Safety for All Summit

Panel Discussion on Promoting Collaboration on School Security for Schools and Child Care Centers

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Disclaimer

This presentation is intended as a summary of law only, and is not meant as legal advice. Please consult your attorney to obtain legal advice.
Presenters

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Overview of Topics

• Recently Enacted Legislation

• Statutory and Regulatory Requirements for Schools and Licensed Child Care Centers

• Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Law Enforcement and the Schools – 2019 Revisions – January 8, 2019

• Promoting Collaboration Between Schools and Child Care Centers Working Within School Facilities
Recently Enacted Legislation

www.njleg.state.nj.us
Revised Security Requirements for School Facilities

- P.L. 2016, c.79 – Revises school security requirements for new construction AND existing facilities
- Took effect immediately
- Requires new protocols on Security for Existing Facilities
P.L. 2016, c.79 – Existing Facilities

1. Employ the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles
2. Require security personnel to be in uniform
3. Make driveways one way, if possible, that lead to a clearly marked visitor parking area. STOP signs and other traffic calming devices shall be used to keep vehicles at a reasonable speed
4. Place ballards along the roadway or curb line in front of the school to prevent vehicles from gaining accessing to exterior walls, windows, and doors, or in areas of the property where vehicles are prohibited
5. Clearly mark the school’s main entrance and make it easily visible and recognizable
6. Limit the number of doors for access by staff
7. Lock exterior doors, and where they are in use for a large entry/exit provide that they are staffed and monitored
8. Utilize an access control system with remote unlocking features, an intercom, and fixed cameras at the school’s main entrance and for other entrances
9. Clearly mark all entrances with a numerical sequence to allow for specific responses by
police, fire, and emergency medical services providers
10. Maintain a parking decal or tag system for all staff and students who park on campus in
order to easily identify unauthorized vehicles on the property
11. Locate enclosures for utilities that are outside a school building away from the building to
ensure that they do not provide roof access
12. Provide adequate and properly maintained lighting around the buildings and parking lots.
13. If finding, staffing, and site approval are possible, provide a guard shack and gate on the
school campus as an effective perimeter control
14. Where the footprint of the school allows, and if funding is available, create secure
vestibules at the main entrance of the school building. The exterior door entrance to the school
shall allow access by a visitor only to the vestibule and the doors to the remainder of the
building shall be locked.
15. Adopt school district policies and procedures to clearly indicate that propping open doors is
strictly prohibited, and that students and staff shall not open a door for anyone. All persons
seeking entry to the building shall be directed to the main entrance.
P.L. 2016, c.79 – Existing Facilities

16. Use surveillance cameras as a target-hardening tool
17. Provide a dedicated server and generator for security systems, such as access control and surveillance cameras, in order to secure information and ensure efficient operation in an emergency
18. Use ballistic or shatter resistant film for glass entrance door sidelights and other vulnerable first floor areas
19. Maintain a strict key distribute protocol that requires staff to sign for keys and return them at the end of each school year.

Commissioner may update security standards to address best practices for school security.

Statute also lays out additional structural requirements and school protocols that must be in place for all new construction.
Recently Approved Legislation-Student Rights/Instruction

• P.L. 2017, c.119 – Requires school districts to enter into agreement to provide law enforcement with access to streaming surveillance video if it is available in any school.

• Law enforcement access to video needs to be limited to emergency situations

• School district needs to be able to monitor law enforcement access to video
Live Streaming Video Access – P.L. 2017,c.119


• If at least one school building of a school district is equipped with video surveillance equipment that is capable of streaming live video to a remote location, the board of education and local law enforcement shall enter into an MOU which provides the authorities with the capacity to activate the equipment and view the live streaming video.
Live Streaming Video

• Memorandum of Understanding shall include
  – Designated persons who are authorized to activate the equipment and view the live streaming video. (Contact info, position, rank, supervisor’s contact info.)
  – Circumstances when activation and viewing can occur.
  – Plan for preventing and detecting unauthorized access.
Live Streaming Video

• Allowed to share video surveillance with law enforcement without violating FERPA, excludes from student records definition, no court order needed; board resolution
School Safety Specialist

• P.L. 2017, c.162, s.2; amended P.L. 2018, c.100, s.1 (8/17/18)

• The superintendent in each school district shall designate a school administrator, or a school employee with expertise in school safety and security, as a school safety specialist for the district.
Alyssa’s Law – P.L. 2019 c. 33, 2/6/19

• Requires public school buildings to be equipped with silent security panic alarms linked to local law enforcement authority.
• For use in a school security emergency including, but not limited to, a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, or active shooter situation.
• Funded by school security bonds.
School Safety and Security Plans

*N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1*

Each school district shall develop and implement written comprehensive plans, procedures and mechanisms that provide for safety and security in the public elementary and secondary schools of the school district.
School Security Drill Law


- Every principal of a school shall have at least one fire drill and one school security drill each month within the school hours, including any summer months during which the school is open for instructional programs.
School Security Drill Law

- Schools are required to hold a minimum of two of each of the following security drills annually:
  - Active shooter;
  - Evacuation (non-fire);
  - Bomb threat;
  - Lockdown.
School Security Drill Law


- Schools are required to conduct a school security drill within the first 15 days of the beginning of the school year.

- Chapter 4 of the New Jersey Fire Code, 408.3.1, requires the first emergency evacuation drill of each school year to be conducted within 10 days of the beginning of classes.
Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Law Enforcement and the Schools 2019 Revisions – January 8, 2019
Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement
Between Education and Law Enforcement

• 2019 Revisions Issued January 8, 2019
• Predecessor Agreements
  – 1988 - Initial Model Agreement – Alcohol and Drug
    Issues in the Schools; Statewide Narcotics Action Plan
    (SNAP)
  – 1992, 1999 – Evolving Alcohol and Drug problems,
    firearms and weapons
  – 2007 – School Safety and Security, HIB, Hazing, Gangs,
    Computer Crimes, Station House Adjustments, Child
    Abuse Reporting, School Law Enforcement Units
Key Questions for Child Care Centers on Emergency Preparedness

- Do I have a first aid kit and first aid manual? Is it stocked appropriately?
- Are there 2 staff members trained in First Aid and CPR in the center at all times?
- Do I have disposable gloves for staff to use when handling blood or vomit?
- Have I conducted the required monthly fire drill and at least one fire drill during naptime ensuring everyone is evacuated within 3 minutes?
- Have I checked all of my fire safety equipment (exit signs, emergency lights, and extinguishers) is maintained/operable?
- Do I have locking devices used during lockdown procedures that do not pose a risk of harm to children and that staff are trained to use?
- Have I conducted a lock down drill?
- Are all of my emergency exits easily operable (opening and closing) and egress areas unobstructed?
For More Information on School Security

• NJDOE Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning
  – https://www.state.nj.us/education/schools/security/
CHILD ABUSE RECORD INFORMATION (CARI)

Until CARI background checks results for a new staff member are received or when a person who is not required to complete a CARI is working with children at the center, the center shall ensure oversight of that person by another staff member who has completed background checks and ensure that person is not left alone to supervise a child or group of children.

- Required for the sponsor/sponsor representative and all staff 14 years and older.
- Any staff member that refuses to consent to a CARI background check shall immediately be terminated from employment at the center.
- A completed CARI consent form must be submitted online:
  - within 2 weeks after a new staff member begins working at the center; and
  - every 3 years upon a renewal for all staff.

To make changes to CARI application information, contact the CARI Unit @ 855-744-4913

https://my.state.nj.us/openam/UI/Login
CHAPTER 4: STAFF REQUIREMENTS

CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION (CHRI)

Until CHRI background checks results for a new staff member are received or when a person who is not required to complete a CHRI is working with children at the center, the center shall ensure oversight of that person by another staff member who has completed background checks and ensure that person is not left alone to supervise a child or group of children.

- Required for the sponsor/sponsor representative and all staff 18 years and older.
- Any staff member that refuses to consent to a CHRI background check shall immediately be terminated from employment at the center.
- The CHRI electronic fingerprinting process must be completed within 2 weeks after a new staff member begins working at the center. A center’s NJ Universal Fingerprint Form can be generated in NJCCIS (Quicklinks → Provider Admin → Mail-In Forms).
- Results can be obtained online via the Fingerprint Approval Retrieval Application (FARA) system within 45 days of the fingerprint date. Results beyond 45 days will not be available in the FARA system.

https://fara.dhs.state.nj.us/

"Staff member" or "staff" means any person(s) employed by or working for or at a center on a regularly scheduled basis including full-time, part-time, voluntary, substitute, contract, or consulting personnel, whether compensated or not.
Develop EMERGENCY PROCEDURES, ensuring safety during evacuations, lockdowns, natural or civil disasters to include all of the components of the EMERGENCY PLAN CHECKLIST.

Include an alternate indoor location that operates during the same operating hours as the center within safe walking distance or provide a written procedure for obtaining emergency transportation to that location.
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES, shall be readily accessible in a designated location within the center if they are not posted.
Panel Discussion Questions

• How can schools and child care centers learn from each other and build on current protocols and best practices of each on school security?

• What are the most significant obstacles to having a coherent and seamless school security plan that promotes the greatest level of safety and security for children whether doing the school day or before or after child care?

• What steps do we need to take to overcome those obstacles?
Questions?
Conclusion

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