



DeSoto Independent School District

Board of Trustees Briefing

2026 Football Team Travel Safety & Security Plan

Fort Lauderdale, Florida | August 28–30, 2026

Purpose

To ensure the safety, security, accountability, and well-being of all student-athletes, coaches, and staff traveling to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for the varsity football contest through comprehensive planning, communication, and supervision.

Travel Overview

- Departure: Friday, August 28, 2026
- Return: Sunday, August 30, 2026
- Airline: American Airlines
- Hotel: Embassy Suites by Hilton Fort Lauderdale 17th Street, 1100 SE 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316
- Final travel roster will be distributed prior to departure; pending final UIL eligibility approval for a small number of student-athletes.

Security & Supervision

SROs Officer Tasby and Officer Brumfield, along with District Security Officer Riden, will accompany the team. Upon arrival they will identify themselves and coordinate with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department, hotel security, and venue security. Each assistant football coach will supervise an assigned group of student-athletes, complete accountability checks, and provide daily updates to parents/guardians.

Travel Accountability & Safety Protocols

A detailed itinerary will include flights, transportation, hotel, practices, meals, meetings, curfew, game schedule, emergency contacts, and return travel. Roll calls will occur before departures and arrivals. Students will utilize the buddy system, undergo nightly room checks, and may not leave the team without Head Football Coach approval. Certified athletic training staff will travel with emergency medical equipment.

Risk Mitigation Measures

Continuous supervision; coordination with local law enforcement and emergency responders; strict adherence to itinerary; immediate reporting of incidents; emergency contacts maintained; Student Code of Conduct reviewed before departure; timely communication with district leadership and parents.



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Chain of Command

1. Superintendent Brent Mitchell
2. Head Football Coach
3. Officer Tasby
4. Officer Brumfield
5. Officer Riden
6. Campus Administration

Primary Objective

The safety and well-being of every student-athlete and staff member remain the highest priority through coordinated security, communication, supervision, and emergency preparedness.