

# NAVIGATING *the Future*

## 2023 Parent & Family Engagement Conference

*"Keeping Our Students Safe:  
New Laws for School Safety"*



<https://www.esc14.net/page/t4si>



# Disclaimer

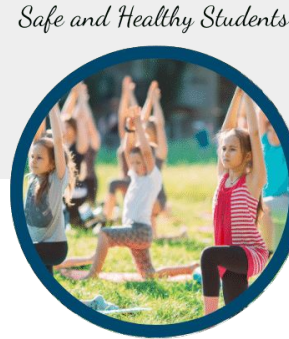
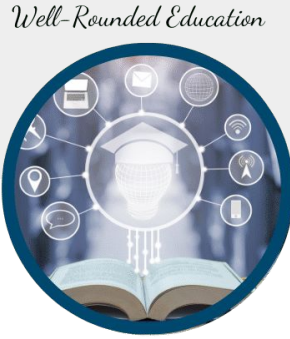
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<https://www.esc14.net/page/t4si>

**T4PA**



Programs that Supplement, NOT Supplant State Requirements



State Requirements Paid with State + Local \$





# Today's Focus





# Today's Focus



COLLABORATION

DISTRICT  
RESPONSIBILITIES

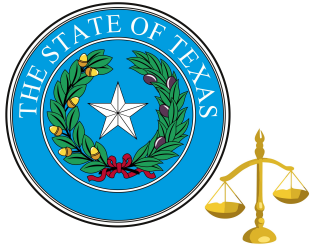
STUDENT  
DISCIPLINE

PARENT AWARENESS  
+ INVOLVEMENT

# Safe Schools takes Collaboration



LAW ENFORCEMENT



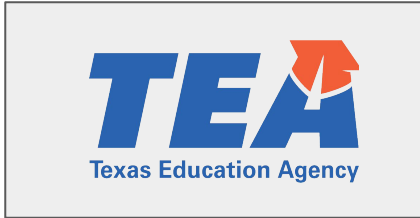
Parents + Students

# Keeping Texas Schools Safe



- Bullying Prevention
- Behavioral Threat Assessment
- District Audit Report Checks
- Emergency Operations Plans Reviews
- Law Enforcement training
- Safe and Supportive Schools Team
- Safety and Security Committee
- Drills and Exercises
- Training/Guidance/Evaluation

# Keeping Texas Schools Safe



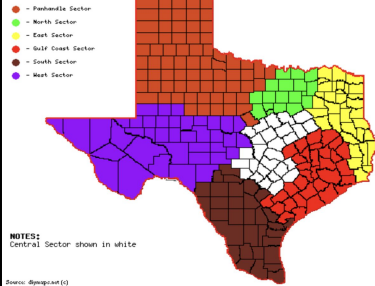
## Provides:

- Technical assistance to districts and ESCs
- Monitor + provide guidance
- Support implementation and operation of safety and security requirements





TEA Office of School Safety & Security — Sector Map



## Vulnerability Assessments

- Facility access controls, EOP, and other safety requirements
- Results with recommendations and required corrective actions to Superintendent + School Safety and Security Committee.
- Any document or information collected, developed, or produced is confidential.

**EVERY  
4 YEARS**





## Annual Intruder Detection Audits

- School Safety Review Team at each ESC
- Every district must be checked annually
- Provide report with recommendations and required corrective actions
- Report confidential and not subject to disclosure



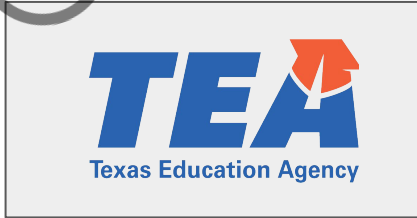
# Keeping Texas Schools Safe



- Serve as a school safety resources for School Districts
- **May** assist Districts with:
  - Emergency Operations Plans
  - Establishing School Safety and Security Committee
  - Conducting emergency drills and exercises
  - Addressing reported deficiencies
  - Other school safety and security guidance
- Assist with Intruder Detection Assessments
- May assist Districts with positive behavioral interventions to enrolled student as part of an SSSP Team's behavioral threat assessment



# Keeping Texas Schools Safe



## School Safety Facilities Grant

# \$1.1B

one-time funding through the supplemental appropriations bill to address new minimum school safety standards and other facilities-related safety improvements.

### Cycle 1 (~

Discretionary non-competitive grant a need for the funds to include, ratio

Intended to ensure that full funding comply with the minimum school sa currently comply.

Only LEAs that have applied to the c will be eligible for the first cycle of t items aligned to the School Safety S

### Cycle 2 |

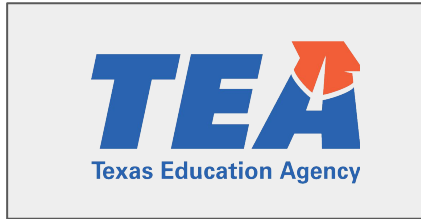
Formula grant to all LEAs to support district, beyond the minimum safety school districts and open enrollmen



- Safety equipment
- Mental health supports and counseling
- Armed security
- School safety technology
- Other school safety supports



# School Safety Allotment



A school district is **entitled** to an **annual** allotment

- \$10 for each student
- plus \$1 for each student in average daily attendance per every \$50 by which the district's maximum basic allotment exceeds \$6,160,
- \$15,000 per campus

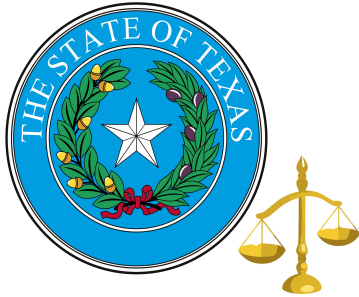
- *fencing*
- *exterior door and window upgrades*
- *security cameras, other security equipment*
- *video surveillance*
- *technology, including communications systems*
- *security personnel*
- *suicide prevention programs*
- *employing a school safety director*
- *training to a person authorized to carry a firearm on a campus*





COLLABORATION

# Texas Legislature Special Session



## Agenda: School Finance Starting: Monday, October 9



TEC 48.115, [HB 3](#)

# Keeping Texas Schools Safe



- Sheriff to conduct county school safety meetings for rural counties 2x per year
- Team Members
  - Sheriff
  - PD Police chief
  - Constable
  - ISD Police Chief/security coordinator
  - DPS
  - EMS
  - Fire department
  - Superintendent
  - State agency with commissioned peace officers
  - Sheriff may choose others
  - Federal law officials in county

## Discussion Topics

- School safety
- Coordinated law enforcement response to violence incidents
- Law enforcement agency capabilities
- Available resources
- Emergency radio interoperability
- Chain of command planning



# Keeping Texas Schools Safe



*Parents + Students*

- Talk with children early and regularly about safety risks
- Discuss school and community safety and related concerns
- Monitor your child's social media
- Monitor internet usage
- Report concerning behavior
- Keep District updated of your contact information

# Keeping Students Safe



## School Safety Committees

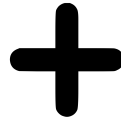
- Safe and Supportive School Team (SSSP)
- Safety and Security Committee
- Bullying Committee (may be part of another)
- Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

# Keeping Students Safe

## SCHOOL SAFETY COMMITTEES



School Districts



## Armed Response

- At least 1 armed security officer present who has completed all required training
- A district good cause exception could allow for
  - School Marshal or Guardian
  - Must complete all required training

### Reports:

- District maintains documentation of compliance and good cause exception



## School Administration

- Weekly Door Checks
- 2x Annual Safety Standards Maintenance checks
- SPAT Communication Checks
- Monthly Drills & Exercises

### Reports:

- Maintain Door Log, 2x Annual Safety Standards Maintenance check, drill logs, and other safety security documentation and provide to TEA and other auditors upon request.



# Keeping Students Safe



- Each facility must comply with TEA's minimal facility standards
- District must develop and maintain documentation of standards
- If unable to comply district must claim a *good cause exception* and develop an *alternative performance standard*



# DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES

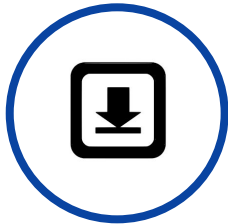
# School Safety Cycles

Weekly	Annual	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
LEA: Exterior Door Checks - keep documentation for 3 years	LEA: SSSP Data Collection in June				
	LEA: Submit EOP Review and Annexes to TxSSC in October				
	LEA: District Audit Cycle and Report in September of year 3				
	LEA: Facility Maintenance checks 2 x year				
	LEA: Safety & Security Team meetings 3 x year				
	LEA: Conduct SSSP Behavioral Threat Assessments on an ongoing basis, as needed				
	TEA: Vulnerability Assessment of Districts by TEA in Safety Sectors				
	TEA: Intruder Detection Audit conducted in conjunction with ESCs by Review Team				
	TEA: Commissioner Review Facility Standards Rules				
	TxSSC: Reviews Facility Standards				

# Keeping Students and Facilities Safe



Follow TEA guidelines for students/personnel with **disabilities or impairments** during a disaster or emergency situation



Submit Emergency Operation Plan and requested annexes to TxSSC for review.

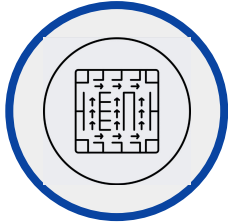


Conduct a safety and security audit of district facilities and ensuring the auditor is on the TxSSC best practice registry

**EVERY  
3 YEARS**



# Keeping Students and Facilities Safe



**Maps:** Provide Law enforcement agencies and emergency first responders an accurate map of all campuses including site floor plans, access control, and exterior door numbering.



**SPAT:** Provide each classroom with silent panic alert technology that allows for immediate contact with

- *district or school emergency services*
- *law enforcement agencies, health departments, fire departments, and 911*
- *If 911 is called then it must trigger the Silent Panic Alert System (School Safety Standards)*

Must be implemented by 2025-2026 school year

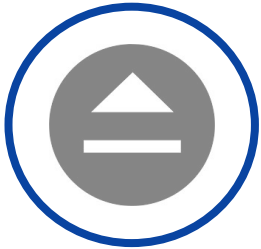
# Keeping Students and Facilities Safe



## Identification

A district may require a person who enters property

- to display the person's driver's license or another form of ID
- district employee or student identification card.
- the person must provide the identification on request



## District Right to Eject

A district may eject a person from district property if:

- the person refuses or fails to provide on request identification; and
- it reasonably appears that the person has no legitimate reason to be on district property



# Keeping Students and Facilities Safe



## Armed Security Officer Required

- At least one armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each campus. The security officer must be a
  - school district police officer
  - a school resource officer
  - or a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel under TEC 37.081
- If unable to provide due to cost or availability the board may claim a *good cause exception* and *develop alternative standards*.

## Active Shooter Response Training

- District peace officer or SRO shall complete a TCOLE active shooter response training program.
- Requirement takes effect 12/1/2024

**EVERY  
4 YEARS**

# Keeping Students and Facilities Safe

## Alternative Armed Security



If *good cause exception* and *alternative standard* claimed, it may include providing a person to act as a security officer who is a

- **School Marshal or School Guardian**

A school district must develop and maintain documentation and if requested provide that documentation to TEA.

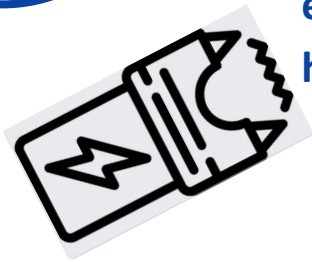


# Keeping Students and Facilities Safe



A peace officer performing law enforcement or school security personnel performing related duties on school property or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity

**may not restrain or use a chemical irritant spray or Taser on a student enrolled in grade 5 or < unless the student poses a serious risk of harm to the student or another person.**



# Keeping Students and Facilities Safe



The definition of "**authorized peace officer**" now includes

- a peace officer commissioned for a school district or secondary educational institutions and adds additional authority
- Revision allows school district peace officer, SRO, and security personnel to apply for or be issued certain **search warrant** related to digital communications

# Keeping Sporting Officials Safe



## Prohibition from Attending District & UIL Event

A spectator (including a parent of a participant) of an extracurricular athletic activity or competition, that engages in conduct that causes bodily injury to a person serving as referee, judge, or other official shall be **prohibited from attending any activity or competition for**

**no less than 1 year and no more than 5 years.**



# Keeping Sporting Officials Safe



## Provide Personnel to Ensure Safety

A district that holds an extracurricular athletic activity/UII athletic competition on district property shall provide a peace officer, SRO, an administrator, or security personnel to ensure the safety of competition officials until the official departs if:

- a participant/spectator engages in, attempts to engage in, or threatens violent conduct against the official or disrupts the duties or free movement of the official; or
- the district or school *reasonably suspects* that an incident may occur at the activity or competition.

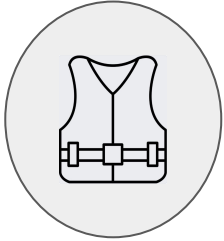
# Keeping Students Safe



- Each district must establish a **clear procedure for a student to report concerning behavior** exhibited by another student to the SSSP | Behavioral Threat Assessment Team.



- Materials and Information produced from a threat assessment of a student must be maintained in a **student's school record until the student's 24th birthday.**



## Child Water Safety

Before any child under 12 engages in an organized water activity shall:

- Requires parents **to affirm in writing whether the child is able to swim** or is at risk of injury or death when swimming
- If child is unable to swim
  - *District must **provide to each child who is unable to swim** or is at risk of injury or death a properly fitted and fastened Type I, II, or III **US Coast Guard approved personal flotation device** and*
  - *District must ensure the child is wearing the personal flotation device and the device is properly fitted and fastened for the child.*

**Exception:** child is actively participating in swim instruction or a competition that is closely supervised



# Keeping Employees Safe



- A district employee who reports a potential threat may elect for their **identity to be confidential** except as **necessary** to investigate the potential threat
- Only the **original** reporter can maintain confidentiality
- The district will maintain a **record** of employee's identity

# Maintain Discipline

## DAEP for E-Cigarette (Vape) and Certain Drugs

**A student shall be** removed from class and placed in a disciplinary alternative education program (**DAEP**) if the student:

- Possesses, uses a **controlled substance** or **dangerous drug**
- Possesses, uses, or is under the influence of, sells, gives, or delivers to another person
  - *Marihuana or tetrahydrocannabinol*
  - *E-cigarette*
  - *Alcohol*
  - *Abusable volatile chemical*
- May transfer student to ISS if DAEP is at capacity

# Maintain Discipline



## It is a Hazing Offense if a person:

- engages in hazing;
- solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing;
- recklessly permits hazing to occur; or
- Fails to report in writing to officials their knowledge of the planning or that a hazing incident has occurred

IF A PERSON KNOWING OF AN INCIDENT VOLUNTARILY REPORTS TO DISTRICT OR LAW ENFORCEMENT BEFORE BEING CONTACTED BY OFFICIALS, THEY ARE IMMUNE FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY.

# Maintain Discipline



## A Person Commits a Harassment Offense

- the person makes obscene, intimidating, or threatening telephone calls or other electronic communications from a temporary or disposable telephone number provided by an Internet application or other technological means (ex. Web App) with
- intent to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another person

# Maintain Discipline



## Hair Texture or Protective Hairstyle - The CROWN Act

In this section, "protective hairstyle" includes braids, locks, and twists.

Any student dress or grooming policy, including a student dress or grooming policy for any extracurricular activity,

may not discriminate against a hair texture or protective hairstyle commonly or historically associated with race.

# Maintain Discipline



## Enrollment of Student

The parent or sending school shall furnish to the receiving district a copy of the child's records from most recent school, including a copy of the child's disciplinary records and any threat assessment(s) involving the child's behavior.



## Transfer of Student

In the case of a transfer, a child's school district of residence shall provide the receiving district with the child's disciplinary records and any threat assessment(s) conducted.

TEC 25.002(a), TEC 25.036(c), [HB 3](#)



# Keeping Parents Informed

## Notification of SSSP Behavioral Threat Assessment



**Before:** The team must **notify** the parent of or person standing in parental relation to the student regarding the assessment.

**During:** Team shall provide **an opportunity** for the parent or person to **participate** in the assessment and to submit to the team information regarding the student.

**After:** Team **shall provide** to the parent the **team's findings and conclusions** regarding the student.

TEC 37.115, [HB 473](#)



# Keeping Parents Informed



## Notification Regarding Violent Activity

Districts must provide notice regarding **violent activity** that **has occurred or is being investigated** at a school campus or other LEA facility to parents and/or guardians of students assigned to the campus.

The Standards must:

1. Include electronic notification through text messaging and email
2. Provide option for real-time notification, and
3. Protect student privacy

[TEA Model Standards for Parental Notification](#)





## Parent Awareness of Firearm Storage

**Secure all firearms  
from children < 17  
years old.**

### Safe Firearm Storage Resources

*Information for School Districts and Open-Enrollment Charter Schools to  
Assist with New Legislative Requirements*

[House Bill 3](#), Section 19 (88th Texas Legislature) adds Section 37.222 to the Texas Education Code, which requires the Texas School Safety Center, in collaboration with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), to provide to each school district and open-enrollment charter school information and other resources regarding the safe storage of firearms, including information on section [46.13 of the Texas Penal Code](#), for distribution by the district or school.

**The Texas DPS has created a public relations campaign – [Keep 'Em Safe Texas](#) – that offers free downloadable resources to promote safe gun storage.**

**Districts must provide this information to the parent or guardian of each student enrolled in the district or school.** The Texas School Safety Center recommends districts provide this information twice annually – once at the beginning of the school year and once at the end of the school year.

Below you will find links to resources in English and Spanish to assist districts with meeting this legislative mandate. Districts may select the resources and formats that best fit their needs.



# Keeping Students Safe



**CPS reports are confidential, but no longer anonymous.** The individual making a report shall identify their name and address.

If a report of abuse or neglect is made orally, the receiver must notify

- *the one making the report that the report is being recorded*
- *making a false report is a criminal offense punishable as a state jail felony or a third degree felony*
- *make an audio recording of the report*

**Before** taking any action CPS must provide to a parent of a child who is under investigation

- *information regarding the CPS representative's identity*
- *the summary of the report*
- *a reasonable amount of time to read or review the summary*



# Where can you find State Requirements for School Safety?

Title IV, Part A School Safety and Mental Health State Initiative Web Page



District Resources

Safety Teams

A screenshot of the Region 14 Education Service Center website. The header includes the "Region 14 Education Service Center" logo and the tagline "Service for World Class Schools". A navigation menu lists "Departments", "Programs &amp; Services", "R14 Districts", "PITStop", "Jobs", "R14 Service Station", "ESC Employees", and "About Us". A search bar is located in the top right. On the left, a vertical menu lists "Title IV State Initiative", "District/LEA Resources", "ESC Resources", "Parent Resources", "TEA Resources", and "Title IV SI FAQ". An orange arrow points from the "District Resources" text in the adjacent box to the "District/LEA Resources" menu item. The main content area is titled "District/LEA Resources" and contains a list of expandable sections: "Required Training", "Title IV Resources", "TEA Safety &amp; Mental Health Resources", "Mental Health and Safety", and "Safety Teams". An orange arrow points from the "Safety Teams" text in the adjacent box to the "Safety Teams" section. Below the list, there is a link: "Click Here for District Safety Teams - Safety &amp; Security Committee / Safe and Supportive Schools Program Team".



# Where can you find Parent Resources?

Title IV, Part A  
Parent Resources  
Web Page



Parent Resources



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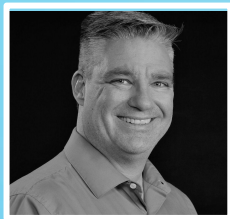


# 2023 Statewide Parent and Family Engagement Conference

# Thank you

Evaluations

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