



School Safety Updates

2023 Fort Hood Education Summit

February 3, 2023

Nate Turner

Associate Director of School Safety Readiness

Presentation Agenda

TXSSC INFORMATION

REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

22-23 SCHOOL YEAR KEY AREAS

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

TRAININGS AVAILABLE

Tasked

Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code and the Governor's Homeland Security Strategic Plan with key school safety initiatives and mandates



Multi-hazard Approach to School Safety



Comprehensive Approach to School Safety

Knowing how to:

- Prevent
- Mitigate
- Prepare
- Respond
- Recover



School Safety is Multi-disciplinary



TxSSC & Legislative Mandates

Emergency Operations
Plans

School Safety Audits

School Behavioral Threat
Assessments

Intruder Detection Audits

School Safety
Committees

Other Various
Mandates/Commissioner
Rules



Multi-hazard Emergency Operations Plan

- Required by law
- Must address 5 phases of emergency management
- Must incorporate a hazard analysis
- Must include how it will address many safety areas outlined in TEC 37.108

Multi-hazard EOP Reviews

On September 12, TxSSC began another round of EOP reviews.

Areas of focus are:

- Basic Plan
- Active Threat Annex
- Active Shooter Appendix



EOP Must Provide for Mandatory School Drills

Drill Requirements

Secure Drill: 1 per school year

Lockdown Drill: 2 per school year (one per semester).

Evacuation Drill: 1 per school year

Shelter-in-Place for Hazmat Drill: 1 per school year

Shelter for Severe Weather Drill: 1 per school year

Fire Evacuation Drill: School districts and open-enrollment charter schools should consult with their local fire marshal and comply with their local fire marshal's requirements and recommendations. If a district does not have a local fire marshal, it shall conduct four per school year (two per semester).

•As required by TEC Sec. 37.114, the Commissioner, in coordination with the Texas School Safety Center and State Fire Marshal, has adopted [rules](#) for mandatory school drills for public school districts and open-enrollment charter schools.



The Texas School Safety and Security Consultant Registry is available to consultants and school districts. Please visit the [Registry](#) website for more information and to [search](#) consultants.

Featured Toolkit

Active Threat Toolkit

Resource

This toolkit provides resources for districts to complete an Active Threat Annex to their Basic Plan, which addresses district actions and responsibility through the five phases of Emergency Management. You will find multiple resources linked in this toolkit, including an Active Threat Annex template and completion guide to help you complete your annex. You will also find relevant TxSSC, state, and federal training courses and resources. [Access the Toolkit](#)

Featured Video



Mandatory Drills for Schools

Resource

As required by Texas Education Code Section 37.114, the TEA Commission, in coordination with the Texas School Safety Center and State Fire Marshal, has adopted [rules](#) for mandatory school drills for public school districts and open-enrollment charter schools. The Texas School Safety Center has updated the following resources to reflect these new mandates: [Training, Drilling and Exercising Toolkit](#) and the [Drill Guidance for Schools Document](#).

School Safety and Security Committee Guidelines

Resource

Texas Education Code specifically describes who shall serve on a School Safety and Security Committee, how often they shall meet and what they are charged to implement. This committee must actively participate in developing and implementing emergency plans for campuses and other facilities. The TxSSC has developed guidelines and FAQs to assist districts with this important task. [Download the Committee Guidelines](#)

EOP Basic Plan Toolkit

Resource

When developing the district's multi-hazard emergency operations plan (EOP), the "Basic Plan" is the foundational document necessary when creating a district EOP. The Basic Plan provides essential information for the district's leadership and key personnel to manage emergencies that affect the district. The EOP Basic Plan Toolkit includes plan templates, planning resources, and links to training that will assist the district's EOP planning team. [View the EOP Basic Plan Toolkit](#)



More Information on Best Practices for Legally Required Drills



A critical component of the school's best practices is the unified classroom response to an incident at school. Whether events, fires, accidents, intruders and other threats to student safety are scenarios that are planned and trained for by school and district administration and staff.

Historically, schools have taken this scenario-based approach to respond to hazards and threats. It's not uncommon to find a tangled stack of papers or even a rolled-up note in a teacher's desk that describes a variety of things that might happen and the specific response to each event.

SRP is Action Based

The Standard Response Protocol is based not on individual scenarios but on the response every person expects. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP contains a specific vocabulary that also allows for great flexibility. The process is simple – there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these actions, the action is labeled with a "time of day" and is then followed by a "direction". Direction of the action is performed by entire participants, including students, and teachers act as their responders.



Toolkit

Training

Guidance Video

Secure -vs- Lockdown

Best Practice: Reunification Method



Best Practice: Reunification Method



Practice at least once every 12 months (new staff every year)

Considerations:

- Sped Transportation and Pre-planning*
- Food*
- Water*
- Cleaning of affected buildings*



EOP Toolkits, Templates & Courses





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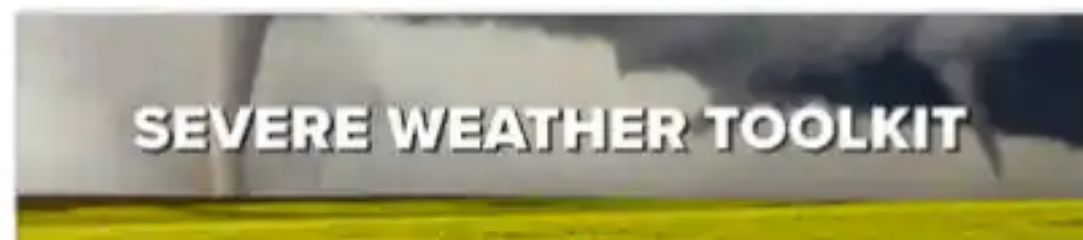
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Next Round of Multi-hazard EOP Reviews

In September 2023 TxSSC will begin another round of EOP reviews:

Areas of focus are:

- Basic Plan
- Severe Weather Annex
- Hazardous Materials Annex
 - › Train Derailment Appendix



School Safety Audits



TxSSC Model Audit Procedures

Using multi-disciplinary teams,
meant to be a self-assessment.

Audit **All** Facilities:

- Exterior
- Interior
- Climate and Culture
- Data and Documents



School Safety and Security Audit Cycles

K-12 Public School Districts

- Started November 1, 2020

➔ Ends August 31, 2023

Junior College Districts

- Started September 1, 2021

➔ Ends August 31, 2024

Public Charter Districts

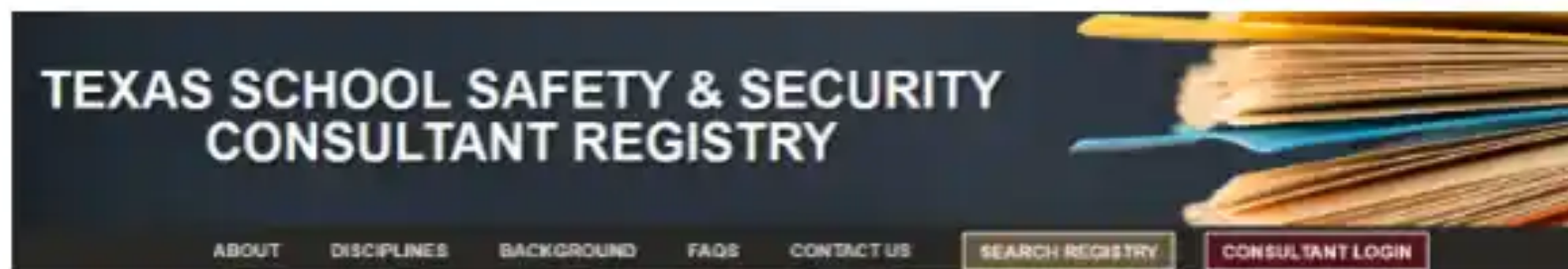
- Started September 1, 2022

➔ Ends August 31, 2025

School Safety and Security Audits

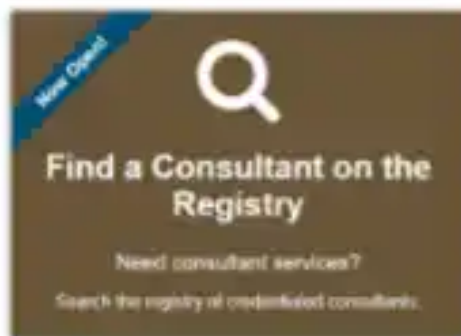


Safety & Security Consultant Registry



Welcome to the Texas School Safety and Security Consultant Registry

Welcome to the Texas School Safety and Security Consultant Registry; commonly referred to as "The Registry." The Registry is mandated by Texas Education Code 37.2091. For additional legal and legislative information refer to the legislation tab in the about section of this website. The Registry provides a list of contractors that have been vetted for litigation involving school safety and security and for disqualifying criminal history. Districts are responsible for evaluating performance, products, insurance documentation, and checking references. A list of consultants can be found at the public facing consultant database.



School Behavioral Threat Assessment

- A **preventative** system, **not** punitive
- Meant to intervene with individuals posing a risk of harm to self or others and get them off a pathway to violence



Threat Assessment is

A systematic process to:



Why Threat Assessment Works

School threat assessment is based on research on US school shootings. Research shows that:

- Most school shooters had seriously concerned others in their lives prior to the attack.
- Most had significant difficulty coping with losses or failures.
- Most were experiencing despair/hopelessness, or even suicidal.
- We have resources to help those who are despondent or suicidal.

For more information:

U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Department of Education, *Final Report and Findings of the Safe School Initiative: Implications for the Prevention of Targeted School Violence in the U.S.* (2002). Washington, DC: Authors.

National Threat Assessment Center (2019). *Protecting America's Schools: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence*. U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security.



School Behavioral Threat Assessment

Team Makeup-
expertise to the
greatest extent
practicable in:

Counseling

Behavior Management

Mental Health and Substance Use

Classroom Instruction

Special Education

School Administration

School Safety and Security

Emergency Management

Law Enforcement

School Behavioral Threat Assessment Implementation:

A team may serve more than one campus of a school district, provided that each district campus is assigned a team that can conduct behavioral threat assessments.



School Behavioral Threat Assessment Implementation:

1. Team must be trained by the TxSSC or ESC
2. Districts must submit SBTA data by campus to TEA annually



Safe and Supportive School Program
2021 Data Collection Tool Guide

OPERATIONALIZING SCHOOL BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENT (SBTA)

Since 2015, Texas law has required the school districts and postsecondary higher education institutions to implement School Behavioral Threat Assessment (SBTA) teams. SBTA teams are required to identify, assess, and respond to threats to the safety of students, staff, and the community. The Texas Attorney General's Office (AGO) has published guidance on SBTA implementation. This guidance is intended to help school districts and postsecondary institutions understand the requirements of SBTA and to provide a framework for implementation.

Establishing a Safe and Supportive School Team

1. Who is on the SBTA performing SBTA?
2. Texas Education Code section 37.110(b) requires school districts to establish a SBTA team that includes a representative of each of the following: school administration, school staff, school safety, school security, school law enforcement, school board, school district attorney, school district administrator, school district employee, school district volunteer, school district parent, school district student, school district community member, school district employee, school district volunteer, school district parent, school district student, school district community member, school district employee, school district volunteer, school district parent, school district student, school district community member.
3. What school district and district entities determine what type of SBTA is present on each SBTA?
4. After the passage of Senate Bill (S.B.) 1105, which amended the SBTA law, school districts are required to determine with regard to the level of SBTA implementation. In 2021, the Texas Legislature updated Texas Education Code section 37.110(b) to only require the participation of SBTA on the SBTA. In the past, school districts were required to have a SBTA on all campuses, regardless of the level of SBTA implementation.
5. Does my campus have an SBTA, or is there a SBTA team that oversees SBTA implementation?

Page 20/22



Texas is in Year 4 & Biggest Issue: Operationalizing SBTA

- How do teams communicate with one another?
- Who follows up on interventions?
- Who is keeping records of threats and types?
(now in PEIMS, if discipline referral)
- How are you sharing this information with other campuses as students move campuses?

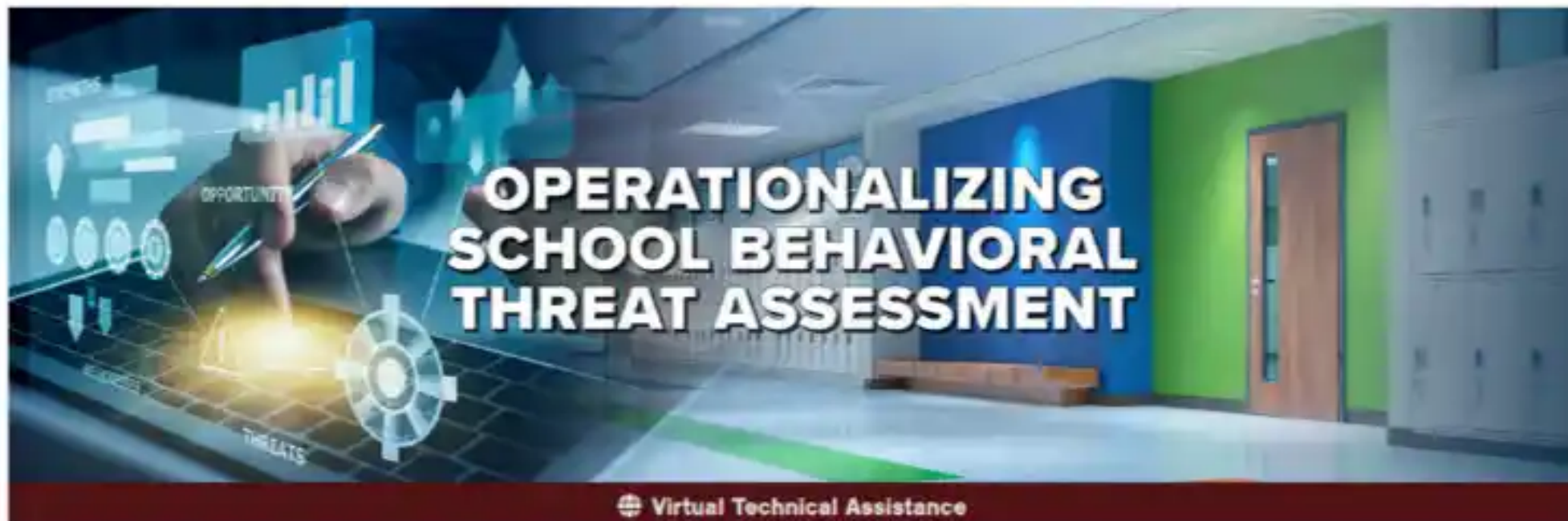
Virtual Training Opportunities



Over 50 virtual trainings for the 22-23 school year
Conducted most Tuesdays

Your Educational Service Center can offer Basic SBTA training in-person

Technical Assistance Opportunities



- 3 sessions every month** for the 22-23 school year.
- Must have SBTA Team members present.
- Must have conducted threat assessments at campuses.

Intruder Detection Audits

September 2022-
May 2023

TxSSC to conduct
Statewide Intruder
Detection Audits

Intruder Detection Audits

- Notification to Superintendent and Law Enforcement
- Not exact date but within the month
- Corrective Actions will require board notification & notification to School Safety and Security Committee
- 45 days to submit compliance documents

Intruder Detection Audits

PHASE 1

Intruder Detection Audit Finding

An inspector gained unauthorized access to a campus

PHASE 2

Exterior Door Audit Finding

One or more issues were found with the security of one or more exterior doors (door/s not secured, not locked, broken, propped open)

PHASE 3

Classroom Door Audit Finding

When a district had a written and/or verbal policy/directive to lock classroom doors, any classroom door in a sample of 8 – 10 doors was not closed and locked

DOOR SWEEPS

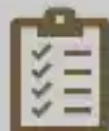
Weekly Door Sweeps Audit Finding

A campus did not document door sweep processes and/or did not have documentation of the previous six weeks' worth of checks on all exterior doors

Intruder Detection Audits

KEY FINDINGS

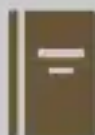
SCHOOL DISTRICTS ACROSS TEXAS ARE ALERTED TO KEY SAFETY ISSUES ON CAMPUSES AND MAKING CORRECTIVE ACTIONS



2,864 campuses were audited between September and December 2022.



71.6% of audited campuses did not have any corrective actions.

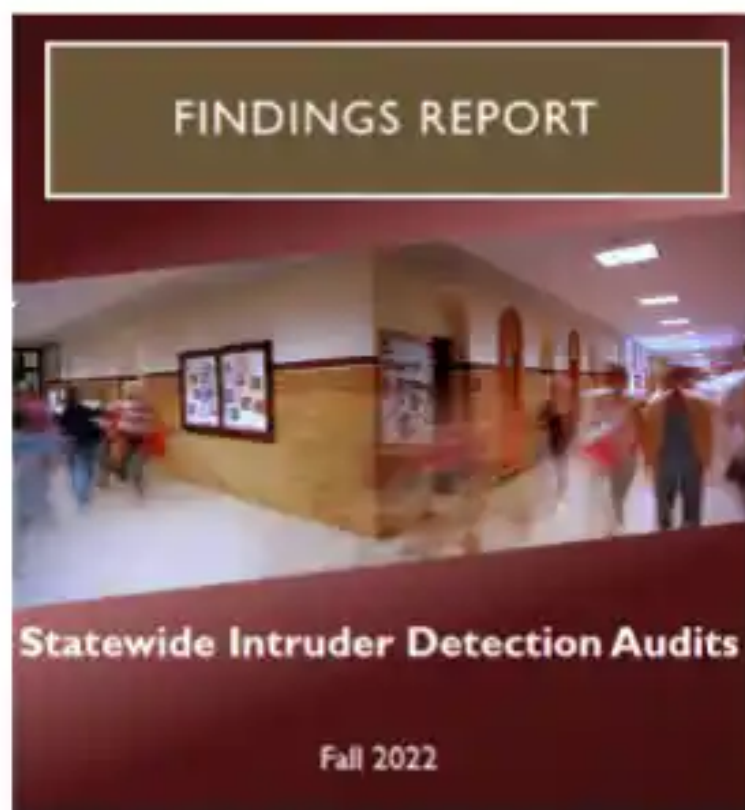


28.4% of audited campuses received corrective actions. Of these campuses with corrective actions, **51.4% of corrective actions** have been verified as addressed. **48.6%** are in the process of being verified.



Inspectors at **95.3%** of campuses **did not gain** unauthorized access to the campus.

Statewide Intruder Detection Audits Finding Report Fall 2022



<https://news.txst.edu/inside-txst/2022/texas-school-safety-center-statements.html>

TxSSC School Safety and Security Committee Guidance & FAQ's



SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
TEXAS EDUCATION CODE §11.086

GUIDELINES

Purpose

The School Safety and Security Committee is a working group of diverse individuals that serves the members of its school district or open-enrollment charter school by helping assess and maintain a safe and secure school climate and culture for staff and students.

Members

For this committee to have a significant impact upon the school's climate and culture, there is a need for representation from various perspectives on school safety and security. As a result, and to the greatest extent practicable, the committee must consist of at least five following individuals whose names are recorded in the district's multi-faceted emergency operations plan (EOP) (TEC 37.086(b)(1) and TEC 37.086a-1). Charter networks may need to set these up by geographical region or create appropriate representation from local responders and members.

1. The city or county's office of emergency management – at least one representative.
2. The local police department or sheriff's office – at least one representative.
3. From the board of trustees – the president and at least one other representative of the board.
4. From the district – the superintendent and at least one teacher, one being a student classroom teacher.
5. Parents or guardians of currently enrolled students – at least one.
6. If the district has an instructional partnership with an open-enrollment charter school – a member of the charter school's governing body, or their designee.
7. If the district has its own police department – at least one representative.

Responsibilities

The committee has the following assigned responsibilities to fulfill their purpose:

1. **Participate** in the development and implementation of the district's emergency plans by ensuring they are consistent with the district's EOP and reflect the specific campus, facility, or support service needs that exist. (TEC 37.086(b)(1))
2. **Provide**, periodically to the board of trustees and district administration, recommendations to update the district's EOP according to the best practices identified by the Texas Education Agency, the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC), or an individual in the TxSSC's Registry. (TEC 37.086(b)(2) and TEC 37.201.)
3. **Report** any campus, facility, or support service information required to the district for the completion of their safety and security needs, safety and security audit report, or any other report required to be submitted to the TxSSC. (TEC 37.086(b)(3))
4. **Provide** such input to the district relative to the TxSSC to ensure it remains accurate and complete information regarding each campus, facility, or support service, and follows the standards established by the TxSSC. (TEC 37.086(b)(4))
5. **Consult** with local law enforcement agencies on how to increase their presence near district campuses. (TEC 37.086(b)(5))
6. **Identify** where blocking control devices are to be placed in schools, ensuring they are as easily accessible as possible. (TEC 37.086(a) and (b)(2) and (c).)



TOOLS EVENTS VIDEOS PODCASTS RESEARCH ABOUT COURSES REGISTRY

The Texas School Safety and Security Committee Registry is available to educators and school districts. Please visit the Registry website for more information and to search immediately.

Featured Toolkit

Active Threat Toolkit

Overview

This toolkit provides resources for districts to complete an Active Threat assessment to their district plan, which addresses district actions and responsibilities through the five phases of Emergency Management. You will find multiple resources linked to this toolkit, including an Active Threat Assessment and completion guide to help you complete your work. You will also find reference letters, state, and federal training courses and resources. Access the Toolkit

Featured Video



Weaponry Drills the Schools

As required by Texas Education Code Section 37.111, the TSSC Commission, in coordination with the Texas School Safety Center and Public Law 106-161, has adopted plans for weapons school drills in public school districts and open enrollment charter schools. The Texas School Safety Center has updated the following resources to reflect these new provisions: **Drills: Drills and Drilling Drills** and the **Drill Checklist for Schools** (2016/2017).

School Safety and Security Committee Guidelines

Open Enrollment Charter schools should be able to find resources on this website and TSSC's website. For other TSSC and TSSC-TEA resources designed to assist the committee and safety participants in developing and implementing emergency plans for campuses and other facilities, the Toolkit has documents, guidelines and links to other resources with the resources link. Download the Guidelines

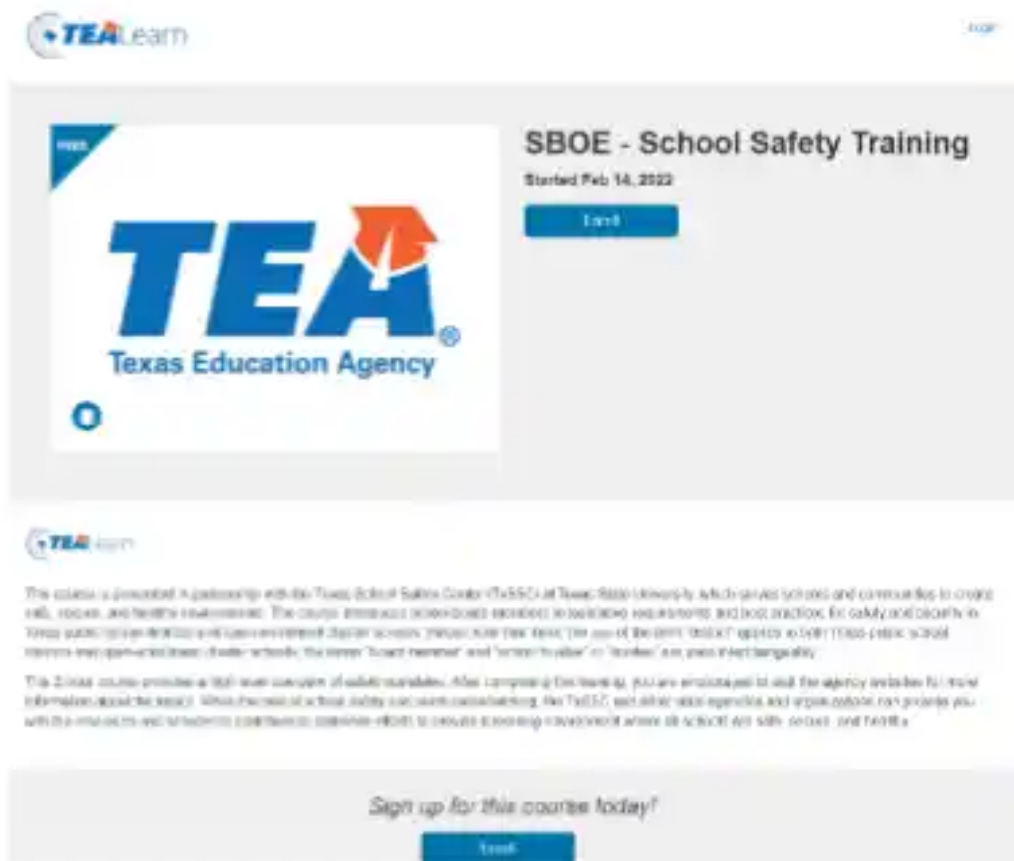
EOP Guide Your Toolkit

When developing the district's multi-faceted emergency operations plan (EOP), the "EOP Plan" reflects the essential elements necessary to ensure a district EOP. The Toolkit provides essential information for the district's leadership and key personnel to ensure emergency plan after the disaster. The EOP Plan Toolkit provides a clear, consistent, planning resources, and links to existing that will assist the district's EOP planning team. Download the EOP Plan Toolkit



School Board Safety Trainings

Trustees must meet the school safety training requirement by taking the SBOE-approved training every two years. Newly elected trustees who did not complete the training prior to their election have 120 days from the date of their election or appointment to complete the training. Current trustees who have not yet completed the training had a deadline of September 30, 2022, to complete the training.



The screenshot shows a course page on the TEA Learn platform. At the top left is the TEA Learn logo. The main content area features a large TEA logo with the text "Texas Education Agency" below it. To the right of the logo, the course title "SBOE - School Safety Training" is displayed, along with the start date "Started Feb 14, 2022" and a "View" button. Below the logo, there is a small blue circle with the number "0". At the bottom of the page, there is a section with a "Sign up for this course today!" button.

TEA Learn

SBOE - School Safety Training
Started Feb 14, 2022
View

TEA
Texas Education Agency

0

TEA Learn

The course is presented in partnership with the Texas School Safety Center (TSSC) at Texas State University, which serves schools and communities to create safe, secure, and healthy environments. The course introduces schoolboard members to legislative requirements and best practices for school and district safety. This course is required for all schoolboard members and is a prerequisite for the TSSC's School Safety Leadership Program. The course is available to all schoolboard members and is a prerequisite for the TSSC's School Safety Leadership Program.

This course provides a full overview of school safety. After completing this training, you are encouraged to visit the agency website for more information about the state's school safety program. For more information, visit the TSSC website at www.tssc.org or contact us at info@tssc.org.

Sign up for this course today!
View

Other Legislative Mandates

Child abuse and neglect student-facing posters in high traffic areas (19 TAC 61.1051 (e) and (f) (2021))



2021 Legislative Session



SB 1831 Requires the posting of warning sign of offenses relating to human trafficking of minors on and around school premises.

- **Commissioner Rules recently released on these weatherproof signs required to be placed around school premises. Rules went into effect on October 18, 2022.**

Human Trafficking Signs

Each school shall post warning signs at the following locations:

- (1) parallel to and along the exterior boundaries of the school's premises;
- (2) at each roadway or way of access to the premises;
- (3) for premises not fenced, at least every five hundred feet along the exterior boundaries of the premises;
- (4) at each entrance to the premises and building, and;
- (5) at conspicuous places reasonably likely to be viewed by all persons entering the premises.

(TAC §61.1053(b))

*Campuses have to put signs in place through the end of the 2022-23 school year and fulfill the sign mandate requirement.

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/other-services/human-trafficking-of-school-aged-children>



School-Based Law Enforcement

1. School District Police
2. Contract with County/City

Other options for Districts:

1. School Marshal (TCOLE)
2. Guardian Program





TCOLE #4064 Training

The Texas School Safety Center School-Based Law Enforcement training division will host 40 free virtual TCOLE #4064 trainings beginning October of 2020. These virtual trainings will be 20 hours divided into two 10-hour days. The goal of this training is to assist SBLE officers and school districts with compliance of legislative mandates requiring districts employing a peace/resource officer to create a policy requiring officers to complete education and training. Trainings are limited to the first 50 applicants per 2-day training.

We have updated training materials to ensure that participants receive the most current information available. Topics will include:

- Child and Adolescent Development and Psychology.
- Mental Health Crisis Intervention and Cultural Competency.
- De-escalation Techniques and Techniques for Limiting the Use of Force, including the Use of Physical, Mechanical, and Chemical Restraints
- Mental and Behavioral Health Needs of Children with Disabilities or Special Needs.
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, Conflict Resolution Techniques, and Restorative Justice Techniques.

2021 Legislative Session

SB 2050



Minimum Standards on bullying prevention policies and procedures

1. Integrated into instruction
2. Age-appropriate survey- action plans based on the results
3. Committee to address bullying (already in place)
4. Reporting (anonymously & identifiable)
5. Rubric or checklist to assess an incident of bullying and determine response



TEA to release the Minimum Standards this Spring

Bullying Checklist

BULLYING CHECKLIST FOR SCHOOLS

PLEASE READ BEFORE PROCEEDING TO CHECKLIST

- If you determine that the situation is an imminent threat to life or safety, notify the police and your school's Safe and Supportive School Program Team¹ immediately.
- If you determine that the situation meets bullying or cyberbullying criteria, notify your school's Safe and Supportive School Program Team¹.
- If you are still unsure if the situation meets bullying or cyberbullying criteria, speak with your school's Safe and Supportive School Program Team¹ for guidance.
- If the incident being screened doesn't meet bullying or cyberbullying criteria, student social-emotional support may still be needed. Consult with your school's Safe and Supportive School Team¹ for guidance.

¹Safe and Supportive School Program Team is a collaborative team that consists of school administrators, staff, and community members who include faculty, the school district's mental health provider, and other school personnel. Every team member should be trained by a Safe and Supportive School Program Team.

TEXAS STATE
Texas School Safety Center
www.txstate.edu

BULLYING CHECKLIST FOR SCHOOLS

PLEASE READ BEFORE USING CHECKLIST

This document describes an incident involving cyberbullying or bullying, which is defined as repeated, harmful, and unwanted actions or communications that cause physical or emotional harm to a student or staff member. It is not an incident involving a crime.

It is not "teasing" and "banter" between students, which means playful, good-natured remarks or jokes that are not intended to cause or result in emotional or physical harm. It is not a single incident, such as a fight or a one-time insult. It is not a single incident involving a crime.

IS IT BULLYING?

Was this a single significant act?

Was it a pattern of acts?

Did one or more students direct it at another student that yielded an imbalance of power?

Through physical contact:

Using verbal aggression

Using written expressions

Using electronic means

Did it harm a student or damage their property?

Created reasonable fear of harm to student or damage to their property

Is it likely to occur, possible, or pervasive enough that the victim or threat believes attending school will be harmful?

Threatening physical or emotional harm or social exclusion

Materials are submitted through the school's email process or part of school's digital or digital content at school

Was the act committed using any form of electronic, digital, or networked device?

Is the act a form of harassment, such as a threat or a credible threat, that causes or creates a fear of harm?

Is it a form of harassment, such as a threat or a credible threat, that causes or creates a fear of harm?

Is it a form of harassment, such as a threat or a credible threat, that causes or creates a fear of harm?

YES, IT'S BULLYING (Cyberbullying is Bullying)

TEXAS STATE
Texas School Safety Center
www.txstate.edu



22-23 Key Areas

EOP Basic Review
and Active Threat &
Active Shooter

Intruder Detection
Audits September
2022-May 2023

Safety and Security
Audits 3-year cycle for
public school districts
by August 31, 2023



2022-2023

New School Facility
Commissioner Rules to
address exterior locked
doors, secured areas
(fences)

TEA safety grant and
grant for panic button
systems

Updated Active Threat
Exercise Guidance

What is your Safety Eco-system?



Comprehensive Approach to Safety



Does it work in our infrastructure?



Did we train on it?




Did we test it?



Did we address the issues?



Can we sustain these products?

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Mandatory Drills for Schools

Resource

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Texas Education Code specifically describes who shall serve on a School Safety and Security Committee, how often they shall meet and what they are charged to implement. This committee must actively participate in developing and implementing emergency plans for campuses and other facilities. The TxSSC has developed guidelines and FAQs to assist districts with this important task. [Download the Committee Guidelines](#)

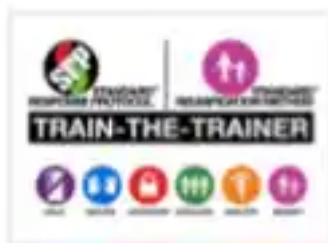
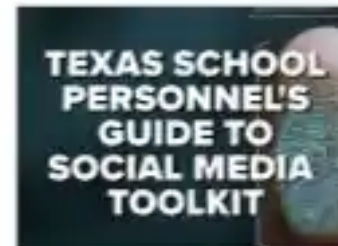
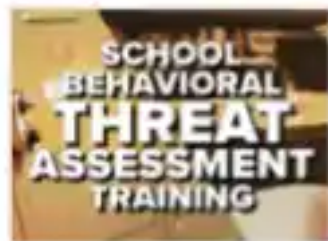
Featured Video



Where do I go?

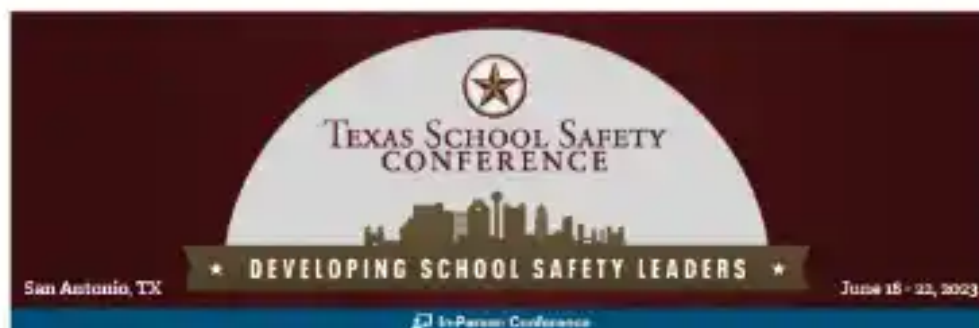
FREE assistance is here!

Trainings and Toolkits



Statewide Conference

June 18-22, 2023



Make plans to join us for the 2023 Texas School Safety Conference taking place at the beautiful San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter Hotel located on the Riverwalk in the heart of San Antonio, Texas on June 18-22, 2023.

Creating safe and healthy environments requires a daily commitment from staff, students, and community partners. Through *Developing School Safety Leaders*, the conference will offer strategies to empower everyone in the school community to lead with confidence.

Nationally recognized keynote speakers and relevant breakout sessions based on best practices in the field of school safety will equip you to improve the school safety posture of your districts and communities.

For more information about the Texas School Safety Conference contact Cynthia J. Arredondo at cj@txsscc.edu.

Registration

Early registration ends May 26, 2023

Register Early

3,000/3,000

The TSSCC will also be offering SOSSE and/or CEU credit hours.

Download W-9 Form

Tentative 2023 Conference Agenda at a Glance

Learn More About...

Hotel

Presenting

Keynotes

Exhibiting

FAQs

Car Contest



Questions?

Nate Turner

Associate Director of School Safety Readiness

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