

# SNIFFEN & SPELLMAN, P.A.

## EDUCATION LAW ALERT

April 1, 2020

Public and private K-12 and postsecondary schools across the State of Florida are tirelessly working to address the unprecedented impact of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic on operations. In collaboration with our client, Neola, Inc., we have created an easy-to-read directory of *selected* directives and guidance documents specifically impacting schools that have been released by Federal and Florida governmental authorities. Neola, Inc. has 40 years of hands-on experience developing School Board policies, administrative procedures, and forms for school boards across six states. For more information regarding Neola, please visit: <https://neola.com/>.

In addition to your consideration of these directives and guidance documents, and other potential emergency actions, we strongly encourage you to immediately review Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' Executive Order 2020-69 and Florida Attorney General Opinion AGO 2020-03. Together, these documents provide that during a State of Emergency in Florida when the in-person requirement for a quorum is suspended, local governmental entities may utilize communications media technology, including telephonic and video conferencing, to conduct meetings without the necessity of having an in-person quorum.

With respect to the following links, they are updated frequently, so we recommend that you either bookmark the links in your browser or simply save this Education Law Alert in your email inbox.

### Federal

Agency	Date(s)	Link
Department of Education	Multiple	<a href="#">COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Information and Resources for Schools and School Personnel</a>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Multiple	<a href="#">Interim Guidance for Administrators of US K-12 Schools and Childcare Programs</a>
President Trump and the White House Coronavirus Task Force	March 29, 2020	<a href="#">30 Days to Slow the Spread</a>

Occupational Safety and Health Administration	Multiple	<a href="#">COVID-19 Guidance on Preparing Workplaces</a>
Department of Labor	Multiple	<a href="#">Coronavirus Resources</a>

**Florida**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Link</b>
Governor Ron DeSantis	March 1, 2020	<a href="#">#2020-51 Executive Order re: Establishes Coronavirus Response Protocol and Directs Public Health Emergency</a>
	March 9, 2020	<a href="#">#2020-52 Executive Order re: Emergency Management – COVID-19 Public Health Emergency</a>
	March 20, 2020	<a href="#">#2020-69 Executive Order re: Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Local Government Public Meetings</a>
	Multiple	<a href="#">All Other Executive Orders</a>
Attorney General	March 19, 2020	<a href="#">AGO 2020-03 (Public Meeting Quorums Using Technology)</a>
Department of Education	March 17, 2020	<a href="#">Florida Department of Education Announces Additional Guidance for the 2019-20 School Year</a>
	Multiple	<a href="#">COVID-19 Updates</a>
Department of Health	Multiple	<a href="#">Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools</a>
FHSAA	March 31, 2020	<a href="#">Potential Extension of Spring Sports Through June 30</a>

***A Special Note to our Clients and Friends***

Our Firm prides itself on being accessible to our clients. Our core principles are, and always have been: Strength; Experience; Commitment and Agility.

It is in this spirit that we will continue to provide timely and responsive advice to our clients. We commit to our clients to provide continuous service to our clients during the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize that this pandemic and the amount of information on new laws, reforms, and compliance measures may create more questions than answers. Our Firm will remain accessible to its clients to provide complete, up to date, and timely advice and guidance by phone and through electronic means, and has taken steps to ensure that we will available 24/7 to assist our clients.

**Past Issues of the Education Law Alert Available on Website**

You may view past issues of the Education Law Alert on the Firm's website: [www.sniffenlaw.com](http://www.sniffenlaw.com). After entering the Firm's website, click on the "Publications" page. Our Firm also highlights various articles of interest on our official Twitter feed, @Sniffenlaw.

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