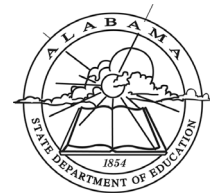




STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

July 17, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: School Safety Updates and District Safety Coordinator Designation

With the start of the 2026-2027 school year, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) Support Services Section wants to remind you of requirements regarding School Safety and the responsibilities of the District Safety Coordinator (DSC).

1. **Designation of a DSC**, with specific responsibilities, in the central office is required per the attached Ala. Code § 16-22B-5 (1975). Use the link below to confirm the DSC for school year 2026.

DSC Designation [2026-2027 LEA District Safety Coordinator Designation](#)

2. ***A Manual of State Laws and Regulations: School Safety and Discipline 2026*** is available here [A Manual of State Laws and Regulations: School Safety and Discipline 2026](#) in response to Ala. Code §16-6B-5. The manual provides guidance on the responsibilities of each local education agency (LEA) and personnel. Please review the manual and ensure that your LEA complies.

To assist with compliance regarding the laws and regulations, an Assurance of Compliance is available in SchoolDog. The Assurance must be completed by October 1, 2026, for all LEAs.

3. LEAs must annually complete the following **school safety training courses** and document completion for each school in SchoolDog, the state's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) platform.
 - a. School EOPs - Ala. Code § 16-1-44
 - b. Mental Health Awareness - Ala. Code § 16-1-44
 - c. Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse/Neglect - Ala. Code § 26-14-3
 - d. *Jamari Terrell Williams Act: Bullying Prevention* - Ala. Code §§ 16-28B-1 to -5
 - e. Suicide Prevention - Ala. Code § 16-28B-8B
 - f. Erin's Law: Child Sexual Abuse - Ala. Code § 16-40-9
 - g. Annalyn's Law: Juvenile Sex Offenders - Ala. Code § 16-1-51.1

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of Education

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4. LEAs must also complete **School Safety Drills** for each school throughout the year and document completion in SchoolDog.
 - a. Fire Drill - Ala. Code § 36-19-10 (required in August and any other month)
 - b. Severe Weather - Ala. Code § 16-1-44 (September, October, or November) and (January, February, or March)
 - c. Lockdown/Intruder Drills - Ala. Code § 16-1-44 (First Six Weeks of the 1st Semester) and (First Six Weeks of the 2nd Semester)
5. LEAs must complete Annual Review and **Submit an EOP for each school** by September 1st of each school year in SchoolDog.

If you have further questions, contact Mrs. Tenesha Perdue (tenesha.perdue@alsde.edu), Mrs. Stephanie Rosetta (stephanie.rosetta@alsde.edu), Dr. Johnny Whaley (johnny.whaley@alsde.edu), or Dr. Autumm Jeter (autumm.jeter@alsde.edu).

EGM/JW/JR

Attachment

cc: LEA Safety Coordinators
Mr. Jason Swann
Dr. Autumm Jeter
Dr. Johnny Whaley

FY26-1016



1 SB98

ACT #2024 - ~~356~~

2 66N413Z-2

3 By Senators Orr, Hovey, Shelnutt, Butler, Barfoot, Sessions,

4 Roberts, Givhan, Williams, Chambliss, Hatcher, Stewart,

5 Figures, Beasley, Allen, Kelley, Kitchens, Chesteen

6 RFD: Education Policy

7 First Read: 14-Feb-24





169 limited to, any event in which one or more law enforcement
170 officers, firefighters, rescue squads, emergency medical
171 services providers, public safety telecommunications, or other
172 emergency management provider may respond.

173 (d)(1) School mapping data shall be compatible with
174 software platforms used by local, county, state, and federal
175 public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the
176 school for which the data is provided. School mapping data
177 shall be compatible with security software platforms in use by
178 the public K-12 school for which the data is provided.

179 (2) School mapping data shall be available in a
180 printable format and, if requested by a public safety agency,
181 local law enforcement agency, or local board of education, be
182 in a digital format that may be integrated into interactive
183 mobile platforms in use.

184 (e) No entity, including, but not limited to, a law
185 enforcement agency, local board of education, or public safety
186 agency, may be required to purchase additional software or pay
187 a fee to view or access school mapping data through the School
188 Mapping Data Program.

189 Section 5. (a) Each local board of education shall
190 designate an employee in the district's central office as the
191 district safety coordinator. Each district safety coordinator
192 must have direct access to the local superintendent of
193 education and must have prior experience in crisis response.

194 (b) Within one year of designating an employee as the
195 district safety coordinator, each local superintendent of
196 education shall ensure that the district safety coordinator



197 completes training related to:

- 198 (1) Emergency operation plan implementation;
- 199 (2) Lockdown best practices;
- 200 (3) Relocation, evacuation, and reunification;
- 201 (4) Weather and sheltering;
- 202 (5) Behavioral threat assessment; and
- 203 (6) Facility security.

204 (c) Each district safety coordinator shall:

205 (1) Annually attend at least four safety training
206 sessions, with no more than one credit granted for attending a
207 vendor-based training session. Acceptable training includes
208 programming by the department, the Alabama Homeland Security
209 Office, the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, the National
210 Incident Management System, the Partnership Alliance for Safe
211 Schools, the Alabama School Resource Officer Association, the
212 Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National School Resource
213 Officer Association, or other governmental agency or
214 nonprofit organization focusing on relevant school safety best
215 practices.

216 (2) Organize, administer, and attend at least one
217 school-based lockdown drill and one other safety drill per
218 semester and review the implementation of those drills with
219 the building-level administrator.

220 (3) Annually organize and oversee a meeting with school
221 administrators and local public safety officials at each
222 school in the local school district in order to familiarize
223 the local officials with each school, its respective school
224 emergency operating plan, and its school mapping data. The



district safety coordinator shall ensure that each of the following local public safety officials attend the meeting:

- a. At least one local law enforcement officer.
- b. At least one local firefighter.
- c. At least one representative of the local emergency management agency office.
- d. The school mental health coordinator.
- e. Any other local public safety officials, as determined by the district safety coordinator.

(4) Collaborate with the local board of education to adopt policies relating to the sharing of camera data and remote access control with appropriate local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

(d)(1) Each district safety coordinator shall annually review the school emergency operation plan of each school local in his or her local school district.

(2) No later than September 1 of each year, each district safety coordinator shall notify his or her superintendent of education of any building-level administrator or school that fails to have a current, up-to-date school emergency operation plan.

(3) Upon receiving a notice under subdivision (2), a local superintendent of education shall ensure that the school emergency operation plan is updated within 30 days of his or her receipt of notice.

(e) The board shall adopt rules to implement and administer this section, including rules relating to the qualification of district safety coordinators and training



253 requirements for district safety coordinators.

254 Section 6. (a) School security rubric ratings and
255 school mapping data, including any information or records used
256 to determine a rating or develop mapping data, are
257 confidential and shall not be considered public records under
258 Article 3 of Chapter 12 of Title 36, Code of Alabama 1975.

259 (b) This act may not be considered as creating a
260 private right of action against a local board of education or
261 its officials or employees.

262 Section 7. This act shall become effective on October
263 1, 2024.



SB98 Enrolled

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB98

Senate 02-Apr-24

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Amended and passed: 07-May-24

Senate concurred in House amendment 07-May-24

By: Senator Orr

APPROVED

5/15/2024

TIME

11:05 am

GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary Of State

Act Num....: 2024-356
Bill Num...: S-98

Recv'd 05/15/24 01:57pm KCW

ENGROSSED

Senate Bill No. 98

SPONSOR

1 Orr

CO-SPONSORS

2 <u>Hovey</u>	19
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10 <u>Chambliss</u>	27
11 <u>Hatcher</u>	28
12 <u>Stewart</u>	29
13 <u>Figures</u>	30
14 <u>Beasley</u>	31
15 <u>Allen</u>	32
16 <u>Kelley</u>	33
17 <u>Kitchens</u>	34
18 <u>Chesteen</u>	35

SENATE ACTION

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 98

YEAS 33 NAYS 0 ABSTAIN 0

PATRICK HARRIS,
Secretary

I hereby certify that the notice & proof is attached to the Bill, SB _____ as required in the General Acts of Alabama, 1975 Act No. 919.

PATRICK HARRIS,
Secretary

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Senate Conferees _____

HOUSE ACTION

DATE: 4-2 2024

RD 1 RFD

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

This bill having been referred by the House to its standing committee on Education Policy was acted upon by such committee in session, and returned therefrom to the House with the recommendation that it be Passed, w/amend(s) W/SUB 1. This 1st day of May, 2024.
Tami Collins, Chairperson

DATE: _____ 20____

RF RD 2 CAL

DATE: _____ 20____

RE-REFERRED ☐ RE-COMMITTED ☐

Committee _____

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 98

YEAS 49 NAYS 0

JOHN TREADWELL,
Clerk

FURTHER HOUSE ACTION (OVER)