
Education Committee

SB 5647

Brief Description: Providing temporary employees necessary information about school safety policies and procedures.

Sponsors: Senators Torres, Conway, King, Lovelett, Wilson, C. and Wilson, J..

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires school district safe school plans to include how substitute teachers and other temporary employees will receive necessary information about safe school plans.
- Requires model safety policies, procedures, and best practices of the School Safety Center to include how substitute teachers and other temporary employees will receive necessary information about school safety policies and procedures.

Hearing Date: 2/14/24

Staff: Ethan Moreno (786-7386).

Background:

Safe School Plans.

School districts must adopt and implement "safe school plans" that address emergency preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. The plans, which must include school safety policies and procedures, must also include provisions for assisting and communicating with students and staff, family reunification plans, and guidelines for the participation of local first responders in school safety-related drills.

Safe school plans must use training and guidance provided by the Washington Emergency

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Management Division of the State Military Department in collaboration with the School Safety Center in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and a student well-being advisory committee established in statute.

School Safety Center.

Legislation adopted in 2019 directed the Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish the School Safety Center for the purposes of working with regional school safety centers and forming a statewide network for school safety. The School Safety Center, in collaboration with the OSPI, is required to perform certain duties, including:

- serving as a clearinghouse for information on comprehensive school safety planning and practice;
- disseminating information about school safety incidents in the state and elsewhere;
- serving as the lead school safety center and working with the regional school safety centers to support school districts in meeting requirements for school safety, including requirements for safe school plans;
- developing model school safety policies and procedures, and identifying best practices in school safety; and
- holding an annual school safety summit.

Functional Drills.

School principals and administrators are required to assess the threats and hazards most likely to impact their school, and to practice three basic functional drills: shelter-in-place, lockdown, and evacuation, as these drills relate to those threats and hazards. Some threats or hazards may require the use of more than one basic functional drill. Schools must conduct at least one safety-related drill per month, document the date, time, and type of each drill, and maintain the documentation in the school office.

Summary of Bill:

School district safe school plans must include information regarding how substitute teachers and other temporary employees will receive necessary information about safe school plans, including school safety policies and procedures and responses to the three basic functional drills (shelter-in-place, lockdown, and evacuation).

Model safety policies, procedures, and best practices of the School Safety Center must include information regarding how substitute teachers and other temporary employees will receive necessary information about school safety policies and procedures.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.