



Delaware Emergency Management Agency

State of Delaware, Department of Safety and Homeland Security

M E M O R A N D U M

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

CC: Kimberly H. Chandler, Deputy Secretary

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

Date: October 12, 2023

Re: 2023 School Safety Report

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 Omnibus School Safety Act compliance. This team oversees 231 Public and Charter Schools, and 6 voluntary alternative schools, totaling 237 schools. Such oversight, in addition to the Omnibus requirements of two annual lockdowns and one annual table-top, consists of training on active threat situations, mental health topics, prevention strategies, mitigation strategies, conducting in depth school assessments, and assisting with lockdowns and tabletop exercises. In February 2020, CSSP was also tasked with approving school plans in accordance with House Bill 49 (HB 49) wherein the team reviews all new construction or renovation of \$1,000,000.00 or more to determine if school safety requirements have been fulfilled. In 2022, the team was also tasked with joint approval of House Bill 388 (HB388) applications for schools. This bill is intended to supply schools with additional funds to improve school safety or security.

The Comprehensive School Safety Program is proud to report the following accomplishments and completion rates to meet the school safety requirements from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023:

Legal Compliance:

- Achieved **100%** Lockdown Drill Compliance from all schools
- Achieved **100%** Table-Top Compliance from all schools
- Achieved **100%** Infrastructure Assessment Compliance from all schools
- Achieved **100%** plan completion

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Accomplishments:

- Achieved **100%** Lockdown Drill Compliance from all schools
- Achieved **100%** Table-Top Compliance from all schools
- Achieved **100%** Infrastructure Assessment Compliance from all schools
- Achieved **100%** plan completion
- Trained 1,290 for the year on various school safety topics
- Mapped all schools – over 700 maps completed and loaded into each school portal and pushed to all Police/Fire, 9-1-1 centers and emergency management agencies
- Reunification Training is continuing with all districts and charter schools completing and developing their teams for this statewide process. Over 200 trained trainers and another 143 slated for the upcoming year.
- Standard Response Protocol Training is continuing with over 200 trained trainers for our districts and charters. Another 143 are slated for the upcoming year.
- Approved 7 HB49 plans
- Approved 39 HB388 applications
- Conducted 4 school campus infrastructure assessments
- Began implementation of CSSP's Safety and Wellness Suite statewide. This includes anonymous mobile reporting application (SAFE DE) for staff and students to be able to report suspicious and concerning behaviors as well as address individual mental health needs, standardized Behavioral Threat Assessment and Suicide Risk Assessment model, forms, policies, procedures, and housing platform to follow the student throughout their K-12 tenure within the state. Approximately 85,000 of 140,000 students onboarded to date.
- Created approval process and forms for HB388 applications

Future goals and initiatives:

- Required annual infrastructure facility assessments
- Required training for all school employees to include NIMS, de-escalation, and mental health topics
- Continued implementation of CSSP's Safety and Wellness Suite
- 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
- Continue to train schools in the Standard Reunification Method and safety plan updates.
- Consider a school safety conference/workshop
- Collaboration and partnership with the Department of Education to work seamlessly on all facets of school safety to include funding, resources, and training.
- Continue to research and support Trauma Informed Care and crisis intervention courses and programs

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Safety and Wellness Suite Onboarding as of 7/1/2023 :

- Appoquinimink School District
- Brandywine School District
- Bryan Allen Stevenson School of Ex-BASSE
- Caesar Rodney School District
- Christina School District
- Colonial School District
- Early College DSU School
- East Side Charter School
- First State Montessori Academy
- Freire Charter School
- Gateway Charter
- Great Oaks-The Community Education Building
- Kuumba- The Community Education Building
- Milford School District
- MOT Charter School (2) High and K-8
- Odyssey Charter School
- Seaford School District
- Smyrna School District
- Providence Creek Academy
- Positive Outcomes Charter School

Schools/districts that have declined to use any components of the suite:

- Red Clay
- Indian River
- Academia Antonia Alonso