New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Prepared and Supportive Schools

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Office of School Preparedness & Emergency Planning (OSPEP)

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OSPEP Activities

- 800+ Active Shooter Drill Observations since 2014
- 300+ professional development sessions, presentations and responses to technical assistance requests
- Conducted on-site security observations
- Assisted in development/review of school safety and security plans (SSSP)

PREPAREDNESS • PLANNING • RESPONSE • RECOVERY

School Preparedness & Emergency Planning
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NJ Administrative Code (6A:16-5.1)

Planning and training

- Comprehensive, written school safety and security plan
  - Consultation with emergency responders
  - 91 required elements
- Reviewed annually, updated as appropriate
- Dissemination to all employees
- Annual in-service training
- Statements of assurance
  - Drills conducted
  - School safety and security plans reviewed

School Security Legislative Updates

(Sept. 2016 - July 2017)

Drill Law - N.J.S.A. 18A:41 (P.L 2016, c.80)

- Monthly fire drill and one monthly security drill
  - Active shooter
  - Non-bomb threat evacuation
  - Lock-down
  - Bomb threat
  - 2 alternate choices
- Law Enforcement officer present at a minimum of 1 drill annually

School Security Legislative Updates

(Sept. 2016 - July 2017)

Drill Law - N.J.S.A. 18A:41 (P.L 2016, c.80)

- Annual safety and security training to **all** full-time employees
- The annual training shall be conducted collaboratively with emergency responders
- An actual fire or school security emergency that occurs during the month that includes activities which are the equivalent of a drill, will be considered a drill for the purposes of meeting the required number of monthly drills

School Security Legislative Updates

(Sept. 2016 - July 2017)

- *P.L. 2017, c.119* – Requires the Board of Education to have a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement authorities for accessing live streams of video surveillance equipment

- *P.L. 2016, c.100* – Amends N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41 and supplements N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-15.2 to authorize use of emergency reserve funds or proceeds from bonds issued by EDA to finance school security improvements

School Security Legislative Updates

(Sept. 2016 - July 2017)

- *P.L. 2016, c.49* – Secure Schools for all Children Act; establishes state aid for security services, equipment or technology to ensure safe and secure school environment for nonpublic school students

- *P.L. 2016, c.79* – Requires certain school security measures to be incorporated in architectural design of new school construction and certain school security measures for existing buildings

School Security Legislative Updates

(Sept. 2016 - July 2017)

- *P.L. 2016, c.68* – Establishes Class III Special Law Enforcement Officers to provide security in public/nonpublic schools and county colleges

School Security Legislative Updates

(Sept. 2016 - July 2017)

New Jersey School Safety Specialist Academy

N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.2 to 18A:17-43.3

- School Safety Specialist Certification Program
  - Bullying, hazing, truancy, drugs, weapons, gangs, Internet safety, school policing, emergency planning, emergency drills
- School Safety Specialist (district)
  - School Administrator
  - Security personnel, policies & procedures, training & compliance, liaison to law enforcement, attend annual training (recertification)

Active Shooter Training

- Well-situated to implement lockdown as *default* response
  - Drill law
  - Lockable classroom doors
  - Police response time
- Additional *options*
  - Escape
  - Confront
- School Administrator Procedures
- School also guided through local responder consultation

Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials

MOA Joint Issuance: New Jersey Departments of Law & Public Safety and Education

Purpose: To establish effective cooperation *between the local education agency and law enforcement officials* to ensure a safe educational environment.

Requirement: All public school districts serving students in grades kindergarten through 12, charter schools and Renaissance school projects, jointure commissions, educational services commissions, and approved private schools for students with disabilities.

Annual Signing Between Education and Law Enforcement: Board of Education President, Chief School Administrator, Executive County Superintendent, Chief of Police or Station Commander, County Prosecutor

Source: *N.J.A.C.* 6A:16-6.2(b)13

Mandatory Reporting to Law Enforcement (Examples)

Whenever any school employee in the course of his or her employment develops reason to believe that:

•A firearm or other dangerous weapon has unlawfully been possessed; a weapon was used in an assault against a student or other school personnel, or that any student or other person has committed an offense with, or while in possession of, a firearm (MOA Article 4.6).

•Anyone has threatened, is planning, or otherwise intends to cause death, serious bodily injury, or significant bodily injury to another person and is genuinely believed will be carried out in the future (MOA Article 4.10).

•An assault upon a teacher, administrator, other school board employee, or district board of education member has been committed, with or without a weapon (*N.J.A.C.* 6A:16-5.7).

School Safety and Security Plans (SSSPs)

District's must develop and annually review school safety and security plans (MOA Article 13).

- **Who**:
  - Chief school administrator (CSA)

- **With**:
  - Local law enforcement
  - Health and social services provider agencies
  - Emergency management planners
  - School and other community members, as appropriate

- **Why**:
  - Protocols and procedures for quickly communicating to staff, students, parents, and emergency responders
  - Procedures for minimizing the risk of physical harm to students and staff

Required Staff Position

Each district must designate one or more school liaisons to the county prosecutor's office and local law enforcement (MOA Article 2).

- **Who**:
  - School administrator
- **With**:
  - County prosecutor's office
  - Local law enforcement
  - National, State, and community agencies and organizations
- **Why**:
  - Act as the primary contact person
  - Communicate and cooperate in matters of school safety and security

Training Requirement

Safe Schools Resource Officer Training Course (MOA Article 1)

- **Who**:
  - School liaison
  - School resource officer (SRO)

- **When**:
  - Before assigning liaison or SRO

- **Why**:
  - Provide comprehensive and consistent training and current school resource officer practices and concepts
  - Designed to benefit school administrators working with law enforcement and any law enforcement officer working within an educational environment

Training Requirement

In-service on School Safety and Security Plans (MOA Articles 8 & 13)

- **Who**:
  - All district Board of Education employees
- **When**:
  - Annually
- **Why**:
  - To recognize and appropriately respond to safety and security concerns, including emergencies and crises, consistent with the school district's plans, procedures and mechanisms for school safety and security

NJDOE's Prevention and Intervention Efforts (Examples)

What	Why	Prevention	Intervention
Comprehensive Health Education Standards (*N.J.S.A.* 18A:35)	Decision making skills related to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, relationships, character development and interpersonal communications.	✓	
Social and Emotional Learning Competencies	To promote safe, supportive and challenging learning environments	✓	
Intervention and referral services (I&RS)	Identifying, collecting information on, and developing plans to address learning, behavior and health difficulties		✓
New Jersey Tiered Systems of Support (NJTSS)	Builds upon intervention and referral services (I&RS) and gives schools a structure to meet the academic, behavioral, health, enrichment, and social-emotional needs of all students	✓	✓
Positive Behavior Supports in Schools	Data driven process for teaching and reinforcing consistent expectations for student conduct and process for teaching and reinforcing the conduct expectations	✓	✓
Student Safety Data System (SSDS)	Review SSDS incident–based data regularly to assess any patterns or trends and develop prevention and intervention strategies.	✓	✓

Prevention and Intervention Efforts Other State Agencies (Examples)

Department of Children and Families

- School-based Youth Services
  - Located in host schools in each county
  - Coordinate with existing resources in the community
  - Before, during and after school
- Juvenile-Family Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU)
  - Located in each county
  - 24 hour on-call service
- Children's System of Care (CSOC)
  - Connect through PerformCare
    - Family Support Organizations
    - Care Management Organizations

Department of Health

- Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
  - Prevention and early intervention services

Fiscal Support (Examples)

What	Why	Statute	ESSA
School Security Improvements	Allows the use of emergency reserve funds or proceeds from bonds issued by the NJ Economic Development Authority to finance school security improvements	N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41	
Secure Schools for All Children	Establishes state aid for security services, equipment or technology to ensure safe and secure school environment for nonpublic school students	N.J.S.A. 18A:58-37.8	
Student Supports and Academic Enrichment	Early identification of mental health symptoms, drug use, and violence, and appropriate referrals to direct individual or group counseling services, which may be provided by school-based mental health services providers		Title IV, Part A
In-Service Training for School Personnel	Techniques and supports needed to help educators understand when and how to refer students affected by trauma, and children with, or at risk of, mental illness		Title II (LEAs)

Supportive Resources (Examples)

Safety

- School Safety Manual: Best Practices Guidelines
- School Administrator Procedures: Responding to Critical Incidents Manual
- School Safety and Security Plans: Minimum Requirements
- OSPEP courses and training
- New Jersey School Security Task Force Report and Recommendations

Prevention and Intervention

- Social and Emotional Learning Competencies
- Positive Behavior Supports in Schools
- School Climate Survey
- Directory of Mental Health Services (NJ Department of Health)

Recommendations

For Schools:

Pursuant to School Security Task Force Report

- Explore developing behavioral threat assessment teams
  - Identify potential at-risk students
  - Provide resources to prevent potential violent incidents

For NJDOE:

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

- Add requirements on new school security legislation
- Discuss further recommendations for MOA

New Jersey Tiered Systems of Supports (NJTSS)

- Include universal screening for behavior