

Texas Unified School Safety and Security Standards (Cited)

The Texas Unified School Safety and Security Standards provide criteria to assist school districts in developing and implementing a comprehensive program consistent with those of other governmental, private, and volunteer organizations to help them provide a safe, secure, and supportive environment for all students, staff, and visitors.

Phase 1.0	Prevention/ Mitigation- Coordinated actions taken to decrease the likelihood that an incident will occur or to reduce the loss of life or damage to property from any hazard or threat.	
Number	Standard	Legal Citation or Best Practice
1.1	The school district should coordinate efforts for prevention and mitigation through collaboration with stakeholders representing the district (internal) local, state and regional partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC. 37.212. INTERAGENCY COOPERATION. • TEC 37.2121. MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AND MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS.
1.2	The school district should establish a functioning school district safety and security committee with responsibilities that include ensuring compliance with local, state and federal mandates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.109. SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE.
1.3	The school district should regularly assess school climate and implement relevant scientifically research-based curricula, programs, and practices to create a positive, safe, and disciplined environment conducive to learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.001. STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT. • TEC 37.083. DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS; SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICIES. • TEC 37.0832 BULLYING PREVENTION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
1.4	The school district should have processes in place to identify and appropriately assist/address individuals who exhibit signs of violent, harmful, or risky behaviors, and/or pose a threat of committing criminal activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.006. REMOVAL FOR CERTAIN CONDUCT. • TEC 37.015. REPORTS TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT • TEC 37.0832 BULLYING PREVENTION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES • TEC 37.123. DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES. • TEC 37.124. DISRUPTION OF CLASSES. • TEC 37.126. DISRUPTION OF TRANSPORTATION

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1.5	The school district, as part of their emergency operations planning, should complete a threat and hazard identification and risk assessment (THIRA) of all school district facilities, properties and their surrounding environment to identify potential hazards from natural, technological, and human-caused incidents, including violence and property crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Guide: Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 201 • TAC TITLE 16 PART I, RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS, CHAPTER 8, SUBCHAPTER D RULE 8.315 HAZARDOUS LIQUIDS AND CARBON DIOXIDE PIPELINES OR PIPELINE FACILITIES LOCATED WITHIN 1,000 FEET OF A PUBLIC-SCHOOL BUILDING OR FACILITY
1.6	The school district should utilize the results of the THIRA to develop specific mitigation and prevention activities and plans as part of their multi-hazard emergency operations plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA: Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Guide: Comprehensive Preparedness guide (CPG) 201 • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans
1.7	The school district, using trained staff and/or appropriate partners, should systematically perform safety and security, self-assessments/audits of facilities, to identify and address safety and security issues and report the results according to current Texas statute.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • TEC 37.109. SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEES
1.8	The school district should develop access control and visitor management procedures for each facility; train staff and provide periodic evaluations to ensure compliance of those procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108 (c-2)(9) • TEC 38.022. SCHOOL VISITORS. • TEC 37.105. UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS: REFUSAL OF ENTRY, EJECTION, IDENTIFICATION. • TEC 37.107. TRESPASS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

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Phase 2.0	Preparedness - Coordinated actions taken to plan, equip, organize, train, exercise, evaluate, and improve capabilities.	
Number	Standard	Legal Citation or Best Practice
2.1	The school district should develop multi-hazard preparedness activities, plans, and practices consistent with and inclusive of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted for State of Texas by Executive Order RP-40. • National Incident Management System (NIMS) as directed in Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), “Management of Domestic Incidents.” • FEMA NIMS Implementation Objectives
2.2	The school district should integrate the needs of students, staff and visitors with disabilities and others with access and functional needs into all aspects of the district’s comprehensive emergency management program including planning, training, and drilling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • FEMA 2016 Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) Fact Sheet • FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Strategic Plan: Fiscal Year 2014-2018
2.3	The school district multi-hazard emergency operations plan should include policies and/or procedures to address public health situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • Districts must ensure compliance with public health and safety codes in all emergency plans and agreements. • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans
2.4	The school district multi-hazard emergency operations plan should include current maps and floor plans that show evacuation options and utility shut-offs at all district facilities and properties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans

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2.5	The school district multi-hazard emergency operations plan should include procedures for emergency notification, public information, and communication with all stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans • National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted for State of Texas by Executive Order RP-40.
2.6	The school district multi-hazard emergency operations plan should address processes for accounting for all persons on school campus or district property, staff and student reunification, and release.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans
2.7	The school district should educate all stakeholders about the district’s safety and emergency management practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans
2.8	The school district multi-hazard emergency operations plan should include the development and implementation of a comprehensive multi-hazard exercise/drill program in compliance with local, state and federal mandates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted for State of Texas by Executive Order RP-40.
2.9	The school district should adopt mutual-aid agreements, memoranda of understanding, inter-jurisdictional/inter-local agreements, and other agreements to support comprehensive emergency preparedness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.2121. MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AND MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS. • Executive Order RP-57. Regional Unified Command Structure (RUCS) and the Multiagency Coordination System (MACS) • National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted for State of Texas by Executive Order RP-40.
2.10	The school district should document, maintain, and replenish emergency supplies, go-kits and equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans • Districts must ensure compliance with public health and safety codes in all emergency plans and agreements.

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2.11	The school district should have an emergency management contact or coordinator that is responsible for the emergency management program coordination and oversight.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT.
2.12	The school district should ensure that each facility has a designated emergency management program liaison.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans

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Phase 3.0	Response – Coordinated actions taken to resolve an incident.	
Number		Legal Citation or Best Practice
3.1	The school district should assess each incident/event, then determine and activate an appropriate response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108 MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT.
3.2	The school district should establish response guidance that empowers staff to initiate protective actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans; • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans
3.3	School district personnel should initiate internal and/or external notification as necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • FEMA 2016 Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) Fact Sheet • FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Strategic Plan: Fiscal Year 2014-2018 • National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted for State of Texas by Executive Order RP-40.
3.4	The school district should implement National Incident Management (NIMS) objectives and integrate the use of the Incident Command System (ICS) into all response actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • FEMA (NIMS) Implementation Objectives • National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted for State of Texas by Executive Order RP-40. • National Incident Management System (NIMS) as directed in Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5).

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3.5	The school district should take action to preserve the scene following an incident or potential crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.015. REPORTS TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
3.6	The school district should initiate public information procedures and processes to gather, verify, coordinate, and disseminate information during an incident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT. • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans • National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted for State of Texas by Executive Order RP-40.
3.7	The school district should monitor, document, reassess, and adjust its response, as necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans

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Phase 4.0	Recovery – Coordinated actions taken to restore the learning environment and support functions.	
Number	Standard	Legal Citation or Best Practice
4.1	The school district should adopt and implement policies, plans, and procedures for recovery and continuity of operations to continue school functions during and after an incident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA Continuity Guidance Circular (CGC) 1 and 2, March, 2015 • TEC 37.108. MULTHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT
4.2	The school district should adopt and implement policies, plans, and/or procedures for resource requests and management during and after an incident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans • Executive Order RP-57. Regional Unified Command Structure (RUCS) and the Multiagency Coordination System (MACS).
4.3	The school district should adopt and implement policies, plans, and/or procedures for emotional and physical health recovery needs for students and staff after an incident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans • TEC 38.051. ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS.
4.4	The school district should adopt and implement policies, plans, and/or procedures for after-action reviews and corrective action plans following an exercise/drill or incident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA CPG 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans • FEMA: Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans