
SENATE BILL 5514

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Padden, Wellman, Zeiger, and Frockt

Read first time 01/23/19. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to first responder agency notifications to
2 schools regarding potential threats; and amending RCW 28A.320.125.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.320.125 and 2017 c 165 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature considers it to be a matter of public safety
7 for public schools and staff to have current safe school plans and
8 procedures in place, fully consistent with federal law. The
9 legislature further finds and intends, by requiring safe school plans
10 to be in place, that school districts will become eligible for
11 federal assistance. The legislature further finds that schools are in
12 a position to serve the community in the event of an emergency
13 resulting from natural disasters or man-made disasters.

14 (2) Schools and school districts shall consider the guidance
15 provided by the superintendent of public instruction, including the
16 comprehensive school safety checklist and the model comprehensive
17 safe school plans that include prevention, intervention, all hazard/
18 crisis response, and postcrisis recovery, when developing their own
19 individual comprehensive safe school plans. Each school district
20 shall adopt, no later than September 1, 2008, and implement a safe

1 school plan consistent with the school mapping information system
2 pursuant to RCW 36.28A.060. The plan shall:

3 (a) Include required school safety policies and procedures;

4 (b) Address emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and
5 recovery;

6 (c) Include provisions for assisting and communicating with
7 students and staff, including those with special needs or
8 disabilities;

9 (d) Use the training guidance provided by the Washington
10 emergency management division of the state military department in
11 collaboration with the Washington state office of the superintendent
12 of public instruction school safety center and the school safety
13 center advisory committee;

14 (e) Require the building principal to be certified on the
15 incident command system;

16 (f) Take into account the manner in which the school facilities
17 may be used as a community asset in the event of a community-wide
18 emergency; and

19 (g) Set guidelines for requesting city or county law enforcement
20 agencies, local fire departments, emergency service providers, and
21 county emergency management agencies to meet with school districts
22 and participate in safety-related drills.

23 (3) To the extent funds are available, school districts shall
24 annually:

25 (a) Review and update safe school plans in collaboration with
26 local emergency response agencies;

27 (b) Conduct an inventory of all hazardous materials;

28 (c) Update information on the school mapping information system
29 to reflect current staffing and updated plans, including:

30 (i) Identifying all staff members who are trained on the national
31 incident management system, trained on the incident command system,
32 or are certified on the incident command system; and

33 (ii) Identifying school transportation procedures for evacuation,
34 to include bus staging areas, evacuation routes, communication
35 systems, parent-student reunification sites, and secondary
36 transportation agreements consistent with the school mapping
37 information system; and

38 (d) Provide information to all staff on the use of emergency
39 supplies and notification and alert procedures.

1 (4) To the extent funds are available, school districts shall
2 annually record and report on the information and activities required
3 in subsection (3) of this section to the Washington association of
4 sheriffs and police chiefs.

5 (5) School districts are encouraged to work with local emergency
6 management agencies and other emergency responders to conduct one
7 tabletop exercise, one functional exercise, and two full-scale
8 exercises within a four-year period.

9 (6)(a) Due to geographic location, schools have unique safety
10 challenges. It is the responsibility of school principals and
11 administrators to assess the threats and hazards most likely to
12 impact their school, and to practice three basic functional drills,
13 shelter-in-place, lockdown, and evacuation, as these drills relate to
14 those threats and hazards. Some threats or hazards may require the
15 use of more than one basic functional drill.

16 (b) Schools shall conduct at least one safety-related drill per
17 month, including summer months when school is in session with
18 students. These drills must teach students three basic functional
19 drill responses:

20 (i) "Shelter-in-place," used to limit the exposure of students
21 and staff to hazardous materials, such as chemical, biological, or
22 radiological contaminants, released into the environment by isolating
23 the inside environment from the outside;

24 (ii) "Lockdown," used to isolate students and staff from threats
25 of violence, such as suspicious trespassers or armed intruders, that
26 may occur in a school or in the vicinity of a school; and

27 (iii) "Evacuation," used to move students and staff away from
28 threats, such as fires, oil train spills, or tsunamis.

29 (c) The drills described in (b) of this subsection must
30 incorporate the following requirements:

31 (i) Use of the school mapping information system in at least one
32 of the safety-related drills; and

33 (ii) A pedestrian evacuation drill for schools in mapped tsunami
34 hazard zones.

35 (d) The drills described in (b) of this subsection may
36 incorporate an earthquake drill using the state-approved earthquake
37 safety technique "drop, cover, and hold."

38 (e) Schools shall document the date, time, and type (shelter-in-
39 place, lockdown, or evacuate) of each drill required under this
40 subsection (6), and maintain the documentation in the school office.

1 (f) This subsection (6) is intended to satisfy all federal
2 requirements for comprehensive school emergency drills and
3 evacuations.

4 (7) Educational service districts are encouraged to apply for
5 federal emergency response and crisis management grants with the
6 assistance of the superintendent of public instruction and the
7 Washington emergency management division of the state military
8 department.

9 (8) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules to
10 implement provisions of this section. These rules may include, but
11 are not limited to, provisions for evacuations, lockdowns, or other
12 components of a comprehensive safe school plan.

13 (9) (a) Whenever a first responder agency notifies a school of a
14 situation that may necessitate an evacuation or lockdown, the agency
15 must also determine if other schools in the vicinity are similarly
16 threatened and must notify every other school in the vicinity for
17 which an evacuation or lockdown appears reasonably necessary. For
18 purposes of this subsection, "school" includes a private school under
19 chapter 28A.195 RCW.

20 (b) A first responder agency and its officers, agents, and
21 employees are not liable for any act, or failure to act, under this
22 subsection unless a first responder agency and its officers, agents,
23 and employees acted with willful disregard.

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