



An Insider's Look at School Security Mandates

TASB Risk Management Fund Conference 2024

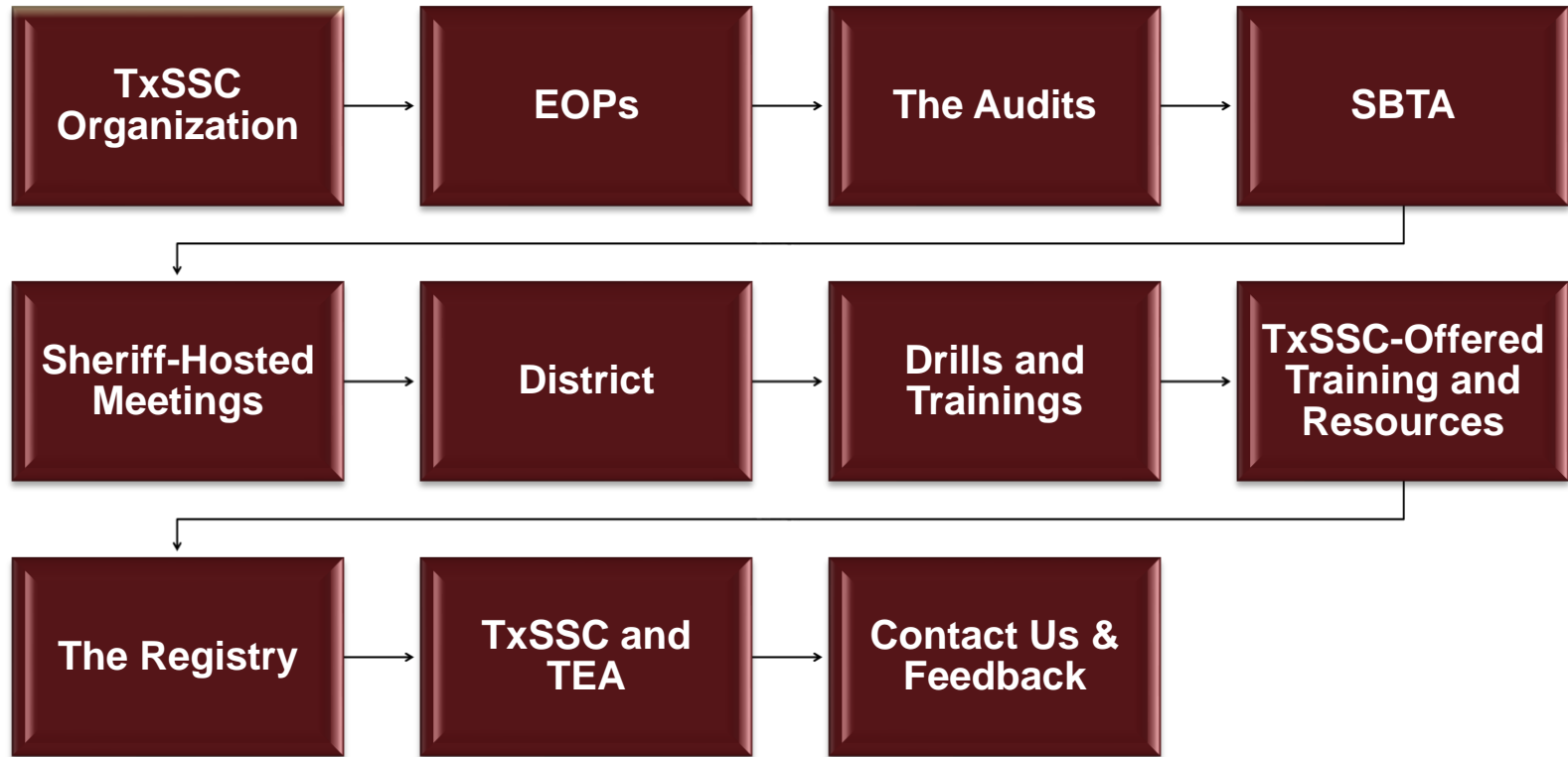
April 15, 2024

Nate Turner

Associate Director, School Safety Readiness

Section: Agenda

Agenda





**What do you think
of when you
hear the phrase
“School Safety”?**



Section:
TxSSC Background, Mission, and Vision



TxSSC Inception

- Created in 1999 by former Governor George W. Bush
- Authorized in 2001 by 77th Texas Legislature

Mission

*The Texas School Safety Center **serves** schools and communities to create safe, secure, and healthy environments.*



Task

Key School Safety Initiatives and Mandates

- *Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code*
- *Governor's Homeland Security Strategic Plan*



A Very Brief History

- 1999: Created to serve as a central clearinghouse for school safety and security information
- 2001: Authorized by the 77th Texas Legislature
- 2019: TxSSC charged with reviewing plans for legal mandates (37.108) and best practices



A Very Brief [Readiness] History

- 2005: Districts legislated to create Emergency Operations Plans (EOP).
- 2019: TxSSC charged with reviewing plans for legal mandates (37.108) and best practices.
 - › Partnership with districts and colleges to create usable Emergency Operations Plans.



Your Clearinghouse

- Dissemination of Safety and Security Information
- Build Partnerships with Schools, Communities, and Public Safety Officers



TEXAS STATE[®]

TEXAS SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER



Teacher = Emergency Manager?

Amazing School Staff Member

District
Emergency
Operations Plans

TEC 37.108
And
HB 3



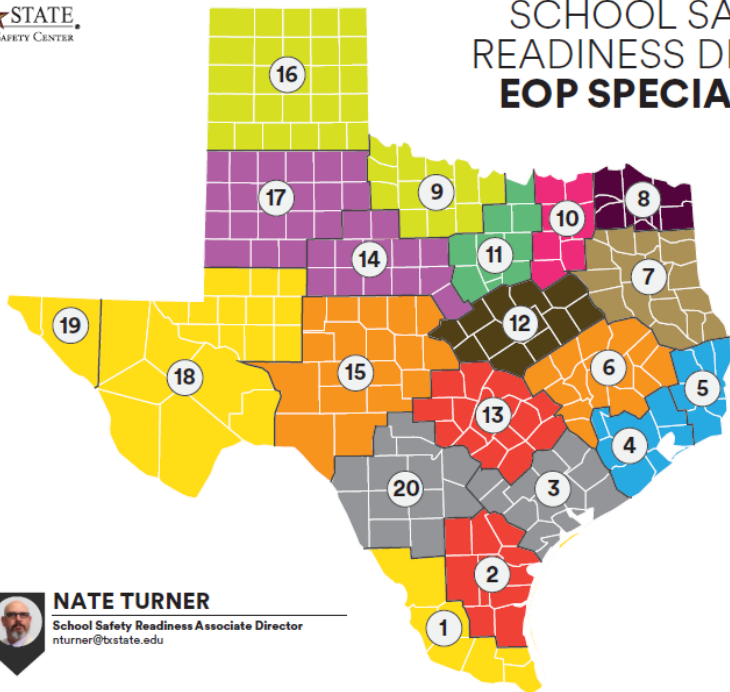

Texas School
Safety Center

Section:


TxSSC Organization Make-Up



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Section:

District Need to Know Information

I'm a school district. What do I need to know?

EOP

SSSC

SBTA

**School
Safety Audits
(3-Year)**

**School
Safety
Registry**

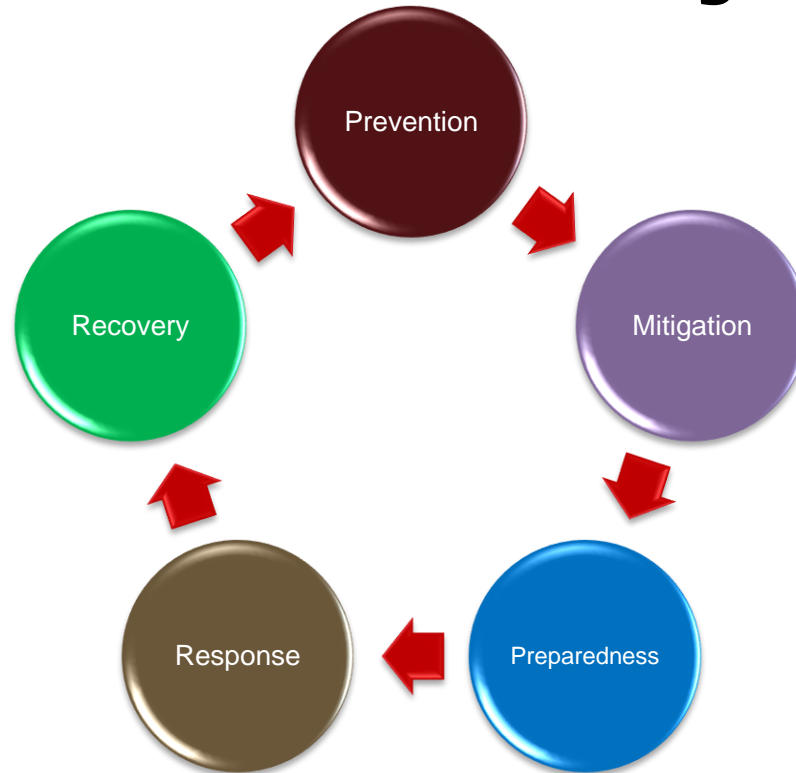
**Safe Gun
Storage**

**Sheriff-
Hosted
Meetings**

**Training and
Resources**

Section: Emergency Operations Plans

Comprehensive Approach to School Safety



Readiness Makes a Difference

Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs)

- Basic Plan
- Annexes
- Appendices

The Audit

- School Safety Audit (3-Year)



District Emergency Operations Plan



Emergency Operations Plan

- Required by law
- Includes the 5 Phases of Emergency Management
- Incorporates a hazard analysis
- Addresses safety areas outlined in TEC 37.108

EOP Reviews

Emergency Operations Plans

Previous Areas of Focus:

- Basic Plan
- Active Threat Annex
- Active Shooter Appendix



Fall 2023 EOP Reviews

September 2023 reviews consisted of:

- *Annual* Basic Plan Review
- Severe Weather Annex
- Hazardous Materials Annex
 - Train Derailment Appendix



District Emergency Operations Plan



Includes:

- Basic Plan
- Annexes
- Appendices

District Emergency Operations Plan



Includes:

Basic Plan

- Promulgation and Approval Statements
- Direction and Control
- Situation and Assumptions

District Emergency Operations Plan



Includes:

Basic Plan

Annexes

- Active Threat Annex
- Hazardous Materials Annex
- Severe Weather Annex

District Emergency Operations Plan



Includes:

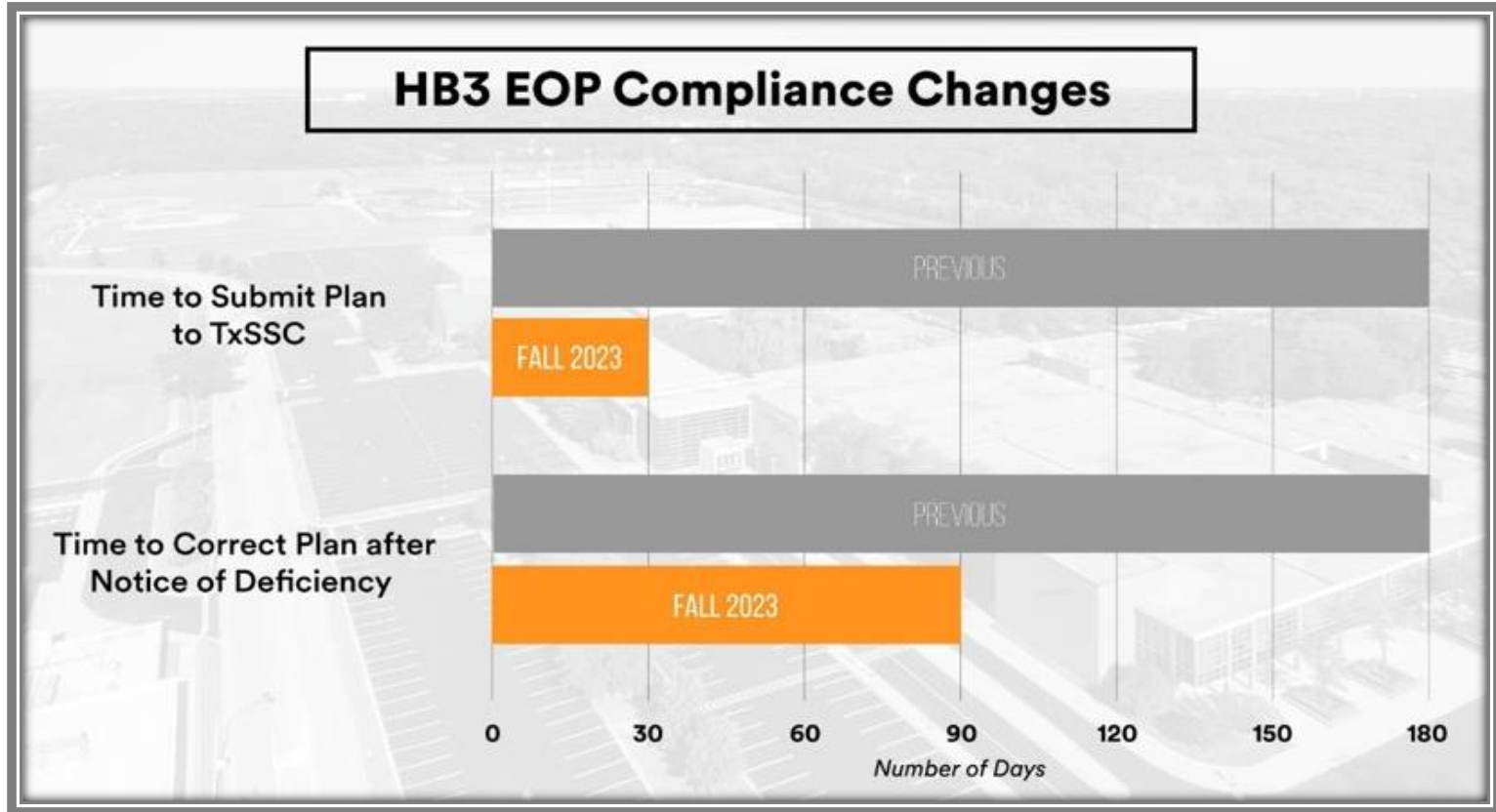
Basic Plan

Annexes

Appendices

- Active Shooter Appendix
- Train Derailment Appendix
- Tornado Appendix
- Winter Storm Appendix

EOP Creation Timeline



HB 3 Basic Plan Updates - Certifications

EMERGENCY RESPONSE MAP CERTIFICATION STATEMENT		
Date Map Provided	Agency Receiving Map	Agency Staff Receiving Map
Enter Date	Enter Name	Enter Name and Badge Number

WALKTHROUGH CERTIFICATION STATEMENT			
Date Walkthrough Offered	Agency Contacted	Agency Supervisor Accepting or Declining Walkthrough	Date Walkthrough Completed
Enter Date	Enter Name	Enter Name and Badge Number	Enter Date

Emergency Response Map and Walkthrough Certification Agencies

- Department of Public Safety
- Police
- Fire
- EMS



Section: Overview of the Three Audits

The Three Audits

School Safety Audit (3-Year)

- Managed by TxSSC
- Self-Assessed and Self-Reported Audit

Intruder Detection Audit (Annual)

- Managed by TEA
- Campus Access Control Audit

District Vulnerability Assessment (4-Year)

- Managed by TEA
- District's Implementation of School Safety Requirements

3-Year Safety and Security Audits



TxSSC 3-Year Audit Procedures

Using **multi-disciplinary** teams, conducting a **self-assessment**.

Audit **All** Facilities:

- Exterior
- Interior
- Climate and Culture
- Data and Documents



School Safety and Security Audit Cycles


Junior College Districts

- Started September 1, 2021  Ends August 31, **2024**

Public Charter Districts

- Started September 1, 2022  Ends August 31, **2025**

K-12 Public School Districts

- Started September 1, 2023  Ends August 31, **2026**

**Section:
School Safety and Security Committee
(SSSC)**

Two Groups that Help Sustain A Safe Environment

School Safety and Security
Committee (SSC)



School Behavioral Threat
Assessment Team (SBTA)



District Safety & Security Committee



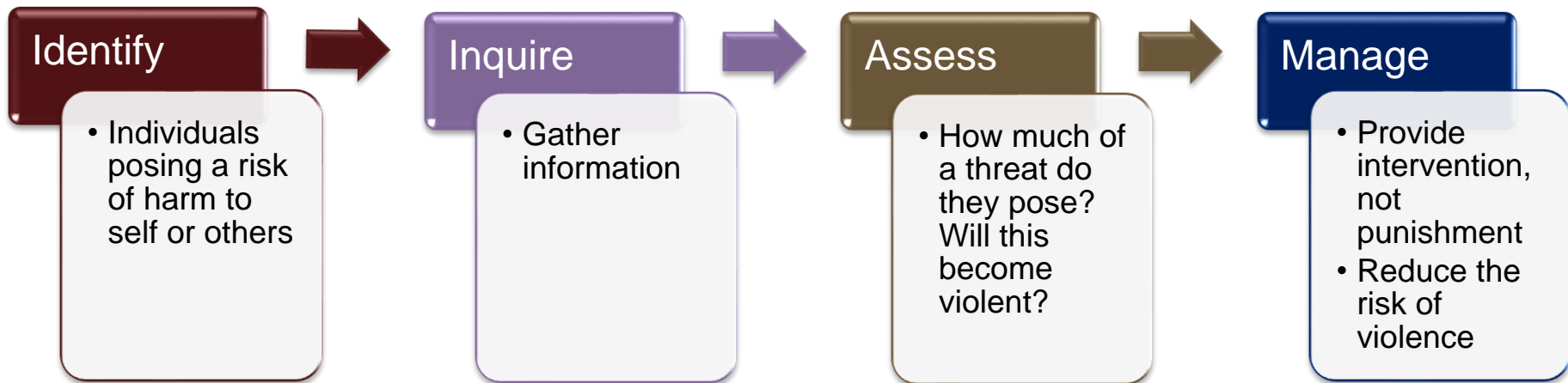


**Section:
School Behavior Threat Assessment
Team (SBTA)**

School Behavior Threat Assessment Team



Threat Assessment Process



IDENTIFY*



Others had serious concerns about individual

Significant difficulty coping with losses or failures



Experiencing despair or hopelessness or suicidal

BEHAVIOR*

*Based on research on US school shootings

Why Threat Assessment Works

The process is *proactive* in getting the help students need, not reactive to their actions.



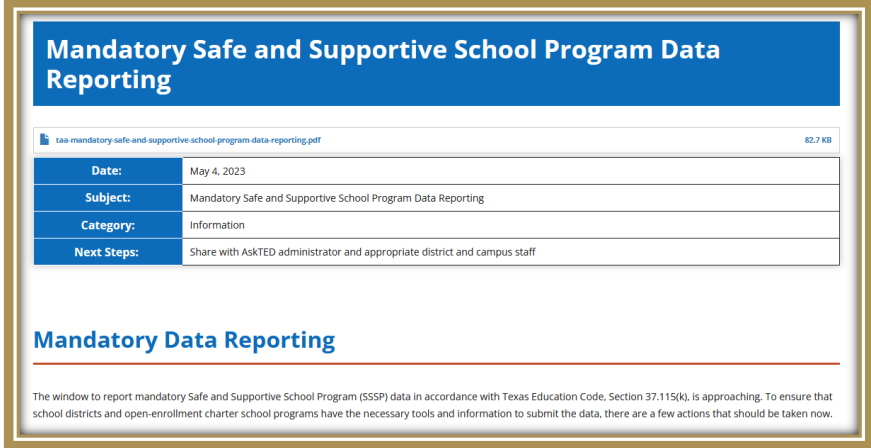
TxSSC has resources to help those who are despondent or suicidal.



School Behavioral Threat Assessment Data Collection

Annual Submission:

- Submitted to the Texas Education Agency
- Data collected by campus-sent to the campus principal
- Generally collected the end of June



Mandatory Safe and Supportive School Program Data Reporting

taa-mandatory-safe-and-supportive-school-program-data-reporting.pdf 82.7 KB

Date:	May 4, 2023
Subject:	Mandatory Safe and Supportive School Program Data Reporting
Category:	Information
Next Steps:	Share with AskTED administrator and appropriate district and campus staff

Mandatory Data Reporting

The window to report mandatory Safe and Supportive School Program (SSSP) data in accordance with Texas Education Code, Section 37.115(k), is approaching. To ensure that school districts and open-enrollment charter school programs have the necessary tools and information to submit the data, there are a few actions that should be taken now.

Operationalizing SBTA

How do teams communicate with one another?

Who follows up on interventions?

Who is keeping records of threats and types?

Who is responsible for receiving and sharing this information with other campuses when students move campuses?

Key Questions to Ask



Have all team members been trained? What about new ones?



Have we trained students and staff on what to report and to whom?



Who is documenting the status of each case?



What interventions do we have available to us?



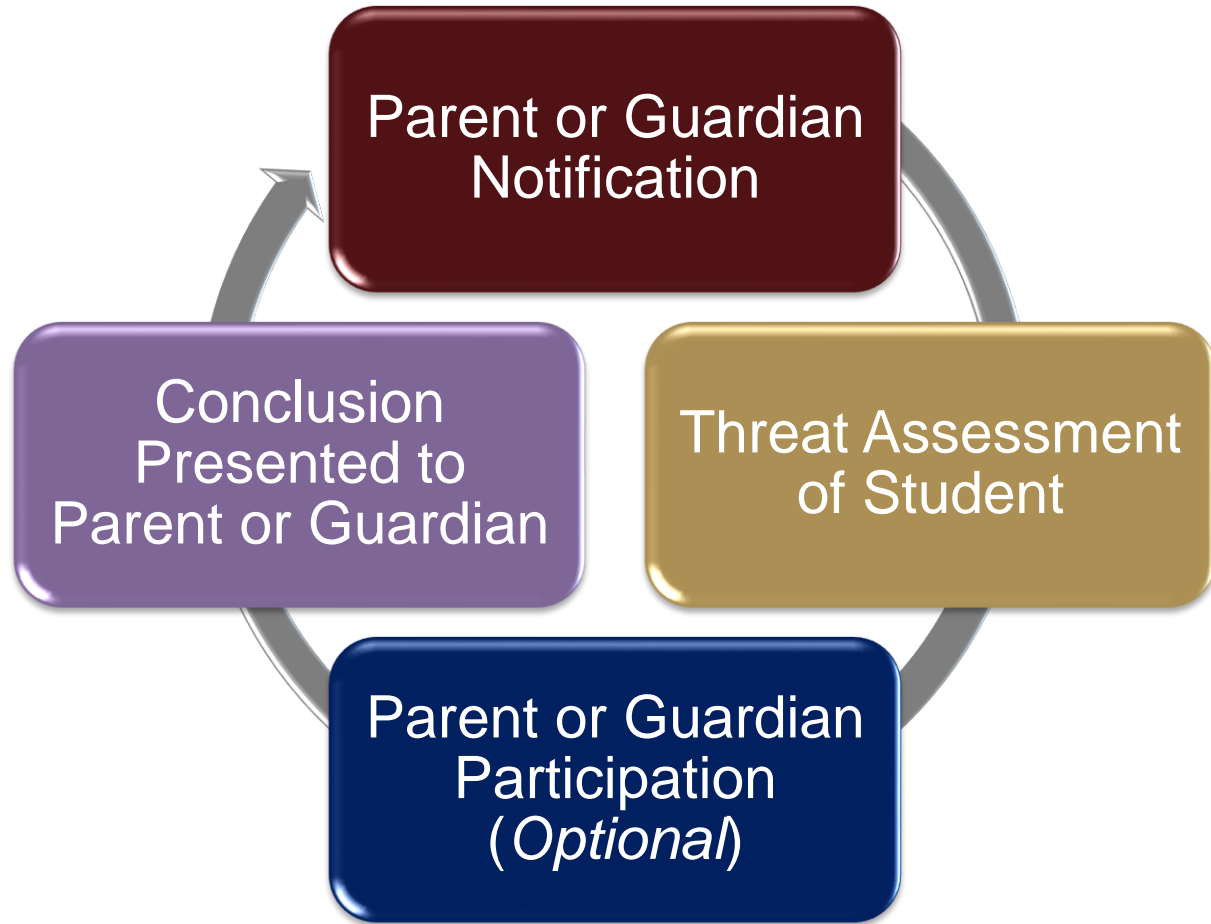
Where is this data being stored? How do other teams get this data?

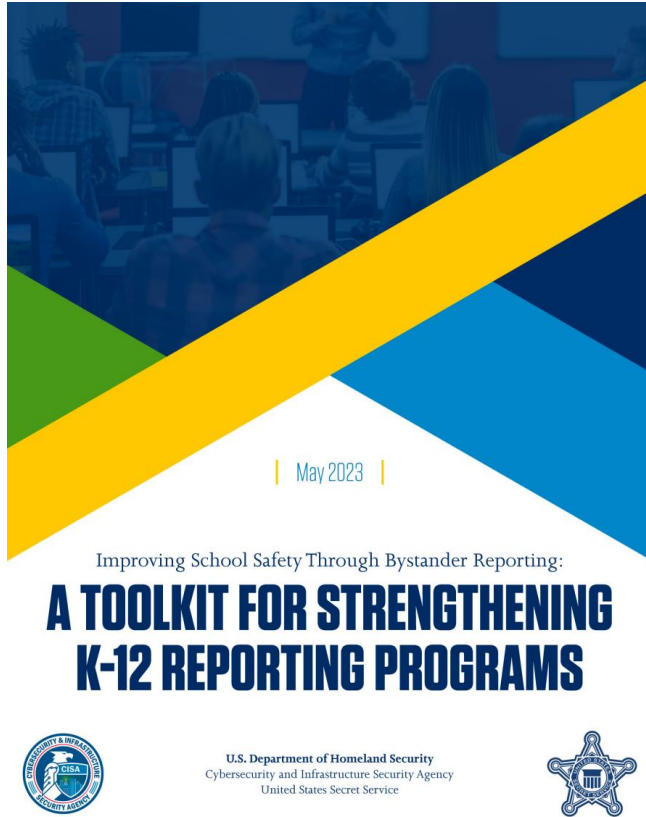
2023 SBTA Updates in Legislation

- Student records, including disciplinary records and threat assessments must be given to a receiving public school
- School retains record of threat assessment until student's 24th birthday
- Each district campus must establish clear procedures for threat assessment processes



HB 473





“The **willingness** of bystanders to come forward ... is a key component of student health and violence prevention efforts in K-12th grades.”

2023 SBTA Updates in Legislation

Employee Confidentiality

Record of Identity

SB 1720

SBTA Implementation



Training
by TxSSC
or ESC

May Serve
1 or More
Campuses

Report to
TEA
Annually

Virtual Training Opportunities



Over 50 virtual trainings for the 2023-24 school year
Conducted most Tuesdays
Your ESC can offer Basic SBTA training in person

Technical Assistance Opportunities



Direct assistance sessions every week
Providing district-specific action plans

Section: Sheriff-Hosted Meetings

Sheriff-Hosted Meetings

- Responsibility of the Sheriff
(County with less than 350,000 total pop.)
- Superintendent or Designee must attend
- School District Police Chief or Security Coordinator must attend (*if applicable*)
- Required agenda and discussions
- NOT the School Safety and Security Committee



Section: District Drills and Trainings

Drills and Trainings





Standard Response Protocol



Standard Reunification Method



**Section:
TxSSC-Offered
Training and Resources**

Featured

Sheriff School Safety Meeting Search
Announcement

In accordance with Local Government Code, Chapter 85,024, the sheriff of a Texas county with a total population of less than 350,000 in which a public school is located shall call and conduct semiannual school safety meetings. The sheriff is required to submit a report to the Texas School Safety Center identifying the attendees of the meeting and the topics discussed. The Texas School Safety Center maintains the meeting reports, which can be accessed at the [Sheriff School Safety Meeting Search](#) webpage.

Featured Video



Fall 2023 EOP Review Cycle
Announcement

The Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) opens the Fall 2023 Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Review Cycle on September 25, 2023. K-12 superintendents and college presidents/superintendents will receive an email

Safe Firearm Storage Information
Resource

As required by Texas Education Code §37.222, the TxSSC, in collaboration with the Texas Department of Public Safety, is providing each school district and open-enrollment charter school information regarding the safe storage

School Safety and Security Committee Guidelines
Resource

Texas Education Code specifically describes shall serve on a School Safety and Security Committee, how often they shall meet and they are charged to implement. This comm



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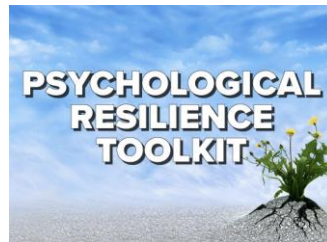
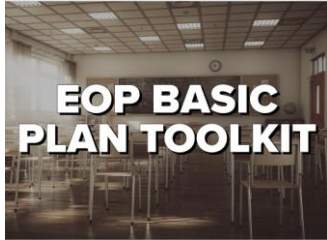
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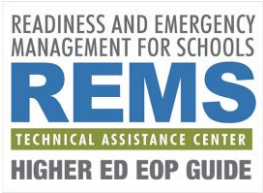


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EOP Toolkits



Trainings and Toolkits



State Board of Education (SBOE) Safety Trainings



The screenshot shows the TEA Learn website interface. At the top left is the TEA Learn logo. Below it, a white box contains the TEA logo (Texas Education Agency) and a blue 'FREE' tag in the top left corner. To the right of this box, the text 'SBOE - School Safety Training' is displayed, followed by a bulleted list of requirements.

TEA Learn

FREE

TEA
Texas Education Agency®

SBOE - School Safety Training

- Train every 2 years
- Have 120 days to complete

Active Threat Exercises

- “Any exercise that includes a simulated active aggressor”
- Found in the TxSSC “Training, Drilling, and Exercising” Toolkit
- TEC 37.1141 and Commissioner Rules 19 TAC §103.1211, “Active Threat Exercises”
- Not required as part of mandated school drills and exercises



School-Based Law Enforcement Training

State-Mandated Training (4064 Course)

SBLE Introductory Training

SBLE Intermediary Training

SBLE Advanced Training

SBLE Master Training

SBLE New Supervisor Training



New Legislation: SBLE must now have ALERRT Active Shooter training every 4 years.

Poster Resources

It's OK to tell!
if someone hurts you:

say **no** !

go →
to a safe place

tell 
a trusted adult

Call **1-800-252-5400**
for help or **911** for emergencies

For more information: txabusehotline.org

Don't ever keep a secret that upsets you! 



¡Está bien que lo cuentes!
Si alguien te lastima:

Di **no** !

vete →
a un lugar seguro

cuéntaselo 
a un adulto en
quien confíes

Llama al **1-800-252-5400** para
obtener ayuda o al **911** en caso de emergencia

Para más información, visita txabusehotline.org

¡Nunca guardes un secreto que te moleste! 



STOP/NO MÁS



**HUMAN
TRAFFICKING**
(TRATA DE PERSONAS)

(a) An offense under §20A.02, Penal Code, is a felony of the first degree punishable by imprisonment in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for life or for a term of not more than 99 years or less than 25 years if it is shown on the trial of the offense that the actor committed the offense in a location that was: (i) on the premises of or within 1,000 feet of the premises of a school; or (ii) on premises or within 1,000 feet of premises where: (I) an official school function was taking place; or (II) an event sponsored or sanctioned by the University Interscholastic League was taking place.

(b) Un delito bajo el apartado 20A.02 del Código Penal es un delito grave de primer grado que se castiga con prisión de por vida o por un término de no más de 99 años o menos de 25 años en el Departamento de Justicia Criminal de Texas si se demuestra en el juicio del delito que el actor cometió la ofensa en un sitio que fue: (i) en las instalaciones o dentro de los 1,000 pies de las instalaciones de una escuela; o (ii) en las instalaciones o dentro de los 1,000 pies de las instalaciones donde: (I) se estaba llevando a cabo una función escolar oficial; o (II) se estaba llevando a cabo un evento patrocinado o autorizado por la organización University Interscholastic League.

Resources for Bullying

BULLYING CHECKLIST FOR SCHOOLS

PLEASE READ BEFORE PROCEEDING TO CHECKLIST

- If you determine that the situation is an imminent threat to life or safety, notify the police and your school's Safe and Supportive School Program Team* immediately.
- If you determine that the situation meets bullying or cyberbullying criteria, notify your school's Safe and Supportive School Program Team*.
- If you are still unsure if the situation meets bullying or cyberbullying criteria, speak with your school's Safe and Supportive School Program Team* for guidance.
- If the incident being screened doesn't meet bullying or cyberbullying criteria, student social-emotional support may still be needed. Consult with your school's Safe and Supportive School Team* for guidance.

*Safe and Supportive School Program Team is a state mandated team that conducts threat assessments. It is responsible for identifying and analyzing harmful, threatening, and violent behaviors which include bullying. It assesses threat and risk levels and determines appropriate interventions. Every Texas public school must be served by a Safe and Supportive School Program Team.

TEXAS STATE
Texas School Safety Center
2015, Revised 2021

BULLYING CHECKLIST FOR SCHOOLS

PLEASE READ BEFORE USING CHECKLIST

To determine whether an act is bullying or cyberbullying by law, proceed down the checklist and provide a checkmark for each true statement. If any identified section does not receive at least one checkmark, then the act is not considered bullying by state law.

SB 179, "David's Law" expanded authority to school districts, allowing public and charter schools to address cyberbullying off-campus and outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities based on specific criteria. In order to address this legislative change, this checklist may help parents, educators, and administrators determine if a student at their school has been bullied according to the legislative definition. Please follow the conditional "yes/no" logic for the questions regarding the use of electronic communication devices in possible bullying scenarios.

IS IT BULLYING?

Was it a single significant act?

Was it a pattern of acts?

By one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power.

Through physical contact

Using verbal expression

Using written expression

Using electronic means

Physically harms a student or damages their property

Creates reasonable fear of harm to student or damage to their property

Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates:

Intimidating educational environment

Threatening educational environment

Abusive educational environment

Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or operation of school

Infringes on rights of victim at school

Was the act committed by using any type of electronic communication device?
(i.e. Cellular or other phone, computer, camera, e-mail, text or instant messaging, social media app, Internet website, Internet communication tool)

Yes

No

Did the act occur outside of a school-sponsored or school-related activity?
(This is an important distinction, as David's Law expands a school district's authority to include cyberbullying incidents that occur off-campus and outside of school-sponsored or school-related activity, as long as it meets one of the below criteria.)

Yes

No

Did the act interfere with a student's educational opportunities or substantially disrupt the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored/related activity?

Yes

No

According to law, if the act DID NOT meet the criteria above, it is not under the school district's authority.

YES, IT'S BULLYING
(Cyberbullying is bullying)

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www.txssc.txstate.edu
(Updated 2021)

Safe Firearm Storage





2021

Averting Targeted School Violence

A U.S. SECRET SERVICE ANALYSIS OF
PLOTS AGAINST SCHOOLS

**School Resource Officers
play an important role in
school violence prevention!**

2023 Legislative Session Toolkit

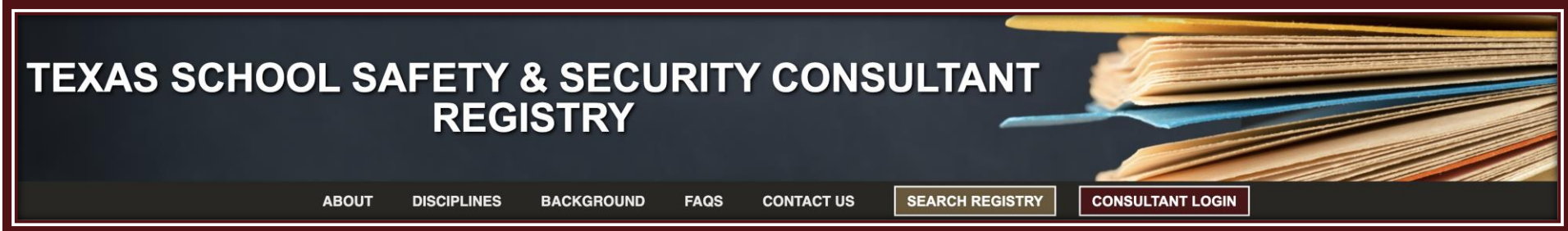


All safety laws can be found on our website

- School Safety Law Toolkit
 - 88th Session Updates (2023)

Section: The Registry

The Registry

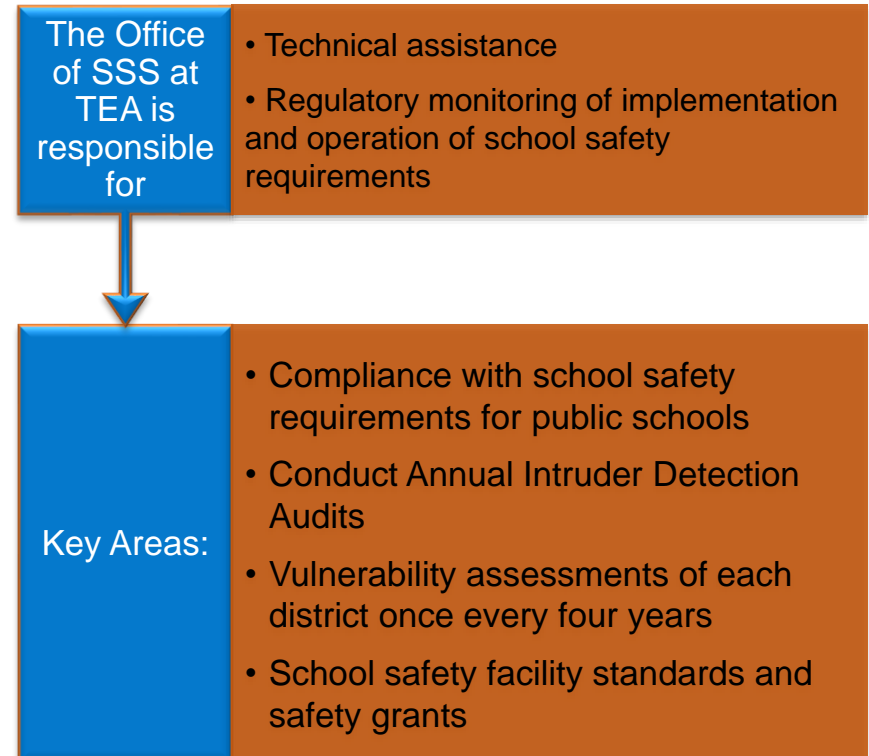
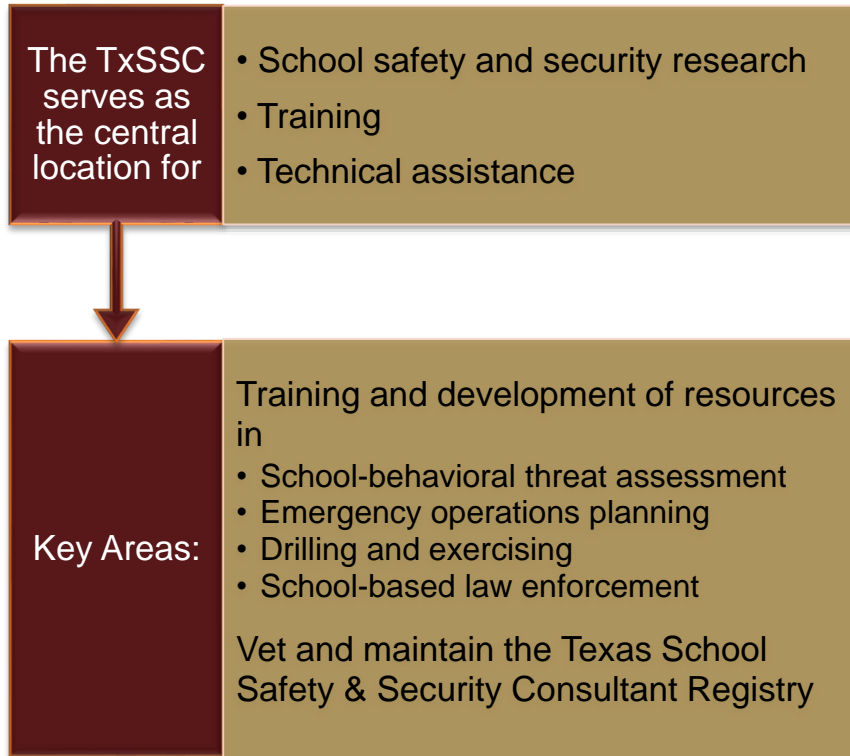


Consultants must be on the Registry*

*HB 3 Section 37.2091 (b-1)

**Section:
Texas Education Agency (TEA)**

TxSSC & TEA Partnership in Safety



2023 Facility Commissioner Rules

Exit and Entry Points



safeschools@tea.texas.gov

Section: Connect with TxSSC

Featured

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Annual Statewide Conference

June 23-27, 2024



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Questions?

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