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February 9, 2023

Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent
Duval County Public Schools
1701 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Dear Superintendent Greene:

I recently became aware of your district's participation in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (Centers for Disease Control [CDC] Survey) for middle and high school students as part of a CDC grant. On March 16, 2022, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) sent a letter to the CDC indicating that both FDOE and FDOH were no longer participating in the CDC Survey. This letter serves to share my grave concerns with your continued participation in this survey, as such an inflammatory and sexualized survey is not in the best interest of Florida students.

The CDC Survey asks leading questions phrased in such a way that may actually introduce risky behaviors to students, prompting them to engage in potentially detrimental activities. As you know, Florida is developing its own [Florida-specific youth survey](#), aligned to state standards, to safely collect information and better serve students. Given that the FDOE already has a workgroup designing a survey that is more appropriate for Florida's high school students to be administered this spring, participating in the CDC Survey is duplicative and unnecessary. The primary focus of your district should be to educate children using standards-aligned instruction and to assist Florida's students in avoiding risky behaviors instead of exposing them to sexually explicit concepts.

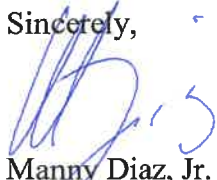
I strongly urge you to reconsider having your students participate in the CDC Survey. Instead of asking students highly controversial and extremely personal questions from the CDC Survey, you should re-focus your efforts on teaching and learning as the end of the school year quickly approaches.

As the Commissioner of Education, my first priority has and will always continue to be protecting Florida's students. Any actions that deviate from protecting the health, safety, and welfare of Florida students are unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

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Thank you for prompt attention to this matter and please do not delay in letting me know how you plan to rectify this situation.

Sincerely,



Manny Diaz, Jr.
Commissioner

cc: Duval County School Board Members