

# Kentucky Center for School Safety 10th Annual Report

2008



[www.kysafeschools.org](http://www.kysafeschools.org)

*Promoting Safe Schools Across the  
Commonwealth*



# Message from the Director



While our local newspapers, television stations, and other media outlets report little else these days but news focusing on topics such as budget cuts, lay-offs, foreclosures, bailouts, etc., I am proud to report that the Kentucky Center for School Safety has very good news. Our state's educators are making real progress in their efforts to **keep our kids and their learning environments safe so they CAN learn!**

What's more is that as we strive here at the center to assist schools/districts in many of their safety endeavors, we are frequently given the opportunity to observe what's being done across the state to address our primary responsibility of keeping kids safe. Schools frequently ask for our assistance with:

- Reviewing school/district emergency response plans with the emergency management team in the school or district.
- Deciphering legal issues that confront them.
- Providing statewide training on topics such as: new trends in emergency management; how to implement the new anti-bullying law; the latest on gang activity in our state, etc.
- Directing educators to information on our school safety website. Did you know that there were over 15,000 hits to our KCSS website every school day? (That's 3.1 million hits in one year!)

Steps such as these are proactive ones in school safety, which serve to move our educators closer to the over-arching goal of any school/district safety plan, that of PREVENTION. Preventive measures to emergencies/tragedies must be continuous. Consider:

- Despite enjoying a sunny day, principals, teachers and students practice severe weather drills.
- Despite no strangers in the building, school officials schedule lock down drills.
- Not having any overt problems, schools have voluntarily requested a safe school assessment team to objectively evaluate their school as a step to having a safer learning environment.

I cannot applaud steps such as these (and others) enough, which is why you will read (in the pages to follow) that there is much to celebrate. We cannot, however, afford to rest for any length of time on our laurels in the area of school safety. (Instead, it must always be kept on the "front burner" and acknowledged as a primary responsibility that we know **we can neither "afford" to neglect, nor put aside temporarily.**) Other good news is that, thus far, that is what Kentucky's law-makers have done by allocating the funding (although reduced) necessary for our schools' educators to continue their progress in school safety, and for the Kentucky Center for School Safety to continue to provide them with the support they need.

What if other business institutions practiced such diligence? Could we possibly have avoided the economic crisis in which we now find ourselves?

We know in the "business" of children, there is no such thing as a bailout. There are no second chances with safety; we cannot afford not to be vigilant in protecting them while they are at school. To that end, we must continue to:

- Seek best practices to "connect" with kids.
- Facilitate up-to-date statewide training on emerging school safety issues.
- Conduct safe school assessments in order to enhance our schools' unique climates and cultures.

Finally, as our educators remain steadfast in their daily concern for the safety of each child, KCSS will remain steadfast in its purpose to support those educators. We will be there to find answers for them when a question arises; send a team to a school when there are concerns about the traffic flow in the parking lot or; lead a faculty in a training session to address bullying, just to name a very few!

You can rest assured that KCSS will continue to be the "one stop shop" for our state educators when it comes to any and all school safety concerns.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon R. Akers".

Jon R. Akers, Director



*Nora Ramsey, 2nd Grade Teacher at North Elem. in Calloway County led her school in the Safe Schools online pledge.*



*Gov. Steve Beshear signs the Safe School Proclamation.*

# Kentucky Center for School Safety: A Snapshot



*It's no accident that school is the safest place our students can be during the day. That occurs because school boards, school administrators and teachers work hard to make it so. The Kentucky Center for School Safety is a marvelous resource. Whether a school needs to have an objective "safety check" or ideas for dealing with bullies or information about responding to natural disasters, KCSS is there as a strong partner in keeping our students safe!*

*Helen Mountjoy, Secretary  
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet*

**T**he Kentucky Center for School Safety (KCSS) was established in 1998 as a component of House Bill 330. Appointed by the Governor, a 12-member Board of Directors guides its work.

KCSS has been housed at Eastern Kentucky University since its establishment. Its scope of work requires a state-wide collaboration of resources. Therefore, to date, KCSS partners with Murray State University and the Kentucky School Boards Association. This collaborative effort enables the Center to provide for:

- Fiscal oversight of the KCSS operating budget
- Distribution and oversight of Safe Schools funds to the local school districts
- Facilitation of all 174 school districts with services that promote safe and healthy learning environments for all students. This includes giving school officials and others immediate access to educators employed by the Center via telephone, e-mail or arranged visits to their schools.
- Safe School Assessments (To date, assessments have been conducted in 382 schools in 131 school districts). Additionally, there is always a waiting list of school districts that have requested assessments.
- Surveying school superintendents and principals regarding their satisfaction of the Center
- Working closely with The Justice and Law Enforcement Training (JLET) partner to ensure that Kentucky's juvenile justice and law enforcement agencies and the judicial system provide direct assistance to the schools
- Support and evaluation (by biennial survey) of SRO (School Resource Officer) services across the state
- Studies involving issues that could impact school culture and climate
- Post-secondary services, including a 12-hour Kentucky School Safety endorsement from Murray State University, materials and curricula on best practices in school safety and assistance with grant funding opportunities
- Data analysis and reporting
- Communication with the Governor's office, Kentucky Board of Education, General Assembly and public
- Establishment of a clearinghouse of information/materials on violence prevention
- Promotion of interagency efforts to address school discipline and safety issues in collaboration with other post-secondary institutions and juvenile delinquency prevention councils
- Advisement to the Kentucky Board of Education on administrative policies/regulations

The KCSS staff takes great pride in being able to fully accommodate superintendents, principals and other school personnel as well as parents and community members when they contact the Center for assistance. That requires that the Center offer a myriad of services, some of which are outlined above. KCSS is an agency that is completely service oriented; the needs of school officials in their on-going efforts to maximize school safety largely dictate what those services will be.

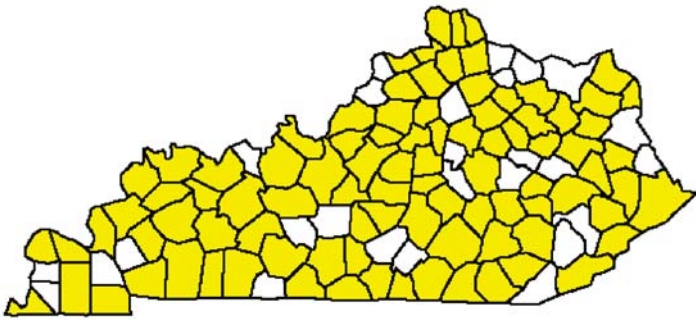


*Before learning can occur, schools must be safe. Teachers and school support staff realize more than anyone how important school safety is to achieving all they want to for their students. KEA supports the important work of the Kentucky Center for School Safety, an important partner to schools as they work to improve student learning.*

*Mary Ann Blankenship, Executive Director  
Kentucky Education Association (KEA)*

# Superintendents Praise S

## Safe School Assessments Around the State since 2003



*Over the past three years Boyle County Schools have utilized the services provided by the Kentucky Center for School Safety to conduct safe school assessments on each of our schools. I have found this to be a tremendous service by spotlighting areas of strength, that we recognize and continue to develop, and areas of needed improvement. I know that our students are better served because of the Kentucky Center for School Safety.*

**-Steve Burkich, Superintendent, Boyle Co Schools**



**T**he safe school assessment process is now in great demand across our state, with school districts continuously being added to the waiting list. Having become nationally recognized in 2006 by garnering attention and praise from the United States Department of Education and several mid-western states, information and advice from KCSS about the assessment process are frequently requested from school officials outside of



Kentucky. Superintendents praise the assessment process for providing the technical tools necessary to enhance their school district's safety.

*Our district greatly appreciates the support we have received from the Kentucky Center for School Safety. We have found the information gained from the Safety Assessments to be extremely beneficial to our schools. The support provided is critical to the assistance needed for school safety management. Thank you KCSS for the great work you do for our schools!*

**-Darlene Gee, Superintendent, Carter Co Schools**



*The extra set of eyes and ears that the Safe School Assessment program provides helps create the safest possible learning environment in Shelby County for our students, staff and parents. The evaluation tool provides valuable data for school as well as district administrators to address concerns and to continue areas in which we received commendation. Continuous improvement is vital to our overall district and we certainly consider safety among the priorities.*

**-James Niehoff, Superintendent, Shelby Co Schools**

# Safe School Assessments



*The safe school assessments conducted by the Kentucky Center for School Safety were extremely helpful to our schools because the information both affirmed and recognized some of the systems and programs we have put in place, and pointed out areas we needed to examine that we had not considered. The information was presented in a professional, non-threatening manner, and the ideas were comprehensive and relevant.*

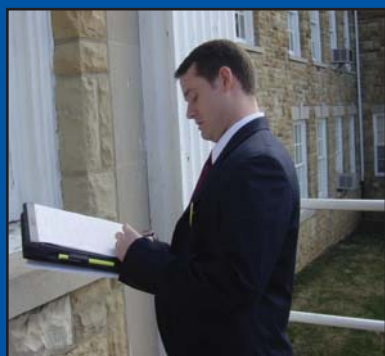
**-Tim Hanner, Superintendent, Kenton Co Schools**



*The Kentucky Center for School Safety assessments address safety issues and assure our staff, students, parents and community that we take school safety very seriously in the Madison County Schools. This service is a very valuable tool in assisting Madison County Schools in staying safe.*

**-Tommy Floyd, Superintendent, Madison Co Schools**

*The assessments help identify any weaknesses in day to day operations as it relates to safety and protocols. They also gather information via survey and onsite interviews with students, parents and staff that give the school feedback on perceptions and feelings relating to school safety.*



*Jeremy Baird, KSBA*

*I also like that they review the schools Emergency Plan to provide feedback to assist the schools in prevention and mitigation.*

**-Keith Davis, Superintendent, Bullitt Co Schools**

*We have found the Kentucky Center for School Safety to be a valuable resource in maintaining and improving school safety. I think it is essential to continue the school assessments and keep a viable school safety center in Kentucky.*



*Marc Terrill, KSBA*

**-Daniel Freeman, Superintendent, Montgomery Co Schools**



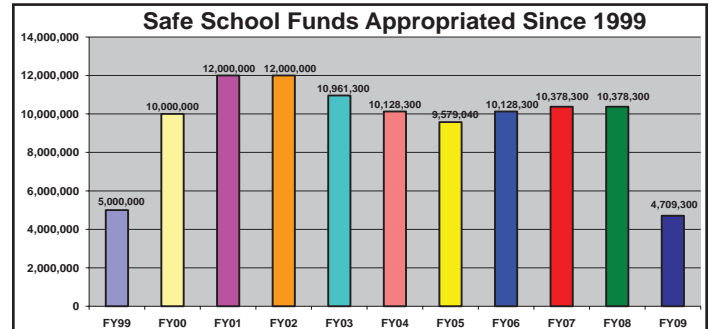
*Joe Isaacs, KSBA*

*The greatest use from the school level is the "awareness of certain conditions that may exist from an outside perception" The Kentucky Center for School Safety provides that.*

**-Chuck Adams, Superintendent, Spencer Co Schools**

# Safe Schools Funding

The Kentucky Center for School Safety credits its Governor and General Assembly for the resources that have been dedicated to the enhancement of safe and healthy learning environments. The KY General Assembly has appropriated more than \$105 million to support safe schools efforts since 1999. The table to the right illustrates those safe schools allocations.



## Breakdown of Safe Schools Funding

General Assembly

Kentucky Department of Education  
(Flow-Through Agency)

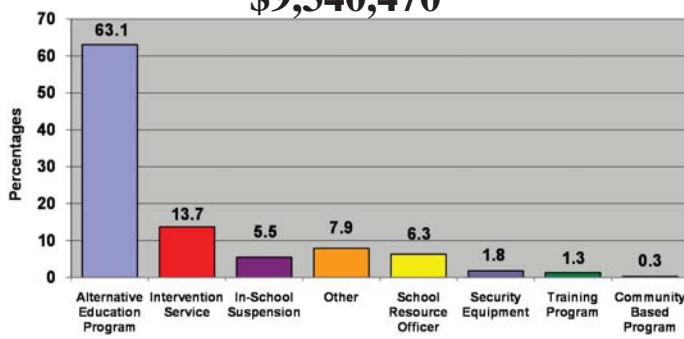
176\* Kentucky School Districts  
Safe Schools Funding  
**90%**

Kentucky Center for School  
Safety Operations  
**10%**

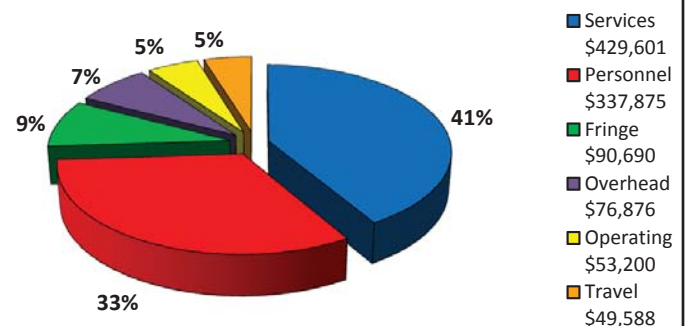
## How Kentucky's School Districts are Using Those Funds

## How the Kentucky Center for School Safety is Using Those Funds

### Allocation to 176\* School Districts \$9,340,470



### KCSS Internal Operating in FY08 - \$1,037,830



\* Includes the Kentucky School for the Deaf and the Kentucky School for the Blind

# Justice and Law Enforcement (Eastern Kentucky University)

**“Communities throughout the nation recognize that trained, sworn law enforcement officers assigned to schools make a difference”  
(U.S. Department of Justice)**

**T**he SRO is defined by Kentucky statutes as a sworn law enforcement officer who has specialized training to work with youth at a school site. SROs serve in a variety of roles in the schools, including law enforcement officer, law-related educator, problem solver and community liaison. There are 250 SROs in over half of Kentucky’s counties.



## Fast Facts About Kentucky’s School Resource Officer Program

- The Kentucky Center for School Safety supports the ongoing activities of KYASRO (Kentucky Association of School Resource Officers) and was instrumental in its development
- The first SRO program in Kentucky began in Jefferson County in 1977; in 2005, over half of the state’s counties had SROs, due primarily to partnerships formed between schools and local law enforcement agencies
- SROs receive specialized training through the Department of Criminal Justice Training and the National Association of School Resource Officers
- Approximately 80% of SROs have more than five years of law enforcement experience
- Most SROs are assigned to work in two or more schools and spend the majority of their days in middle and high schools



## JLET (Justice and Law Enforcement Training) activities include:

- Increasing the effectiveness of School Resource Officer programs in schools by providing training opportunities for both principals and SROs, and developing standards that can be used to measure the effectiveness of the program
- Assisting with the annual *Safe Schools and Communities Conference*. This conference is co-sponsored by the Kentucky Association of School Resource Officers, the Kentucky Crime Prevention Coalition and the Kentucky DARE Association
- Mentoring officers in new SRO programs
- Increasing awareness of the benefits of the SRO program by conducting surveys of SROs, publishing the results, and posting articles on the KCSS website
- Providing leadership and technical support to the Kentucky Association of School Resource Officers
- Facilitating regional trainings for SROs and school administrators
- Maintaining a statewide database of SROs
- Working closely with the courts and legislature to insure that schools receive notifications of serious crimes committed by students
- Providing videos, resource materials and examples of model interagency agreements to increase the likelihood that partnership models are effective in preventing school violence



## KCSS Board of Directors



Steve Hartwig, Gordon Parido, Wanda Meaux, Nijel Clayton, Vicki Hughes, Tom Blankenship, Tim Hanner, Mary Salsman-Buckley, Charlie Harmon and Tim Feeley (not pictured: Kari Collins, Susan Jordison)

### KCSS Board of Directors:

- Governs the Kentucky Center for School Safety (KRS 158.442)

## KCSS Belief Statement

The Kentucky Center for School Safety supports the idea that school culture improves when a school-wide prevention plan consistently addresses the needs of all students to encourage a safe and healthy learning environment.



Kerri Schelling (*donated services*), Tammie Conatser and Tamara Stewart



- Collects School Safety Data from all school districts in the state
- Allocates School Safety Funds to school districts (as well as the Kentucky School for the Blind)
- Supports state conferences and workshops on school safety issues
- Contracts with KCSS to provide school safety programs

## KENTUCKY CENTER FOR SCHOOL SAFETY



### Kentucky School Boards Association:

- Provides quality training statewide
- Assists Alternative Education sites
- Sponsors conferences and workshops
- Serves as a resource for schools and community agencies





Data from all schools in the

Funds to all 174 school  
KY School for the Deaf and  
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### KCSS Staff at EKU



Cathy Martin, Ashlee Oliver, Barbara Gateskill, Jon Akers and Dr. David May (*donated services*)

## FOR SCHOOL SAFETY



### Eastern Kentucky University:

- Appointed by the Board of Directors to serve as the contract agency to coordinate programs and activities of all partners of the consortium
- Produces annual reports on school safety issues to governmental agencies
- Monitors the safe schools allocation to all school districts
- Facilitates relationships with state agencies regarding safe school issues and concerns



### KCSS Staff at MSU



Tami Dandeneau, Karen McCuiston and Jack Rose (*donated services*)

### Murray State University:

- Serves as the resource center for information regarding safe school efforts
- Provides safe school curricula for state colleges and universities
- Offers the only state approved post-secondary School Safety Educator Endorsement Program
- Provides training in best practices in classroom management for pre-service educators
- Works with state agencies to enhance school safety information
- Hosts KCSS website for information

# Safe Schools Data Report

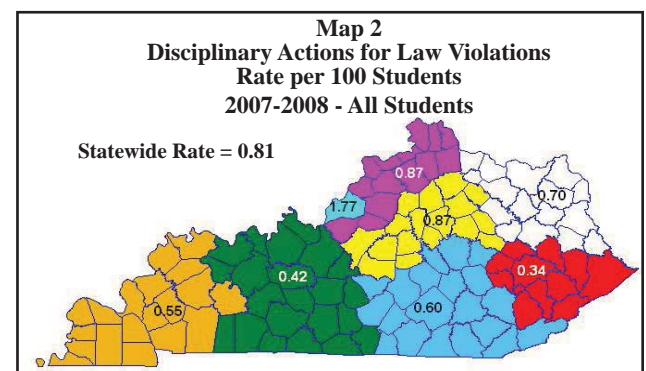
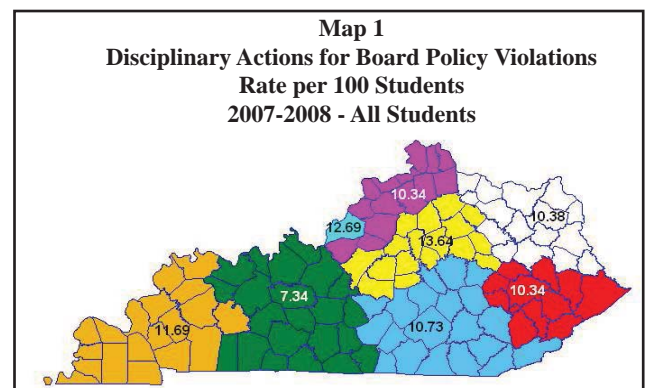
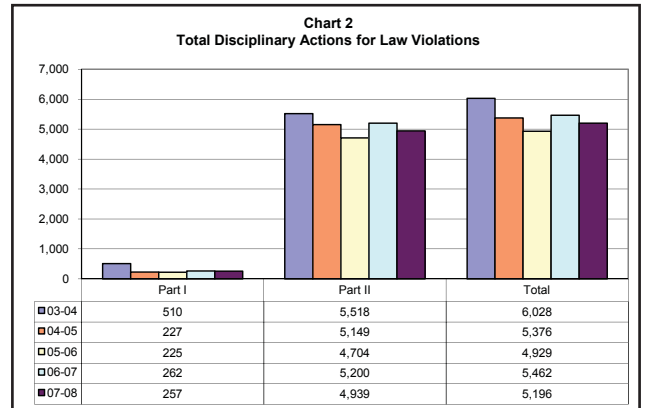
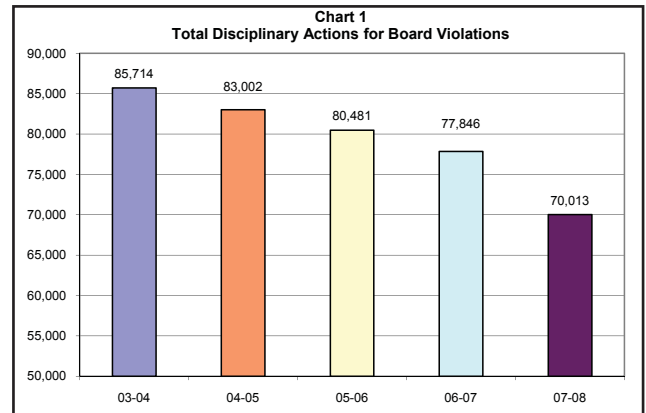
The Kentucky Safe Schools Data Report, heretofore released in December each year, is being delayed for several months this year due to a change in the methods used to collect safe schools data in Kentucky's school districts. Much of the reason for the delay stems from the fact that, for 2008, some schools utilized the new data-collection system, Infinite Campus (IC), while others were still using the earlier version of the Student Information System. This made collection, compilation and analysis more difficult. It is anticipated as of this writing that the report will be released in May or June of 2009. There should not be a delay in the future as all school districts will be utilizing Infinite Campus.

Despite the delay in the release of the full report, some of the data that makes up the report has already been compiled; a small segment is illustrated on this page. Please be mindful that the data report includes only those offenses that resulted in one of four disciplinary consequences: out-of-school suspension, expulsion with services, expulsions without services and corporal punishment.

The number of disciplinary actions for Board policy violations for the 2007-2008 school year decreased by 10.06% or 7,833 actions (Chart 1). This year's decline is encouraging as it appears that after a three-year climb in Board violations from 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, a trend of declining Board violations is now emerging. Disciplinary actions for law violations decreased in 2007-2008 (as depicted in Chart 2). Although slight (266 actions) this is encouraging given that there had been an increase in law violations during the previous two school years (05-06 to 06-07). Nevertheless, for each category of law violations, the 2007-2008 totals were far below those at the beginning of the four-year period. Regional comparisons of disciplinary actions for Board policy and law violations are illustrated in Maps 1 and 2.

KCSS is committed to working with schools, districts and the Kentucky Department of Education to enhance the quality of the data report. Through a continuous process of review, assessment and modification, this report will continue to provide richer data to schools and districts in order that more effective interventions can be planned and implemented.

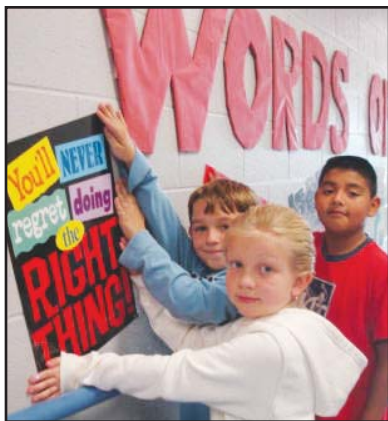
For a more detailed account of the 2007-2008 Kentucky Safe Schools Data Report, please visit our website at [www.kysafeschools.org](http://www.kysafeschools.org) after the report has been released.



# HOUSE BILL 91 - "The Bullying Bill" (Golden Rule Act)

In July of 2008, House Bill 91 became a new law, KRS 158.156. Referred to by many as "The Bullying Bill", this law was designed to raise awareness of school bullying and aimed at curbing or eliminating student harassment on school property.

Several school principals and superintendents, however, requested assistance in interpreting some segments of the law. In particular, some school administrators needed clarification of the law's requirement that



incidents in which a student was a victim of a felony offense... be reported to the principal, including bullying that rose to the felony level. Several other school administrators also requested help to better understand the steps a principal must take after receiving such a report

to assure the safety of students, including notifying parents and filing with the local school board, local law enforcement agency, etc. (HB 91 does not require the reporting of misdemeanors.)

Much of this requires making judgment calls and knowing how to classify criminal offenses. For example, Eminence Independent Superintendent Don Aldrich stated prior to the HB 91 workshop he attended, "I'm not sure what third-degree assault is."



In direct response to questions being asked about HB 91 around the state, the Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky School Boards Association and KCSS sponsored a series of four workshops in Bowling Green, Ashland and Lexington (2) on the topic in September of 2008. The sessions were attended by more than six-hundred school administrators and others. At those sessions, many principals and superintendents learned, for example, that

**Pledge Against Bullying**

With the passing of House Bill 91, schools across the Commonwealth embrace the Golden Rule as a model for improving attitude and conduct of students. KCSS stands on the belief that everybody should enjoy school equally and be treated with respect. Community members, educators, students and parents are encouraged to join in and take this pledge against bullying. It is everyone's responsibility to stop bullying, and it is up to each individual to make sure bullying does not take place.

**To improve attitude and conduct in Kentucky schools,**

**I pledge (check if you agree):**

- To remember that bullying or threatening someone is not acceptable, whether in person or on-line
- To refuse to participate in bullying which includes name calling, threats, and harassment
- To have the courage to offer help by standing up for others being bullied, knowing that as one person I can make a difference
- To act responsibly when someone is being bullied by telling someone who can help

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Age:  1-11  12-14  15-19  Above 19

they sometimes may have to report incidents that are not classified as felonies under the criminal code.

Attendees were told that the most important point to this law is the heightening of awareness in order to protect children. As KSBA Policy and procedure Director Dara Bass stated at one of the sessions, "We've got to get out there and be with the kids in all areas of our school facilities and throughout the school day to prevent bullying and in order to see behaviors the law requires to be reported.



*All of us know that schools remain the safest place for a child to be. But we should always remember that they are not automatically safe, but they are safe because of the vigilance of the people charged with making them so. Through educators' daily efforts, their willingness to be trained and go the extra mile, children are provided an environment where they can learn and thrive absent fear of many of the dangers that typically surround them. We must continue to commit the resources necessary to make them safe.*

Wayne Young, Executive Director, Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA)

# 2008 Safe Schools-Successful Students Conference

For the last 14 years, the “Safe Schools - Successful Students” Conference has been sponsored by the Kentucky Center for School Safety and the Kentucky School Boards Association, in collaboration with the Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Drug Control Policy, the Kentucky Center for Instructional Discipline



and the Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children.

This conference brings together authorities in school safety to present on topics such as cyber-bullying, drugs, school shootings, underage drinking, natural disasters, etc. As educators and school boards across the nation continue to seek inspiration to create tools and plans to improve school safety, this conference provides an opportunity for both.



*As the community’s elected representatives to oversee their public schools, school board members understand that they are responsible for protecting their fellow citizens’ most precious resource-their children. So its not surprising that school safety is consistently one of the two top priorities identified by Kentucky’s school boards. (The other being student achievement.) It was precisely this concern that led KSBA, back in 1998, to be one of the major advocates for the passage of HB 330 which among other things established the Kentucky Center for School.*

**Bill Scott, Executive Director, Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA)**

**The 2008 conference featured as its key speakers:**



**Darrell Scott**, father of Rachel Scott who was the first victim of the Columbine tragedy. As he has done with more than 10 million people in venues around the world, Darrell shared powerful challenges that he has taken from Rachel’s life that are making schools safer even today.

**Guy Doud**, the 1986 National Teacher of the Year, refers to teachers as “Molders of Dreams”. He related to the diverse audience how all adults, particularly teachers, contribute to a child’s growth and development. He shared his personal story of growing up in a dysfunctional home where school was an oasis of sanity.



**Steve Sroka**, president of Health Education Consultants, presented a message filled with a sense of hope and joy. He relayed that with education, helping one another and self confidence, schools, communities and lives can be changed.



# Schools and Communities Training (Kentucky School Boards Association)

The KCSS and KSBA continue their collaborative efforts to identify and coordinate priority-training needs for Kentucky schools and communities. Their partnership reflects best practice training opportunities for school administrators, law enforcement officers, board members, students, parents and other community representatives.

## WHAT DO WE PROVIDE TO INCREASE THE SAFETY NEEDS OF KENTUCKY EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS?

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Over  
**7,600**  
Participants

- Alternative Education
- Bus Behavior Management Skills
- Internet Safety
- Bullying Prevention
- Substance Abuse Recognition/Prevention
- Emergency Management Planning
- Leadership Skills Training
- Effective Communication Skills
- Positive School Culture and Climate
- Classified Staff Training
- Physical Plant Management
- Student Threat Assessments

### STATE & REGIONAL TRAININGS

Over  
**450**  
Participants

- Emergency Management Planning
- Bullying Prevention
- Bus Behavior Management Skills
- Developing and Effective School Resource Officer Program
- Internet Safety
- Safe Schools – Successful Students Conference
- KY Classified Staff Institute

### COLLABORATIVE PARTNER TRAININGS

Over  
**540**  
Participants

- Kentucky Department of Education
- Kentuckians Encouraging Youth
- Eastern Kentucky University's College of Justice and Safety
- Office of Family Resource Youth Service Center
- KY Center for Instructional Discipline
- Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children
- Kentucky Parent Teacher Association
- South Central Counseling Association
- Northern Ky Counseling Association
- South Central Educational Cooperation
- Kentucky Child Now!
- Ky Counselor Association
- Kentucky Attorney General's Office
- Ky Association of Student Councils
- National Dropout Prevention Network
- Ky Homeland Security Office
- Ky Association of Superintendents Administrative Assistants
- Ky School of Drugs and Alcohol
- Ky Association of School Social Worker
- Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children
- Ky Office of Drug Control Policy to administer the "Too Good for Drugs" grant to 22 eastern Kentucky school districts serving over 90 elementary schools

# Safe Schools

## The Web...

This year has brought a redesign of the resource rich, user-friendly website which has broadened our scope and capacity to virtually reach an exponentially larger audience of local, regional, state, and international school safety stakeholders. With tab dividers covering emergency management, resources, trainings, handouts, assessments, university resources and pages on school safety issues such as; bullying, Internet safety, suicide, classroom management, drug abuse and conflict resolution, the site thoroughly and systematically covers items of interest and addresses immediate needs. The availability of accurate, concise and current information is vital to the successful operation of a school system. Therefore, we are committed to providing quality materials to enhance your schools' programs and environment. Visit the website at [www.kysafeschools.org](http://www.kysafeschools.org).



## Safe Schools Week...

The week of October 19th, 2008 was set aside for "Kentucky Safe Schools Week". During this week, schools across the commonwealth participate in school safety initiatives and programs to bring awareness to their communities. This year with the passing of the "Bullying Bill", an Online Pledge Against Bullying went live on the KCSS website. Over 20,000 pledges were tallied with five counties logging over 1,000 pledges. A media/art contest was held and daily curricula were distributed through the web. Five basic themes were covered in the curriculum: 1) Disasters, Drills and Awareness, 2) Curriculum, Counseling and Relationships, 3) Environment, Culture and Climate, 4) Partnerships, Support and Policies, 5) Pledge, Commit and Continue.



## The Guide...

Through collaboration with various response agencies the Emergency Management Resource Guide (EMRG) of 2001, has been revised and updated using an "all hazards approach." The four phases of emergency management; Prevention/Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery, play a unique role in the crisis planning process. The guide is intended to be a template for schools to customize to their specific school needs and not a "cookie cutter crisis plan" for all to adopt "as is". An interactive CD of the EMRG was also developed to accompany the guide and a



*Quick Reference Guide Flipchart* allows for easy access to the emergency protocols. Each school specific plan should be reviewed annually and tested to ensure effectiveness during an emergency.

## Display/Resources...

The resource center provides e-lets, brochures, handouts, flyers and research materials that answer specific questions as the need arises. Thousands of these resources are disseminated at KCSS exhibitions during conferences throughout the year. They are also found online in a reproducible format.

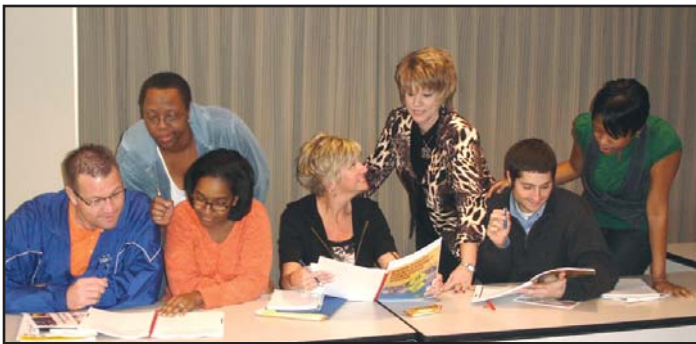


# Resource Center

## Post Secondary...

While education is still the primary function of this nation's schools, the past decade has brought to light the need for increased educator training in school safety and emergency management. No longer can higher education institutions focus solely on content, delivery and assessment. Programming must include cutting-edge educator training practices that promote students' safety and welfare which supersede all other educator responsibilities. Research and re-evaluation are ongoing to continually encourage and support quality pre-service programs at each of the Commonwealth's teacher education institutions.

The Kentucky Center for School Safety's Post Secondary Component works directly with Post-Secondary Task Force members, who are representatives from each of our state's teacher preparation colleges and universities. The ultimate goal of this collaboration is to equip educators with the practical information and safety strategies needed to foster safe, healthy school environments. Through the use of a dynamic multi-functional website, materials are shared and developed to support our sister universities.



Murray State University continues to offer a "Kentucky School Safety Educator Endorsement" and the staff of KCSS continues to work with other universities to establish this endorsement at other institutions. The endorsement is designed to prepare certified P-12 educators and school administrators to promote and maintain a positive, safe and healthy school culture which promotes academic achievement.

Supplementary services provided by the Murray staff include workshops and presentations on various topics throughout the state such as cyber-bullying, emergency management, suicide prevention, crisis communications, crisis planning and Internet safety.

## Resource Center Highlights for 2008

- Redesigned KCSS website had an average of 8,294 "hits" daily, with 2,803 average pageviews per day (This includes summer and weekends.)
- Designed, edited, published and disseminated over 550 new Emergency Management Resource Guides. Developed the interactive coordinating CD and label. Copied and distributed over 1,000 to Post Secondary staff and students, school personnel, and various other school safety stakeholders during presentations and at the KCSS display while exhibiting at conferences. Designed and compiled 30 Quick Reference Flipcharts to align with the EMRG
- Presented to over 3,300 educators, administrators and students across the Commonwealth on various topics including: Internet safety, cyber-bullying, Crisis Management, Lockdowns, Roles and Responsibilities in a Crisis, Climate and Culture of a School, Crisis Communications, Parent Communications
- Exhibited using the KCSS display to over 9,945 attendees at ten conferences during the year
- Provided services to 28 higher education teaching institutions and renewed task force commitments
- Presented at conferences and university classes across Kentucky on school safety related topics, including student teachers as they embarked on their teaching assignments
- Held Post Secondary Session at the Safe Schools Conference and provided information to Council on Post-Secondary Education (CPE) initiative Internet2, University of Louisville's Online Bullying Survey, Safe Schools Week Plans and Emergency Management Materials
- Taught ADM 677 Crisis Management in School Settings Course as a requirement of the Safe School Endorsement



# KCSS In Action

For more detailed information, please visit our website at [www.kysafeschools.org](http://www.kysafeschools.org) Click on Annual Report Appendices.

Appendices Include:

- KCSS Board of Directors
- Quarterly Reports
- Safe Schools Funding Distribution List
- 2008 Safe Schools Data Report
- Parent Aggression Study
- School Safety Endorsement Standards
- Safe School Assessment Program
- House Bill 330
- 2008 Superintendent Survey
- 2008 Superintendent and Principal Safe School Assessment Survey



KENTUCKY CENTER FOR SCHOOL SAFETY



Kentucky Center for School Safety  
 Eastern Kentucky University  
 105 Stratton Building  
 521 Lancaster Avenue  
 Richmond, KY 40475-3102  
 Toll-Free 1-877-805-4277  
[www.kysafeschools.org](http://www.kysafeschools.org)



*The Annual Report was written and produced by Kentucky Center for School Safety staff.*