to help threat assessment teams at schools to identify, assess, and provide intervention services for students whose behavior may pose a threat to themselves or others.



IT INCLUDES LOTS OF STUDENT DATA

The FSSP compiles sensitive student data from multiple sources, including social media monitoring, local law enforcement agencies, the Florida Department of Children and Families, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Baker Act admissions, and the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting System, which aggregates data on crime, violence, and disruptive behaviors.



3 IT'S NOT PROVEN

No evidence-based research has demonstrated that a data-driven surveillance system such as the FSSP will be effective in preventing school violence. In addition, no information is publicly available about how the database was designed, developed, or tested.



THERE ARE QUESTIONS

Many questions remain about the FSSP, including: what will happen to students who are flagged in the system? Who decided what data should be kept, and what input did students and parents have in designing the FSSP? How will data be stored and analyzed? Who will have access to students' data? How is information being protected? What safeguards are in place to ensure the system is fair to all students? What recourse do parents have if their child is flagged?



**5** YOU HAVE RIGHTS

You have a right to know about the data governance, privacy, security, and equity measures that have (or have not) been put in place to protect children's data. Parents should remain vigilant and informed about developments around the ESSP.

**TAKE ACTION:** 1) Contact the Office of Safe Schools at schoolsafety@fldoe.org and demand answers! 2) Attend the next MSDHS Public Safety Commission meeting and make a public comment. 3) Submit public input or comments online.