



ENHANCING SAFETY AND SECURITY

PROPOSAL

Request a specific appropriation project of \$1 million for the acquisition of fencing to fortify exterior corridors and premises of select school, an Incident Command Reunification Unit consisting of a vehicle to support continuity of operations on site during and after a critical incident, and an enclosed trailer containing materials necessary for the response and safe reunification process for the necessary support post incident.

Present Situation and Rationale

- In light of growing safety concerns in our schools, our focus is directed toward strengthening security measures, particularly in older campuses that initially lacked robust security features. The installation of fencing is a vital security enhancement that provides essential protection for open campuses, especially during active law enforcement investigations. Furthermore, recognizing the unfortunate prevalence of natural disasters and safety emergencies, preparedness for effective leadership response is paramount. The School District of Lee County is unwavering in its commitment to respond swiftly to all emergencies with preplanned resources, guaranteeing a seamless and efficient process. The availability of adequate equipment at these sites remains crucial for the success of these operations.

Impact of Proposed Change

- The installation of fencing around exterior walkways and perimeter barriers on select campuses serves to fortify these locations, preventing unauthorized access and creating a secure environment where students can concentrate on their education without distractions.
- Equipping the District with the necessary resources for handling natural disasters and safety emergencies is imperative. This preparation enables us to execute operations effectively, efficiently, and without unnecessary delays or interruptions, ensuring the safety and well-being of all involved.

Historical Perspective

- In recent years, the frequency of safety emergencies inside and nearby schools has risen nationwide. Additionally, in Southwest Florida we have experienced the profound effects of a recent natural disaster. If these trends persist, it becomes paramount to prioritize preparedness for any potential emergency and in preparation for successful reunification events.

Fiscal Impact

- The provision of \$1 million will enable the School District of Lee County to implement essential measures, including interior fencing for outdoor walkways, exterior fencing for school campuses, and the acquisition of an Emergency Command Mobile Unit. These investments are vital for responding effectively to natural disasters and safety emergencies, ultimately safeguarding the well-being of our students and staff within our schools.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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