

SAFE SCHOOLS

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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 to develop and maintain 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 in crisis prevention and management.
5. Training programs for staff 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. Procedures for safe, confidential reporting of security and safety concerns at each school.
8. 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.
9. 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.

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10. Training programs for staff 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.

11. Procedures for the reporting of criminal activity to law enforcement.

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.

The annual safety reports from every school in the district shall be compiled and submitted 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.

12. Procedures for notifying parents of an employee's criminal charges when such notification is required by state law.

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 9-1-101 through 9-1-106 (*construction requirements, fire escapes, etc.*)
 C.R.S. 22-1-130 (6) (*safe school plan must include parent notification of employee criminal charges*)
 C.R.S. 22-3-101 through 22-3-104 (*eye protective devices*)
 C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (1)(b.5) (*definition of "community partners" that board may wish to consult with in developing and implementing its safe school plan*)
 C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2) (*safe schools plan*)
 C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(b) (*detailing information required in annual principal*)

AURORA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Adopted February 1978
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APS Code: ADD

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reports on the learning environment)

C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2.5) (districts are “encouraged” to adopt a child sexual abuse and assault prevention plan as part of the safe schools plan)

C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(k) (board authority to adopt policies related to employee safety and official conduct)

C.R.S. 22-32-124 (2), (3) (building inspections)

C.R.S. 24-10-106.5 (duty of care)

CROSS REFS.:

ECA/ECAB, Security/Access to Buildings

GBGAA*, Staff Training in Crisis Prevention and Management

KDBA, Parent Notification of Employee Criminal Charges

KDE, Crisis Management (Safety, Readiness and Incident Management Planning)

KI, Visitors to School

THREAT AND SUICIDE ASSESSMENT

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The provision of authority to conduct a threat assessment for potentially dangerous behaviors occurring at school or in the community if connected to school, is supported by Colorado Statute (CRS 22-1-123), the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Law and SB15- 213.

Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, as indicated in the resources above, schools are permitted to disclose records to appropriate officials without consent in cases of health and safety emergencies which includes suicide and threat assessments.

The safety of the student, school and community is a District priority. Any student whose behavior/actions and/or communication regarding a student's behavior/actions that may pose a threat either to that student or to others in the school and or community, shall be evaluated in accordance with District suicide assessment and/or threat assessment procedures. The purpose of the assessment is: to gain understanding of the elements of the threat/risk so that imminent and/or serious dangers can be identified, to disable risk factors for violence, to respond, manage, and support the student of concern and/or others involved. If at any time information suggests the need for law enforcement assistance, assistance will be requested immediately.

All teachers and direct service providers will receive yearly training in the identification and reporting of the warning signs of suicide and threat behavior. Annually, school staff and students at the middle and high school level must participate in suicide prevention training as outlined by the District. Time frames for participation in suicide prevention training will be outlined by the Director of Social Emotional and Behavioral Health. District employees that conduct threat assessments in their school building must participate in mandatory threat assessment training annually. In addition, all building principals and assistant principals shall receive annual threat assessment training.

Building Threat Assessment Team

Every building is required to have a threat assessment team which will include a minimum of three team members: administrator, behavioral health care provider, and school nurse. District Safety and Security Officers and Law Enforcement are part of the team at the high school and middle school level. For the purposes of the Building Threat Assessment Team, Deans shall be considered administrators at the high school level only. At the elementary school level, when the incident

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involves serious bodily injury and/or weapons; law enforcement and District Safety and Security Officers need to be a part of the team.

District Threat Assessment Team

The District Level Threat Assessment Team is made up of the Director of Safety and Security, District Risk Assessment Coordinator, Director of Behavioral Health, Director of Health Services, Director of Student Support Systems, Director of Student Services, and the Director of Community in Schools.