

Safe Schools

The Board of Education recognizes that effective learning and teaching takes place in a safe, secure and welcoming environment and that safe schools contribute to improved attendance, increased student achievement and community support. To that end, the Board directs the superintendent, following consultation with the school district accountability committee and school accountability committees, parents, teachers, administrators, students and when appropriate, members of the community, to develop a safe schools plan that includes:

1. Procedures that address the supervision and security of school buildings and grounds.
2. Procedures that address the safety and supervision of students during school hours and school-sponsored activities.
3. Procedures that address persons visiting school buildings and attending school-sponsored activities.
4. Training programs for staff and students in crisis prevention and management.
5. Training programs for staff and students in emergency response procedures that include practice drills.
6. Training programs for staff and students in how to recognize and respond to behavior or other information that may indicate impending violence or other safety problems.
7. Training and support for students that aims to relieve the fear, embarrassment and peer pressure associated with reporting behavior that may indicate impending violence or other safety problems.
8. Procedures for safe, confidential reporting of security and safety concerns at each school building.
9. Procedures for regular assessments by school security/safety professionals and law enforcement officers to evaluate the security needs of each school building and to provide recommendations for improvements if necessary.
10. Procedures for regular assessments by school climate professionals to determine whether students feel safe and to provide recommendations for improvements in school climate at each district building.
11. Procedures to provide for regular communications between district officials, law enforcement officers, fire department officials, city and county officials and local medical personnel to discuss crisis prevention and management strategies,

including involvement by these parties in the development and revision of crisis prevention and management plans.

12. Training programs for staff and students in safety precautions and procedures related to fire prevention, natural disaster response, accident prevention, public health, traffic, bicycle and pedestrian safety, environmental hazards, civil defense, classroom and occupational safety, and special hazards associated with athletics and other extracurricular activities.
13. Procedures for the reporting of criminal activity to law enforcement.
14. Procedures for reporting to parents/guardians an employee's arrest or charge for an offense for which parental notification is required.

Each building principal shall be responsible for the supervision and implementation of the safe school program at his or her school. The principal shall submit annually, in the manner and by the date specified by the State Board of Education, a written report to the Board of Education concerning the learning environment in the school during that school year. The report shall contain, at a minimum, the information required by law.

It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Education to compile the annual safety reports from every school in the district and submit the compilation to the state department of education in a format specified by the State Board of Education. The report shall be made available to the public.

Adopted: 8-27-03

Amended: 10-19-09, 9-7-2011

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. [9-1-101](#) through 9-1-106 (construction requirements, fire escapes, etc.)
C.R.S. [22-3-101](#) through 22-3-104 (eye protective devices)
C.R.S. [22-32-109.1](#) (safe schools plan)
C.R.S. [22-32-110](#) (1)(k)
C.R.S. [22-32-124](#) (2),(3) (building inspections)
C.R.S. [24-10-106.5](#) (duty of care)
1 CCR [301-83](#), Rule 4.04 (safe schools plan must include parental notification)

CROSS REFS.: [ECA/ECAB](#), Security/Access to Buildings
[GBGAA](#)*, Staff Training in Crisis Prevention and Management
[KDE](#), Crisis Management (Safety, Readiness and Incident Management Planning)
[KI](#), Visitors to School

NOTE 1: Many specific policies are required as part of the district's safe school plan (see CASB's list of legally required policies); however, the law also requires a general safe schools policy. This policy (ADD) serves that purpose. The only specific legal requirement is that the policy mandate the annual inspection of schools to remove hazards, vandalism and other barriers to safety and supervision. C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(5). That requirement is reflected in paragraphs one and nine of the policy. The remaining provisions of the policy are suggested best practices for the superintendent and board to consider when creating a general safe schools policy. This policy also serves as an outline for the legally-required safe schools plan.

NOTE 2: The state law "encourages" school districts to provide a comprehensive, age-appropriate curriculum that teaches safety in working and interacting on the Internet, as part of the board's safe school plan. C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(c). Districts are encouraged to incorporate the Internet safety topics into the teaching of the regular classroom curricula, rather than isolating the topics as a separate class. If the district develops a comprehensive curriculum or other approach to teach safety in use of the Internet, then appropriate language could be added to this policy.