Safety and Security

TEXAS STATE - TEXAS SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER SAFE FIREARMS STORAGE SURVEY

TEXAS STATE
TEXAS SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER

The Texas School Safety Center invites parents and guardians to participate in a brief statewide survey about safe firearms storage campaigns in Texas with the aim of helping the Center learn more about perspectives on firearms storage. The project is funded by the National Institute of Justice and led by the Texas School Safety Center and WestEd.
Access the survey by clicking the link below:
https://westedk12enterprise.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eCB9o0qYeOhsL1I

PROHIBITED ITEMS & CONSEQUENCES

Students who unintentionally bring to school a prohibited item, which is not illegal, may turn in the item to a staff member without disciplinary consequences if this is done before the item is discovered or reported by a staff member or another student. This option applies only to the first time the prohibited item is accidentally brought to school. The second time the prohibited item is brought to school, the item will be confiscated, and the student disciplined according to the type of item brought to school. Parents/ guardians may pick up confiscated items which are not illegal within two school days. Items not picked up within two school days will be discarded. Illegal items and items designated as evidence will be turned over to the Katy ISD police.
Students shall not possess or use:

- Fireworks of any kind, smoke or stink bombs, or any other pyrotechnic device
- A razor, box cutter, chain or any other object used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person
- A gun of any kind
- A toy gun/“look-alike” weapon
- An air gun or BB gun
- Ammunition of any kind
- A stun gun
- Mace or pepper spray
- Pornographic material or items
- Tobacco products, cigarettes, e-cigarettes and any component, part or accessory for an e-cigarette device or accessory to vaping
- Devices designed to emit an electrical shock (such as a TASER)

SAFE FIREARM STORAGE RESOURCES

House Bill 3, (88th Texas Legislature) requires the Texas School Safety Center, in collaboration with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), to provide school districts information and other resources regarding the safe storage of firearms, including information on section 46.13 of the Texas Penal Code, for distribution to parents/guardians and community.

The Texas DPS has created a public relations campaign – Keep ’Em Safe Texas – that offers free downloadable resources to promote safe gun storage. Below you will find links to resources in English and Spanish.

Program Overview 8.5 × 11 Flyer: English / Spanish
12 × 18 Poster: English / Spanish
How to Talk to Others About Gun Safety 8.5 × 11 Flyer: English / Spanish
Ways to Safely Store Guns (Devices) 8.5 × 11 Flyer: English / Spanish

SAFE GUN STORAGE: Texas Penal Code 46.13
In accordance with Sec. 37.222 of the Texas Education Code, school districts are required to provide parents and guardians with information regarding the proper storage of firearms. It is illegal to store, transport or leave an unsecured firearm in a location where children are likely to have access to it. A person commits the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child if the child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm, and the person with criminal negligence:

- Failed to secure the firearm; or
- Left the firearm in a place to which the person knew or should have known the child would gain access

The penalty for allowing a child to gain access to a firearm can range from a Class C misdemeanor (punishable by a $500 fine) to a Class A misdemeanor (punishable by a $4,000 fine, a year in jail, or a combination of the two).

It is important to store guns unloaded in a safe or locked container, with ammunition stored separately to prevent suicide, unintentional shootings and other tragedies.

To learn more and to find additional safe storage resources, please visit https://safegunstoragetexas.com.

SPEAKUP ANONYMOUS REPORTING APP

SpeakUP is the anonymous reporting platform that students, parents and patrons can use to report safety concerns, bullying, threats of violence, drug use, as well as any other concerns related to student physical or mental health. SpeakUP is available for download in the Apple Store or Google Play. It is also available on all District websites, computers and District devices. SpeakUP provides an opportunity for the Katy ISD community to anonymously provide valuable information to District administration and law enforcement that will help keep our students safe.

#KatyISDSafety: CAMPUS EXTERIOR DOORS SAFETY SIGNAGE

All campuses exterior doors have safety signage indicating that exterior doors must remain closed and locked. The purpose of the signage is to reinforce and remind all staff and students to take the extra precaution of ensuring that doors are closed and locked at all times, and to not open a door for anyone trying to enter. All campus exterior doors already have signage directing all visitors to utilize the main entrance for access to campuses and not side entrances. These stickers should be left in place, with the new yellow sticker above placed inside over this sticker, allowing the external message to remain outward. All staff and students should avoid allowing anyone without a district identification badge from "tailgating" or following them into a district facility.

NATIONAL CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

During the last legislative session, Senate Bill 2158 was passed, which requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to provide parents with an inkless, in-home child fingerprint and DNA identification card for children in grades K-8. If ever needed, parents may submit this kit to federal, state, tribal or local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child. On behalf of the State of Texas, Katy ISD has distributed these in-home child identification kits to junior high and elementary campuses. Please understand that there is no obligation to use the kit, but if you choose, this will allow you to have a set of fingerprints and DNA for your child that you can keep at home and turn over to law enforcement in case of an emergency. Please do not return the kits (used or unused) to your child's school.