



Annual Mandated School Safety Training

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ANNUAL MANDATED SCHOOL SAFETY TRAINING FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

The purpose of this presentation is to provide the Annual Mandated School Safety Training, which includes components of Violence Prevention and Mental Health.



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PROJECT SAVE

In July 2000, the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act (Project SAVE) was signed into law to promote a safer and more effective learning environment within New York State schools. SAVE legislation has multiple requirements including district-wide school safety plans, building level emergency response plans, codes of conduct, uniform violent incident reporting, instruction in civility, citizenship and character education, and school violence prevention training.



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New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function.

The Dignity Act was signed into law on September 13, 2010 and took effect on July 1, 2012.



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TYPES OF BULLYING BEHAVIORS

Physical, verbal, social /emotional and “cyberbullying”.

POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Bullying incidents are too often unnoticed or ignored**
- No clear rules and consequences**
- Culture of “tattling” rather than “telling” or “ratting” rather than “reporting”**
- Little principal involvement with students**
- Poor cohesiveness and communication among staff members and between the staff and the principal**
- Lack of respect among all constituents**

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School Risk Factors

- **Lack of clear expectations both academic and behavioral**
- **Lack of commitment or sense of belonging at school**
- **Academic failure**
- **Parents and community members not actively involved**

School Protective Factors

- **Communicates high behavioral and academic expectations**
- **Encourages goal setting, academic achievement, and positive social development**
- **Positive attitudes toward school**
- **Fosters active involvement of students, parents, and community members**

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Action Plan

- **Implement intervention training for all constituents**
- **Effective reporting system**
- **Use the hierarchy of consequences**
- **Continually re-assess the effectiveness of the plan**

Reporting

- **Develop a 24/7 district-wide anonymous reporting system.**
- **Primary goal is to create a culture where students feel comfortable reporting to a responsible adult.**
- **Those who need to be trained to report include students, administration, security personnel, teachers, coaches, bus drivers, aides, custodial staff, and parents.**

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CODE OF CONDUCT

- **Each school is required to adopt codes of conduct for the maintenance of order on school grounds. The rules of conduct must apply to teachers, students, personnel and visitors.**

The Code of Conduct must include, at a minimum:

- **Appropriate dress and language;**
- **Security issues;**
- **Removal from the classroom;**
- **Disciplinary procedures for those who violate the Code of Conduct;**
- **Policies and procedures for detention, suspension, and removal of the disruptive pupil;**

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CODE OF CONDUCT

- **Procedures for reporting Code violations and imposing penalties;**
- **Provision to insure compliance with State and Federal laws in relationship to students with disabilities;**
- **Provisions for notifying law enforcement of violations (e.g., violent crimes);**
- **Procedures for parental notification;**
- **Committee to review actions relating to the Code;**
- **Procedures regarding PINS petitions and juvenile delinquency provisions;**
- **Procedures for referral to human services agencies;**
- **Minimum suspension periods for students who are repeatedly and substantially disruptive;**
- **Minimum suspension periods for acts that qualify a student as violent.**

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Uniform Violent Incident Reporting System (UVIRS)

The Regulations which were adopted by emergency action in April 2001, and made permanent in June 2001. They were developed in consultation with the Division of Criminal Justice Services and with legislative and executive staff. They made use of definitions of crimes taken from the Penal Law and requires schools to record information on violent and disruptive incidents beginning with the 2001-02 school year.



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District Wide Safety Plans

Each school district in the state must appoint a team to develop a comprehensive safety plan, which should include policies and procedures for:

- Responding to threats;**
- Responding to acts of violence;**
- Appropriate prevention/intervention strategies such as:**
 - Training for security personnel who may be called to de-escalate a potentially violent situation;**
- Conflict resolution;**

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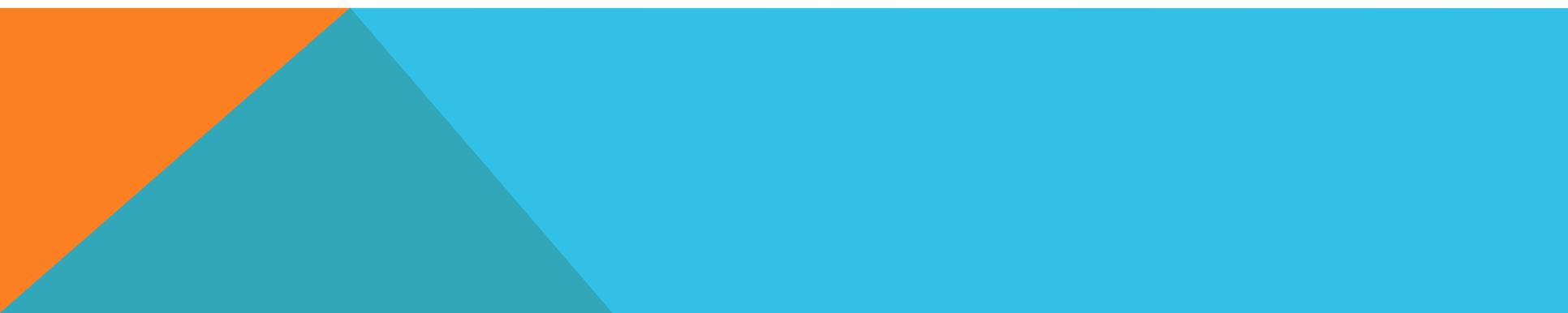
District Wide Safety Plans

- **Contacting law enforcement;**
- **Contacting parents and/or guardians;**
- **School building security;**
- **Dissemination of informative materials regarding early detection of potentially violent behaviors;**
- **Annual school safety training for staff and students;**
- **Protocol for responding to bomb threats, hostage taking, intrusion and kidnapping;**

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District Wide Safety Plans

This team must include a representative of the Board of Education, students, teachers, administrators, parent organizations and other school and school safety personnel. Representatives must be appointed by the Board of Education.



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Building Level Safety Plan

The principal of each school must develop a team, utilizing the guidelines established by the board of education. This team is to include teachers, administrators, parent organizations, school safety personnel, community members, law enforcement and or other emergency response agencies. This plan must be submitted to local law enforcement agencies and the New York State Police.



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Building Level Safety Plan

- **This building level plan must include:**
- **Policies and procedures for safe evacuation, to include evacuation routes, shelter sites, procedures for addressing medical needs, transportation, and emergency notification to parents/guardians;**
- **Designation of an emergency response team;**
- **Access to floor plans, blueprints, schematics of school interior, grounds, and road maps of surrounding area;**
- **Internal and external communication systems;**

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Building Level Safety Plan

- **Implementation of an incident command center (ICS);**
 - **Coordination with Statewide Disaster Mental Health Plan;**
 - **Procedures to review and conduct drills and exercises to test components of the plan;**
 - **Policies and procedures for securing and restricting access to the crime scene.**
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Fingerprinting

Fingerprinting is a component of the SAVE legislation. School district employees and applicants for certification are required to be fingerprinted for a criminal history background check in order to be cleared for employment. Volunteers are not required to be fingerprinted.

The SAVE legislation specifies that current employees of a school district are not required to be fingerprinted. However, should a current employee terminate employment and seeks employment in a different school district, the individual must undergo the fingerprinting process. The law also applies if a currently certified individual applies for an additional certification, for example if a teacher applies for an administrator's certificate.

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Whistle Blowers Protection

Protection is provided for those employees who report violent incidents.

Employees may not be disciplined or fired for reporting violent incidents and are protected from any civil liability.



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Child Abuse Reporting

In July, 2007 the Child Abuse Reporting laws were revised. As mandated reporters, school officials who include, but are not limited to: school teachers, guidance counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, school nurses, school administrators, or other school personnel required to hold a teaching or other administrative license or certification, must report their suspicions of child abuse or maltreatment/neglect directly to the New York State Central Registrar (SCR). In New York State the mandated reporter express line is: 1.800.635.1522.

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Child Abuse Reporting

Reflecting the recent changes to the child abuse reporting laws, whenever a mandated reporter suspects child abuse or maltreatment while acting in her/his professional capacity as a staff member of a medical or other public or private institution, school, facility or agency, he or she must report the child abuse, as required by law and then immediately notify the person in charge of that school, facility institution or her/his designated agent.

That individual is then responsible for all subsequent administrative efforts related to that report. Any report must include the names, titles and contact information for each staff person in the institution who has direct knowledge of the allegations in the report. The law does not require more than one report from the institution, school, facility or agency on any one incident of suspected abuse or maltreatment.

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Teacher Discipline

The SAVE legislation provides for a range of discipline measures. In addition to revocation of a teaching certificate, discipline will now include suspension, limitation on certificates and monetary fines.



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Court Notification

•Family and criminal courts are to notify schools about juvenile delinquency adjudications. This will help to increase the coordination between the juvenile justice system and the schools. It requires schools to appoint a Designated Educational Official (DEO) to receive records and coordinate student's participation in programs. Such notification and coordination cannot be part of the student's permanent record; information can only be used in the execution of the student's educational plan.

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School Violence Prevention Training

•The legislation also set the requirement that all individuals seeking certification as of February 2001 must have completed a two hour course in violence prevention, such as the one you are now taking. However, this training provides an overview regarding the SAVE legislation, so that the learner understands that violence prevention and training for violence prevention in the school is part of a comprehensive plan for school safety. The mandatory training that you are now engaged in is just the beginning. Violence prevention training for current staff must be addressed in the annual professional development plan.