

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
CAMPUS SAFETY AND STUDENT SUCCESS
COMMITTEE
June 24, 2026

Video or audio archives of the meetings of the Board of Governors and its committees are accessible at:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/3-25-26-florida-board-of-governors-meeting/>

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks.

Chair Bell Barnett convened the meeting at 1:39 p.m., with the following Governors present: Seibert, Broxson, Dunn, Edge, Haddock, Kamoutsas, Lukis, Lydecker, Perry, and Sinatra. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting

Chair Bell Barnett requested a motion to approve the minutes of the Campus Safety and Student Success Committee meeting from June 24, 2026. Governor Lydecker moved to approve, Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

3. House Bill 757 Implementation

Chair Bell Barnett recognized Ms. Emily Sikes, Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs, to provide an overview of the System's requirements outlined in House Bill 757, which was passed during the 2026 Legislative Session, and an update on the implementation plan.

Ms. Sikes reported that, following the March Board meeting, System staff have been meeting regularly with partners from the Florida College System and the Office of Safe Schools to support implementation efforts. She highlighted the importance of inter-system coordination in addressing campus safety initiatives.

Ms. Sikes reported that Commissioner Kamoutsas invited university and college presidents, superintendents, and System staff to participate in the Commissioner's Summit held on May 15 in Miami. She explained that the summit focused on best practices in campus safety and security and included panel discussions on the Guardian Program, campus security assessments, and behavioral threat management. She noted that the summit concluded with Governor DeSantis signing the bill into law.

Ms. Sikes stated that, to support implementation efforts, the Chancellor has been working with university presidents to identify a cabinet-level contact responsible for campus safety matters at each institution. She further stated that Board staff is convening a System workgroup focused on applying best practices for campus risk assessments, behavioral threat assessments, and the transfer of records associated with threat assessments across the State University System, Florida College System, and K-12 education system.

Ms. Sikes noted that these issues involve multiple sectors across university campuses, and the workgroup will assist the Board office and Chancellor in coordinating implementation efforts throughout the System.

Ms. Sikes stated that each university currently has processes in place to address many of the initiatives included in the legislation. She explained that the purpose of the workgroup is not to replace existing institutional practices, but rather to establish a minimum set of criteria that each university can use as a baseline while allowing institutions to incorporate additional measures based on their individual campus needs. Ms. Sikes reported that State University System staff will work with Florida College System staff to establish consistent definitions and practices, particularly for threat identification and risk assessment, in order to support continuity as students transition between institutions and systems.

Ms. Sikes noted the importance of the transfer of threat assessment records and stated that System staff have been meeting regularly with the Florida College System and the Office of Safe Schools since April to coordinate this effort. She explained that effective information sharing is critical to ensuring institutions have the necessary information to identify and respond to potential risks.

Ms. Sikes stated that the System workgroup will focus on identifying opportunities for collaboration and efficiency across institutions. She explained that the System will evaluate whether shared resources, such as common platforms or coordinated approaches, could improve efficiency and support the Board's One SUS initiative.

Ms. Sikes noted that, because the legislation became effective upon the Governor's approval, institutions may begin implementing the Guardian Program, although funding for the program will not become available until July 1.

Chair Bell Barnett inquired about the total funding for the Guardian Program, to which Ms. Sikes responded that it would be \$1.8 million. Chair Bell Barnett thanked Governor Kamoutsas for his work with the legislation and the safety summit.

Governor Kamoutsas expressed his thanks to the institution presidents and System workgroup for their proactive work on the campus safety initiatives. He thanked Chancellor Rodrigues and the Board for ensuring that annual safety training is provided for university liaisons.

4. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Having no further business, Chair Bell Barnett adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

Ashley Bell Barnett, Chair

Rajendra Indar, Student Intern, ASA