



Book	Policy Manual
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8400 - SCHOOL SAFETY

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a safe environment in all of the District's schools. The Board believes that school crime and violence are multifaceted problems that need to be addressed in a manner that utilizes all available resources in the community through a coordinated effort of school district personnel, law enforcement agencies, and families. The Board further believes that school administrators and local law enforcement officials must work together to provide for the safety and welfare of students while they are at school or a school-related event.

The Board ~~() and the multicounty vocational center [end of option]~~ shall annually assess the safety and security of each of the school facilities within its boundaries. Safety and security measures of each facility shall be upgraded when necessary to ensure, to the best of the Board's ability, the safety of the students within each facility. The Board shall report annually the safety and security measures it has put in place, including upgrades thereto, to the State Department of Education. Safety and security measures means action taken by the Board ~~() or multicounty or vocational center [end of option]~~ that improves the security and the safety of the students within such facility, including, but not limited to, hiring a school resource officer, installing weapon detection systems, upgrading facility doors or windows, etc.

The Board also believes that the first step in addressing school crime and violence is to assess the extent and nature of the problem(s), and then plan and implement strategies that promote school safety and minimize the likelihood of school crime and violence. To that end, the Superintendent shall develop a *School Safety Plan* with input from the District Council on Productive and Safe Schools. The Council shall be comprised of the following members:

- A. the District Superintendent, who shall serve as the Chair of the District-wide Council on Productive and Safe Schools;
- B. one (1) representative from each local school improvement council, to be elected by a majority vote of each local school improvement council;
- C. the prosecuting attorney or his/her designee;
- D. a representative of the Department of Health and Human Resources;
- E. a representative of the law-enforcement agencies situated in the District in which the school is situated to be recommended by the county sheriff;
- F. a representative of the Board to be appointed by the President of the Board;
- G. the supervisor of transportation;
- H. a representative of the Regional Comprehensive Behavioral Health Center as designated by the Office of Behavioral Health Services in which the school system is situated, to be appointed by the Executive Director of the Center;
- I. when the members listed in A through H do not include at least two (2) classroom teachers, then the Superintendent shall appoint additional members so that at least two (2) classroom teachers are members of the District-wide Council;

- J. when the members listed in A through H do not include at least two (2) school principals, then the District Superintendent shall appoint additional members so that at least two (2) school principals are members of the District-wide Council.

No meetings of the District-wide Council shall be held during instructional time.

Thereafter, the Superintendent shall convene a meeting of the District Council on Productive and Safe Schools annually for the purpose of reviewing the *School Safety Plan*, and making modifications as deemed necessary and proper; identifying additional training that might be needed; and discussing any other such related matters as may be deemed to be necessary by the participants.

The Superintendent shall make a report to the Board about this review and recommend the approval and adoption of any proposed revisions or additions to the *School Safety Plan*.

In addition to any other requirement contained in this policy or the Crisis Response Plan required by WV Code 18-9F-9, the Board shall implement a school safety program before September 1, 2019, that at a minimum, requires:

- A. Room numbers to be placed on exterior walls or windows of school buildings, so rooms with exterior walls can be identified by law enforcement and first responders from the outside;
- B. Providing updated floor plans of the school to first responders and responders, local law enforcement, and State Fire Marshall by September 1 of each school year;
- C. First aid training for all school personnel and students each school year; and
- D. Active shooter training for all school personnel and students at the beginning of each school year.

Persistently Dangerous Schools

The Board recognizes that State and Federal law requires that the District report annually incidents which meet the statutory definition of violent criminal offenses that occur in a school, on school grounds, on a school conveyance, or at a school-sponsored activity. It is further understood that the State Department of Education will then use this data to determine whether or not a school is considered persistently dangerous as defined by West Virginia State Board of Education policy.

Pursuant to the Board's stated intent to provide a safe school environment, the school administrators are expected to respond appropriately to any and all violations of the Student Code of Conduct, especially those of a serious, violent nature. In any year where the number of reportable incidents of violent criminal offenses in any school exceed the threshold number established in West Virginia State Board of Education policy, the Superintendent shall

~~() discuss this at the annual meeting for the purpose of reviewing the *School Safety Plan* so that a plan of corrective action can be developed and implemented in an effort to reduce the number of these incidents in the subsequent year.~~

(x) convene a meeting of the building administrator, representative(s) of the local law enforcement () agency (x) agencies, and any other individuals deemed appropriate for the purpose of developing a plan of corrective action that can be implemented in an effort to reduce the number of these incidents in the subsequent year.

The Superintendent shall make a report to the Board about this plan of corrective action and shall recommend approval and adoption of it.

In the unexpected event that the number of reportable incidents in three (3) consecutive school years exceeds the statutory threshold and the school is identified as persistently dangerous, students attending the school shall have the choice option as provided in Policy 5113.02 and AG 5113.02.

In addition, the Superintendent shall

~~() discuss the school's designation as a persistently dangerous school at the annual meeting for the purpose of reviewing the *School Safety Plan* so that a plan of corrective action can be developed and implemented in an effort to reduce the number of these incidents in the subsequent year.~~

(x) convene a meeting of the building administrator, representative(s) of the local law enforcement () agency (x) agencies, and any other individuals deemed appropriate for the purpose of developing a plan of corrective action that can be implemented in an effort to reduce the number of these incidents in the subsequent year.

x] If a school in a neighboring district is identified as persistently dangerous and there is not another school in that district, the District will/shall admit students from that school in accordance with Board Policy 5113.02

Victims of Violent Crime

The Board further recognizes that, despite the diligent efforts of school administrators and staff to provide a safe school environment, an individual student may be a victim of a violent crime in a school, on school grounds, on a school conveyance, or at a school-sponsored activity. In accordance with Federal and State law the parents of the eligible student shall have the choice options provided by Policy 5113.02 and AG 5113.02.

Video Cameras Required in Certain Special Education Classrooms

Upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature, the Board shall provide a video camera to a public school for each self-contained classroom that is a part of that school which shall be used in every self-contained classroom (as defined by State code). In accordance with WV Code 18-20-11. and further defined in WV Board of Education policy 2419. "maiority" means a classroom where students with the most significant disabilities with similar needs receive instruction in all academic subjects for at least 60% of the students' time.)

The principal of the school shall be the custodian of the video camera, all recordings generated by the video camera, and access to those recordings.

Suspension and Dismissal of School Personnel

The Board has the duty and authority to provide a safe and secure environment in which students may learn and prosper; therefore, it may take necessary steps to suspend or dismiss any person in its employment at any time should the health, safety, and welfare of students be jeopardized or the learning environment of other students has been impacted.

It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to report any employee suspended or dismissed in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-8, including the rationale for the suspension or dismissal, to the State Superintendent.

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WV Code 18-5A-2(1)(m)(n)(o)

WV Code 18-5-42

WV Code 18-5-43

WV Code 18-5-48

WV Code 18A-2-8

WV Code 18-9F-10

WV Code 18-20-11

Title IX, Section 9532 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended

West Virginia Board of Education policy 4373