

School Safety

The Board 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.

The Superintendent or their designee shall be responsible for developing and maintaining a comprehensive safety plan for the District, taking into account applicable laws, regulations, Board policies, and best practices. The general safety plan will include the District-wide Crisis Prevention and Response Plan, and site-specific Emergency Response Plan for each school. General areas of emphasis shall include, but not be limited to: in-service training; accident recordkeeping; plant inspection; driver and vehicle safety programs; fire prevention; catastrophe planning; and emergency procedures and traffic safety problems relevant to students and employees.

Each Principal shall be responsible for the supervision and implementation of safety programs in his/her school, inclusive of school busses, school grounds (including playgrounds), during authorized school activities (such as field trips), within school building(s) (including classrooms and laboratories), off school grounds during school sanctioned activities (including, but not limited to, work-based learning and internships), and in the use of online resources.

To that end, the Board directs the superintendent 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 fire and all hazard drills as required by law.
6. Training programs for staff and students that promote school safety.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. Procedures for safe, confidential reporting of security and safety concerns at each school building.
10. 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.
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. 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.

Legal References:

RSA 193-D, Safe School Zones

RSA 193-F, Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention

SA 281-A:64, Safety Provisions

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.04(a)(2), Promoting School Safety

Approved: 01/14/14

Amended: 08/14/18

Amended: 11/09/21