



Alexandra Timmons
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Mission: Preparing Students for Success by Providing a Superior, Relevant Education

March 30, 2022

Dr. Barber:

Re: Facility Use

Pensacola State College (PSC) and the University of West Florida (UWF) occasionally request the use of Santa Rosa County District Schools facilities. There are also times when SRCDS request the use of their facilities.

As outlined in School Board policy 9.30+, organizations requesting the use of school facilities are required to complete a Facilities Use Request Form and provide proof of general liability insurance coverage. A coverage amount of \$1,000,000 is recommended by the Florida School Boards Insurance Trust (FSBIT) to minimize the District's liability exposure when other organizations utilize our facilities. The current Facility Use Form indicates a minimum of \$1,000,000 is required and all requests are School Board approved.

PSC and UWF have provided insurance certificates in the amount of \$300,000 aggregate (total) and \$200,000 per person per occurrence. The amount relies solely on the sovereign immunity doctrine that basically caps awards at \$300,000/\$200,000 to individuals who sue government entities for negligent acts. However, there are times when courts waive this immunity and allow for suits and awards in excess of these amounts, thus the need for additional coverage.

Scott Blaser, Director of Insurance Operations with FSBIT, counseled that we may assume the risk based upon the benefit to the students in the activities that are being provided by these public entities.

I understand the importance of maintaining a reciprocal relationship with both of these schools and need the School Board's guidance and recommendation in this matter. If the Board authorizes acceptance of the sovereign immunity limits of \$300,000/\$200,000 for PSC and UWF, the decision will be documented for future reference.

Let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Timmons

Cc: Mrs. Liz West

DISTRICT 1

DISTRICT 2

DISTRICT 3

DISTRICT 4

DISTRICT 5

Linda Sanborn

Elizabeth Hewey

Carol Boston

Charles Elliott

Wei Ueberschaer