



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
DATE: July 24, 2018
SUBJECT: Update: Maryland Safe to Learn Act

PURPOSE:

To provide an overview of the Maryland Safe to Learn Act of 2018.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Senate Bill (SB) 1265, Maryland Safe to Learn Act of 2018, passed the General Assembly on the final day of the 2018 legislative session and has been signed into law by Governor Larry Hogan. The legislation creates a variety of statewide standards and guidelines.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Responsibilities, funding, and other requirements are outlined in the attached document. The State Superintendent chairs the subcabinet and the Executive Director of the Maryland Center for School Safety provides staff. The Maryland Center for School Safety has been made an independent unit within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

ACTION:

For information only. No action required.

Attachment:

- PowerPoint Presentation



Update on Safe To Learn Act

Maryland State Board of Education | July 24, 2018

Dawn O'Croinin

Counsel (Maryland Center for School Safety)



Governing Board: Subcabinet

Dr. Karen Salmon

State Superintendent of Schools (Chair)

Col. William Pallozzi

Secretary of State Police

Brian Frosh

Attorney General

Robert Neall

Secretary of Health

Carol Beatty

Secretary of Disabilities

Robert Gorrell

Executive Director of the IAC



Advisory Board

<p>Member of the Senate *Appoint after the primary</p>	<p>Del. Eric Ebersole Member of the House of Delegates</p>	<p>*Representative Maryland Association of Student Councils</p>	<p>Sharon A. Hoover, Ph.D. Center for School Mental Health</p>
<p>Dr. George Arlotto Anne Arundel County Public Schools Local Superintendent</p>	<p>Karin Bailey (Board Chair, St. Mary's County BOE) MABE</p>	<p>Megan Berger, Esq. Disability Rights Maryland</p>	<p>James T. Bell Parent of a Public School Student</p>
<p>Dr. Kellie Anderson Anne Arundel County Public Schools School Psychologist</p>	<p>Mr. Nicholas Shockney Carroll County Public Schools Special Education Administrator</p>	<p>Capt. Patrick D. Herring, USN Parent of a Child with Disabilities</p>	<p>Thomas E. Alban Representative of a Non-Public School</p>
<p>Pamela Gaddy Baltimore County Public Schools Classroom Teacher</p>	<p>Dr. Chanta' M. Booker New Era Academy School Principal</p>	<p>*Representative Representative of School Bus Drivers</p>	<p>Rachel Faulkner Maryland Assembly on School Based Health Care</p>
<p>Secretary Lourdes Padilla Representative of Dept. of Human Services</p>	<p>Andrew Tress Representative of Dept. of Juvenile Services</p>	<p>David Engel Director, MCAC</p>	<p>Laurel Moody, MS MIEMSS</p>
<p>Jon Carrier – AACPS School Resource Officer</p>	<p>Sheriff Scott Adams Cecil County Sheriff</p>	<p>Chief Tim Altomare Anne Arundel County</p>	



Funding

- Center for School Safety - Minimum of \$2 million in annual funding (FY19 = \$3 million)
- Safety Evaluations / Assessments - \$2.5 million
- Safe Schools Fund - \$10,600,000 for FY19
- Capital Improvements - \$20 million
- Nonpublic School Safety Capital Improvements - \$3.5 million
- At-risk of hate crimes - \$1 million
- SRO's (\$10 million in FY2020)(# of schools in district / # of schools in the State)



Responsibilities: New Center

- Hate Crimes Grants
- After-Action Review Reports to Governor & General Assembly
- Assist Local School Systems – relationship violence, signs of unhealthy relationships and preventing relationship violence
- Analyze data on SROs and develop guidelines and training
- Certify school safety coordinators
- Consult with local school systems on safety evaluations
- Review and comment on school emergency plans



Responsibilities: Subcabinet

Administer Grants from the Safe Schools Fund

- To help develop plans for delivering behavioral health and wraparound services
- Training on de-escalation and identifying and reporting behaviors of concern
- Conducting training of assessment teams
- Conducting school safety evaluations
- Establishing formal and anonymous reporting of safety concerns
- Reimbursing local law enforcement for SRO training provided by the Center
- Enrolling school security employees in training provided by the Center
- Outreach to improve school safety and heighten awareness of existing mental health services and other services
- Improve safety of traveling to and from school



Responsibilities: Subcabinet (cont'd)

- Best practices, technical assistance, comprehensive school safety plan
- Promote interagency efforts supporting safe schools for all students, staff, parents and community members
- Collaborate on data collection and analysis
- Identify safe school professional staff development best practices
- Collaborate with MSDE on the model policy for an assessment team
- Initiate collaborative partnerships to leverage resources and deliver school safety services uniformly
- Report – Behavioral Health
 - Plans for delivering behavioral health and wraparound services
 - Availability of mental health services and practitioners to address needs of children



Subcabinet Regulatory Authority



Responsibilities: Local School System

- Train students and parents on relationship violence, unhealthy relationships and prevention
- Promptly inform Center of critical, life-threatening incidents on school grounds
 - After-action review and evaluation
 - Center, LEAs and Emergency Responders
 - File a report with the Center



Public Information Act – Off Limits

- Safety evaluations
- School emergency plans
- Emergency response policy
- Guidelines for SROs and supplemental coverage (adequate coverage) – both the Center’s and the local school system’s plans



Deadlines: Center & Subcabinet

- **September 2018**
 - Specialized curriculum for training SROs and School Security Employees approved by MPTSC
 - Model Policy for Establishment of Assessment Teams
- **October 2018**
 - Submit summary of SRO coverage and adequate coverage reports to Governor & General Assembly (annually)
- **December 2018**
 - Report on behavioral health services to school-aged children to Governor and General Assembly (services provided and gap analysis)
 - Analyze data on SRO coverage in each school district and develop guidelines to assist determining appropriate number and assignment of SROs and supplemental coverage by local LE.
 - Report on activities of the Center; aggregate data on school safety evaluations; current status and effectiveness of the Center; data collected on SROs; recommendations for improving school and student safety. (annually)



Deadlines: Center & Subcabinet (cont'd)

- **March 2019**
 - Submit model SRO and School Security Employee training program for approval.
 - Approval of the SRO model training program by the MPSTC
- **December 2020**
 - Report to Governor and General Assembly on data collected on use of force between any SRO and student while carrying out duties, and any school security employee while carrying out duties.



Deadlines: School System

- **Before 2018/2019**
 - Report SRO coverage to the Center (adequate coverage)(update annually)
 - Post on website role of SRO (before)
- **September 2018**
 - Appoint a mental health services coordinator
- **June 2019**
 - Conduct safety evaluation (physical concerns, pattern of safety concerns); submit completed evaluations to the Center (regularly)
- **July 2019**
 - Implement SRO coverage guidelines developed by the Center & submit to the Center for review and comment.



Deadlines: School System (cont'd)

- **September 2019**

- Adopt a policy for the establishment of assessment teams consistent with model policy
- Designate a School Safety Coordinator
- SROs and School Security Employees assigned to schools must have completed model training program or equivalent and be certified by MPTSC

- **August 2020**

- Update school emergency plan (including behavioral threats, emergency events, accommodations for students with disabilities in emergency events) (regularly)
- Submit report to the Center including: (annually)
 - Aggregate data on threats against school
 - Lockdowns, evacuations or emergency responses
 - Incidents where emergency plan failed to function as anticipated in emergency or drill
 - School hours spent in an emergency or emergency drill



Deadlines: MSDE

- **December 2019**
 - Update emergency planning guidelines to accommodate findings from initial safety evaluations

Deadlines: Higher Education

- **2018/2019 Academic Year**
 - Public institutions of higher education in Maryland conduct at least one active shooter drill (Annually)



Common Misconceptions

- SROs are required in every school – NO!
- School Security Employees at public schools will have different training than the model SRO curriculum – NO!



Progress

- Model SRO Training Curriculum presented to MPSTC for approval (July 18, 2018 meeting)
- Model Assessment Guidelines
- Grants
 - Safety Evaluations
 - Programming
 - Capital Improvements



Questions?

