



SCHOOL SAFETY

Recent and Planned Updates

- Aligned Emergency Procedures with Lytle ISD
- Building Entrances locked except for primary entry
- Active Shooter Training
- Increased Camera coverage
- High School Security Vestibule at High School
- JH Security Vestibule
- Electronic Building Access

School Safety and Security Committee

- One or more representatives of an office of emergency management of a county or city in which the district is located
- One or more representatives of the local police department or sheriff's office
- One or more representatives of the district's police department, if applicable
- The president of the district's board of trustees; a member of the district's board of trustees other than the president
- The district's superintendent
- One or more designees of the district's superintendent, one of whom must be a classroom teacher in the district
- If the district partners with an open-enrollment charter school to provide instruction to students, a member of the open-enrollment charter school's governing body or a designee of the governing body
- Two parents or guardians of students enrolled in the district.

School Safety and Security Committee shall:

- Participate on behalf of the district in developing and implementing emergency plans consistent with the district multihazard emergency operations plan required by Section 37.108(a) to ensure that the plans reflect specific campus, facility, or support services needs
- Periodically provide recommendations to the district's board of trustees and district administrators regarding updating the district multihazard emergency operations plan required by Section 37.108(a) in accordance with best practices identified by the agency, the Texas School Safety Center, or a person included in the registry established by the Texas School Safety Center under Section 37.2091
- Provide the district with any campus, facility, or support services information required in connection with a safety and security audit required by Section 37.108(b), a safety and security audit report required by Section 37.108(c), or another report required to be submitted by the district to the Texas School Safety Center

School Safety and Security Committee shall:

- Review each report required to be submitted by the district to the Texas School Safety Center to ensure that the report contains accurate and complete information regarding each campus, facility, or support service in accordance with criteria established by the center.
- Consult with local law enforcement agencies on methods to increase law enforcement presence near district campuses.
- Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the committee shall meet at least once during each academic semester and at least once during the summer.
- The committee is subject to Chapter 551, Government Code, and may meet in executive session as provided by that chapter. Notice of a committee meeting must be posted in the same manner as notice of a meeting of the district's board of trustees.

THREAT ASSESSMENT AND SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM AND TEAM

- The board of trustees of each school district shall establish a threat assessment and safe and supportive school team to serve at each campus of the district and shall adopt policies and procedures for the teams.
- The team is responsible for developing and implementing the safe and supportive school program at the district campus served by the team
- Require each team to complete training provided by the Texas School Safety Center or a regional education service center regarding evidence-based threat assessment programs.
- The superintendent of the district shall ensure that the members appointed to each team have expertise in counseling, behavior management, mental health and substance use, classroom instruction, special education, school administration, school safety and security, emergency management, and law enforcement. A team may serve more than one campus of a school district, provided that each district campus is assigned a team.

THREAT ASSESSMENT AND SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM AND TEAM SHALL:

- Conduct a threat assessment that includes: (A) assessing and reporting individuals who make threats of violence or exhibit harmful, threatening, or violent behavior in accordance with the policies and procedures adopted under Subsection (c); and (B) gathering and analyzing data to determine the level of risk and appropriate intervention, including: (i) referring a student for mental health assessment; and (ii) implementing an escalation procedure, if appropriate based on the team's assessment, in accordance with district policy.
- Provide guidance to students and school employees on recognizing harmful, threatening, or violent behavior that may pose a threat to the community, school, or individual.
- Support the district in implementing the district's multihazard emergency operations plan.

A school district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan:

- A chain of command that designates the individual responsible for making final decisions during a disaster or emergency situation and identifies other individuals responsible for making those decisions if the designated person is unavailable.
- Provisions that address physical and psychological safety for responding to a natural disaster, active shooter, and any other dangerous scenario identified for purposes of this section by the agency or the Texas School Safety Center
- Provisions for ensuring the safety of students in portable buildings.
- Provisions for ensuring that students and district personnel with disabilities are provided equal access to safety during a disaster or emergency situation.

A school district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan:

- Provisions for providing immediate notification to parents, guardians, and other persons standing in parental relation in circumstances involving a significant threat to the health or safety of students, including identification of the individual with responsibility for overseeing the notification.
- Provisions for supporting the psychological safety of students, district personnel, and the community during the response and recovery phase following a disaster or emergency situation that
 - are aligned with best practice-based programs and research-based practices recommended under Section 161.325, Health and Safety Code
 - include strategies for ensuring any required professional development training for suicide prevention and grief-informed and trauma-informed care is provided to appropriate school personnel

A school district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan:

- Training on integrating psychological safety and suicide prevention strategies into the district's plan, such as psychological first aid for schools training, from an approved list of recommended training established by the commissioner and Texas School Safety Center for
 - members of the district's school safety
 - and security committee under Section 37.109;
 - district school counselors and mental health professionals; and
 - educators and other district personnel as determined by the district;
- Strategies and procedures for integrating and supporting physical and psychological safety that align with the provisions described by Subdivision (2)
- Trauma-informed policies

A school district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan:

- A policy for providing a substitute teacher access to school campus buildings and materials necessary for the substitute teacher to carry out the duties of a district employee during an emergency or a mandatory emergency drill
- The name of each individual on the district's school safety and security committee established under Section 37.109 and the date of each committee meeting during the preceding year.

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE POLICY

- Each school district shall adopt and implement a policy requiring the integration of trauma-informed practices in each school environment.
- A district must include the policy in the district improvement plan.
- Increasing staff and parent awareness of trauma-informed care.
- Implementation of trauma-informed practices and care by district and campus staff.
- Available counseling options for students affected by trauma or grief

Increasing staff and parent awareness of trauma-informed care

- Select a program from the list of recommended best practice-based programs and research-based practices established under Section 161.325, Health and Safety Code
- Include as part of any new employee orientation for all new school district educators
- Deliver to existing school district educators on a schedule adopted by the agency by rule that requires educators to be trained at intervals necessary to keep educators informed of developments in the field.

School Health Advisory Council

The local school health advisory council's duties include recommending:

- Strategies to increase parental awareness regarding: (A) risky behaviors and early warning signs of suicide risks and behavioral health concerns, including mental health disorders and substance use disorders; and (B) available community programs and services that address risky behaviors, suicide risks, and behavioral health concerns.
- Make policy recommendations to the district to increase parental awareness of suicide-related risk factors and warning signs and available community suicide prevention services.