nassau BOCES

September - 2026

Health & Safety *focus*

ADDRESSING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY NEEDS OF OUR 56 SUBSCRIBING NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

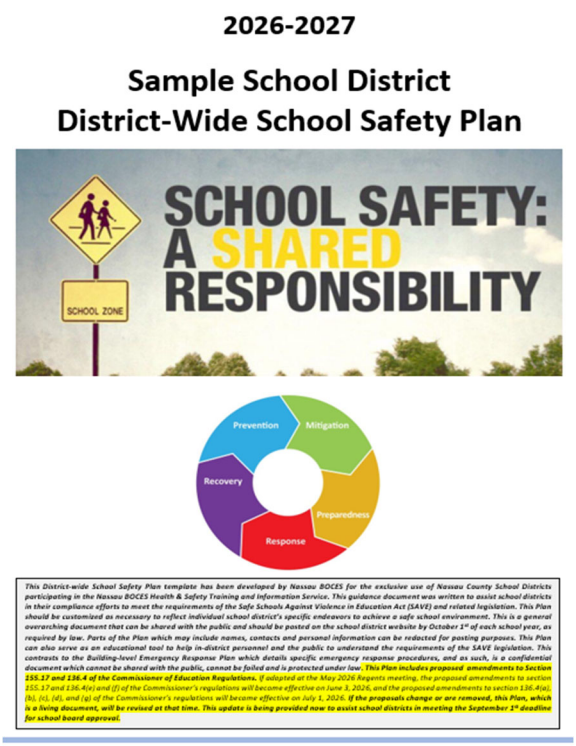
Have You Met All Safety Plan Requirements?

The District-wide School Safety Plan and Building-level Emergency Response Plans for the 2026-27 school year should now have been completed. This is necessary to meet compliance dates as follows:

- **By September 1st** – The District-wide School Safety Plan has been reviewed by the District-wide School Safety Team and adopted by the School Board after one public meeting and 30-day comment period. The Building-level Emergency Response Plans have been reviewed by the Building-level Emergency Response Planning Teams and adopted by the School Board (The Building-Level Plan is a confidential document). The School Board reviews and adopts this Plan in closed session.
- **By September 15th** – Multi– Hazard School Safety training has been provided for students and staff. Districts must certify that staff have received training on the Building–level Emergency Response Plan, Roles and responsibilities of the Building —Level Emergency Response Planning Team, the building – level Incident Command System including the roles of designated staff, and the building level-emergency response plan procedures for implementing the following: shelter/shelter in place, hold/hold-in place, evacuate/evacuation, secure lockout, and lockdown. Training must also include procedures for conducting drills and the district and building policies, procedures, and programs related to safety including **responding to sudden cardiac arrest, components on violence prevention, and mental health.**
- **By October 1st** - The District-wide School Safety Plan is posted on the school district website. The Building-level Emergency Response Plan information and answers to questions on the District Plan have been entered in the SED Business Portal. The Building-level Emergency Response Plan has been filed with both the State and Local Police. **In addition, written information has been provided to all students and staff about emergency procedures.**

Regulatory changes to the commissioner of Educations Regulation 155.17 are reflected in the 2026-27 Safety Plan templates provided by Nassau BOCES. If additional changes occur Safety Plans templates will be revised as needed.

The Nassau BOCES Safety Plan templates are available to all participating Nassau County School Districts. Please contact your designated In-District Health & Safety Specialist for assistance with implementation.



Emergency Drills

NYSED Requires that annual training in emergency procedures must be provided to students and staff before drills occur. While the total number of drills (12) remains the same, (6) evacuation drills, and (2) lockdown drills must be completed by December 31st. It is also required that Drills be conducted in a trauma-informed, developmentally, and age-appropriate manner; not include props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting, incident of violence, or another emergency, including sudden cardiac arrest. In addition, at the time drills are conducted, students and staff shall be informed that the activities being conducted are a drill. However, students and staff are not required to be informed in advance for evacuation drills. Drills are to be completed on different dates, days of the week and during different times of the school day; and **Within one week in advance of each drill, parents/guardians must be given advance notice that the drill will be occurring (at least 1 day and no more than 7 days before the drill).**



Compliance Issues

Water Safety Information
Education Law 926

Effective Date: Takes full effect for the 2026–2027 school year (starting July 1, 2026).

Requirement: School districts must distribute specific guidance to parents and guardians on:

- **drowning prevention**,
- **water safety**, and
- **safe and healthy swimming**

At the beginning of each school year, school districts must provide this information to all parents and guardians. Families of students who enroll after the start of the school year, as well as students aged 18 or older, will receive this information directly upon enrollment. This information also remains posted on the website throughout the school year, as required by law.

The New York State Department of Health has created resources as well as a tip card titled Safe Swimming Tips for Everyone for the purpose of providing information regarding drowning prevention, water safety, and safe and healthy swimming.

Please contact your designated Nassau BOCES In-District Health & Safety Specialist for assistance.



Nassau BOCES
Health & Safety Training and Information Service

Nassau BOCES
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The Nassau BOCES *Health & Safety Focus* is a review of health and safety issues for subscribing school districts. Questions and comments on this document are welcome. Please contact the Health & Safety Training and Information Service staff at:

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School District Health & Safety Liaisons
(Districts with BOCES Health & Safety Specialists in Bold)

Baldwin – Anthony Mignella, Russ Randazzo
Bellmore - Joseph Famularo, Joseph Fiorino
Bellmore-Merrick – Michael Harrington, Jon Simpkins
Bethpage – Scott Harrington, Peter Cavassa
Carle Place – Ted Cannone, Joanna DeMartino
East Meadow – Kenneth Rosner, Anthony Velasquez
East Rockaway – Michael Van Wart, James Daly
East Williston – Jaqueline Pirro, Lance McAllister
Elmont – Marlon Small, Fernando DeBartolo
Farmingdale – Paul Defendini, Samuel Thompson
Floral Park - Anthony Lubrano, Robert Costa
Franklin Square – Jared Bloom, Charles Carollo
Freeport – Fia Davis, Idowu Oqundipe
Garden City – Jackie Rehak, Robert Foley
Glen Cove – Theresa Kahan, Daniel Novak
Great Neck – John O'Keefe, Alfredo Cavallaro
Hempstead – James Clark, Martin Roman
Herricks – Lisa Rutkoske, Marty Abrams
Hewlett-Woodmere – Richard Snyder, Allan Wakefield
Hicksville – Marcy Tannenbaum, Kevin Randazzo
Island Park – Vincent Randazzo
Island Trees - Charles Murphy, Kenneth McLean
Jericho – David Cohen, Michael Hahn
Lawrence – Ann Pedersen, Jeremy Feder
Levittown – Michael Fabiano, Craig Cammarata
Locust Valley – Jack Mitchelll, Eric Nakutavicius
Long Beach – Michael DeVito, Brendan Scully
Lynbrook – Paul Lynch, Joel Press
Malverne – Christopher Caputo, Daniel Balzan
Manhasset – Christohper J. Pellettieri, Jenny Carcana
Massapequa – Ryan Ruf, Tim O'Donnell
Merrick – Diane Ketcham, Viktor Tymchynyuk
Mineola – Diane Castonguay, Steven Argus
New Hyde Park-Garden City Park - Michael Frank, Frank Metzger
North Bellmore - Marie Testa, Richard Russo
North Merrick - Cynthia Seniuk, Sam Carder
North Shore - Justin Irish, Matthew Backes
Oceanside – Phyllis Harrington, Jerel Cokley
Oyster Bay-East Norwich - Maureen Raynor
Plainedge – Christopher Zublionis, Brett Prochazka
Plainview – Chris Donarummo, Andrew Ward
Port Washington – Gaurav Passi, Brian Graham
Rockville Centre – Jacqueline Rehck, John Scalisi
Roosevelt – Shawn Wightman, Shaneiqua Butts-Bell
Roslyn – Susan Warren, Thomas Szajkowski
Seaford – Adele Pecora, Russell Costa
Sewanhaka - Kevin O"Brien, Scott Greene
Syosset – Patricia Rufo, Greg Hamilton
Uniondale – Monique Darnsaw-Akil
Valley Stream 13 – Judith LaRocca, Gary Gentiles
Valley Stream 24 – Unal Karakas, Victoria Galante
Valley Stream 30 – Marcela Moran, Michael Deluca
Valley Stream Central – Wayne Loper, Anthony DeLuca
Wantagh—Anthony Cedrone, Robert Lovergine
Westbury – Mary O"Neill, Brian Sudran
West Hempstead – Brian Phillips, Peter Mayo