



# Delaware Emergency Management Agency

## State of Delaware, Department of Safety and Homeland Security

### MEMORANDUM

To: Nate McQueen, Secretary  
Department of Safety & Homeland Security

CC: Kimberly H. Chandler, Deputy Secretary

From: A. J. Schall, Director  
Delaware Emergency Management Agency

Date: January 16, 2023

Re: 2022 School Safety Report

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As required by the 2014 Omnibus School Safety Act, below is the annual report for distribution to the General Assembly.

#### **Annual School Compliance**

The Comprehensive School Safety Program (CSSP) oversees the Omnibus School Safety Act compliance. The goal of the Act is to enhance public safety in all of Delaware's public and charter schools by utilizing comprehensive, site-specific, National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant safety and emergency preparedness plans. Each public and charter school is also required to hold one tabletop exercise and two lockdown/intruder drills per academic school year. This Act is intended to promote a cohesive and coordinated approach between emergency responders, education professionals and other supporting agencies during a critical incident within a school setting. The CSSP team at the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) oversees 229 Public and Charter Schools. This team continues to surpass expectations considering an annual budget of only \$300,000.

The Comprehensive School Safety Program is proud to report the following completion rates to meet the school safety requirements from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022:

- **Table-top:** **100%**
- **Assessments:** **100%**
- **Plan Completion:** **100%**
- **Lockdown #1:** **100%**
- **Lockdown#2:** **100%**

### **CSSP Team Accomplishments July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022:**

- Continued to improve relationships with all stakeholders.
- Increased school stakeholder contact list from 120 to over 769 individuals. This is imperative for information sharing, transparency, and school compliance.
- Trained 152 persons, many remotely due to Covid restrictions, on the Navigate Emergency Management Suite and Omnibus requirement topics.
- Trained 266 persons, many remotely due to Covid restrictions, on behavioral threat assessment, risk assessment, self-care, threat preparation and suicide prevention.
- Worked with the Delaware State Police (DSP) to create and implement a dual threat preparation training. Eighteen personnel were trained.
- Continued to establish a network among schools and determine ways for them to share information and collaborate with each other.
- Completed website re-design to be more informative and transparent regarding the duties, responsibilities, goals and successes of the program and schools. Added information about House Bill 49 process for approvals on security features.
- To date, CSSP has approved 14 new construction and renovation school plans for required security features in accordance with House Bill 49 set forth post January 1, 2019.

### **2023 Projects and Goals:**

The team will continue to work on many initiatives, especially those that promote proactive/preventative measures such as adding additional options to run concurrent with the Omnibus School Safety Act. These include:

- Statewide implementation of an anonymous mobile reporting application for staff and students to be able to report suspicious and concerning behaviors as well as address individual mental health needs and social services.
- Statewide behavioral threat assessment and suicide risk assessment model, forms, policies, procedures, and case management platform to standardize all behavioral and risk threat assessments conducted in schools across Delaware.
- Continue implementation and mapping of interactive floor plans for all schools that will work across all electronic platforms to include patrol vehicles, dispatch centers and command posts for both security and daily use purposes.
- Offer continued reunification training to capture final four schools and other interested state entities.
- Provide outreach and training, to include educational and informational opportunities for students and care givers regarding safety and self-care.
- Collaboration and partnership with the Department of Education to work seamlessly on all facets of school safety to include funding, resources, and training. Promote and agreement for safety and security CEU's for school staff.
- Support Division of Communications to add Constables to 800 system
- Support DSP with expansion of background services that will assist schools with expediting hires
- Explore ways to enhance collaboration amongst school districts with an *Incident Support* type team for critical incidents
- Support the continuation of funding for the School Safety Fund
- Live camera feed capabilities from each school
- Unmanned aircraft system (drone) training
- Updating the Emergency Operations Plan format in Navigate for July 2023