

2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 2021 • FINAL



OFFICE OF THE STATE
SCHOOL SECURITY MARSHAL

DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING



The School Safety and Resiliency Act (SSRA) was signed into law in March 2019, mandating that school districts across Kentucky be held accountable for the safety and security of the commonwealth's students and staff. The SSRA requires that a recorded school risk assessment be completed by the end of the 2020-2021 school year. However, it could not anticipate a global pandemic that would drastically affect the daily operations of schools nationwide.

This past year, Kentucky's school districts rose to an unprecedented challenge and excelled at protecting the state's students and staff, including meeting many new trials imposed by COVID-19. Despite virtual learning, wearing face masks and implementing six feet of separation, the school risk assessment contained in this report shows that the commonwealth's school districts are working hard to comply with all mandates set forth by the SSRA. School districts in every part of the state are actively seeking and implementing innovative ideas to ensure all students and teachers can learn and work in a safe and healthy environment.

The Office of the State School Security Marshal (OSSSM), within the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training, is committed to maintaining a safe school environment for Kentucky's children to learn and thrive. Created by the SSRA, the office provides state-mandated security compliance throughout the commonwealth's 120 counties. The SSRA also mandated the production of this annual report summarizing risk assessment findings.

The SSRA remains relatively new, and these mandates will take time to fully implement. While the past two years have brought strong growth to the educational setting through the mandates issued by SSRA, progressive advancements remain on the horizon to be executed. In response to the issues currently being tackled by Kentucky's schools on a routine basis, OSSSM recommends additional school resource officers be added to the school districts to better patrol the facilities and that extra mental health professionals are needed to sufficiently assist the thousands of children who will be charged with leading our state into the future. OSSSM presents this annual report to demonstrate that school districts are on the right track and working toward creating the safest and most secure learning environment possible. We look forward to continuing our partnerships with our educational heroes as we create a better Kentucky.

Sincerely,



Ben Wilcox
State School Security Marshal



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The following responses were collected by OSSSM regional compliance officers conducting the risk assessment mandated by the School Safety & Resiliency Act for the 2020-21 school year. The individual school risk assessments are protected from open records requests.

This report is a summary of these findings.



SECTION 1:

ACCESS CONTROL REQUIREMENT, NEW BUILDING/EXPANSION APPROVAL

(KRS158.162(3)(D))

1.1 - ALL VISITORS ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE MAIN OFFICE UPON ENTRY.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,293	99.54%
NO	6	0.46%

1.2 - UPON REPORTING, ALL VISITORS MUST PROVIDE VALID IDENTIFICATION.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,272	97.92%
NO	27	2.08%

1.3 - ALL VISITORS ARE REQUIRED TO STATE THE PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,282	98.69%
NO	17	1.31%

1.4 - A VISIBLE “VISITOR’S BADGE” IS REQUIRED TO BE DISPLAYED AT ALL TIMES.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,257	96.77%
NO	42	3.23%



1.5 - THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE SCHOOL IS EQUIPPED WITH ELECTRONICALLY LOCKING DOORS.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,288	99.15%
NO	11	0.85%

1.6 - THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE SCHOOL IS EQUIPPED WITH A CAMERA(S).

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,281	98.61%
NO	18	1.39%

1.7 - THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE SCHOOL IS EQUIPPED WITH AN INTERCOM SYSTEM(S).

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,255	96.61%
NO	44	3.39%

1.8 - THE SCHOOL CONTROLS ACCESS TO ALL EXTERIOR DOORS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,247	96.00%
NO	52	4.00%

1.9 - CLASSROOM DOORS ARE EQUIPPED WITH HARDWARE THAT ALLOW THE DOOR TO BE LOCKED FROM THE OUTSIDE BUT OPENED FROM THE INSIDE.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,229	94.61%
NO	70	5.39%



1.10 - CLASSROOM DOORS REMAIN CLOSED AND LOCKED DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,201	92.46%
NO	98	7.54%

1.11 - CLASSROOM DOORS WITH WINDOWS ARE EQUIPPED WITH MATERIAL TO QUICKLY COVER THE WINDOW DURING A BUILDING LOCKDOWN.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,166	89.76%
NO	133	10.24%



SECTION 2: NECESSARY SAFETY AND SECURITY PROCESSES

(NOT RELATED TO NEW BUILDING/EXPANSION APPROVAL)

2.1 - A SCHOOL SAFETY AND THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAM IS IN PLACE.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,293	99.54%
NO	6	0.46%

2.2 - AN EMERGENCY PLAN IS IN PLACE FOR THE SCHOOL TO FOLLOW.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,299	100.00%
NO	0	0%

2.3 - THE EMERGENCY PLAN WAS REVIEWED BY THE SCHOOL COUNCIL, THE PRINCIPAL AND FIRST RESPONDERS DURING THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,279	98.46%
NO	20	1.54%

2.4 - ALL ROOMS HAVE AN ESTABLISHED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EVACUATION ROUTE.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,258	96.84%
NO	41	3.16%



2.5 - THESE ROUTES ARE PROMINENTLY POSTED IN EACH ROOM BY EVACUATION DOORWAYS.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,210	93.15%
NO	89	6.85%

2.6 - THE BEST AVAILABLE SEVERE WEATHER SAFE ZONES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,287	99.08%
NO	12	0.92%

2.7 - THESE WEATHER SAFE ZONE LOCATIONS ARE PROMINENTLY POSTED IN EACH ROOM.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,213	93.38%
NO	86	6.62%

2.8 - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ARE IN PLACE FOR AN ALL HAZARDS APPROACH, INCLUDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILLS FOR HOSTAGE, ACTIVE SHOOTER AND BUILDING LOCKDOWN SITUATIONS.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,297	99.85%
NO	2	0.15%

2.9 - THESE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WERE FORMULATED WITH APPROPRIATE PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES INPUT, TO INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO FIRE, POLICE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,296	99.77%
NO	3	0.23%



2.10 - SCHOOL HAS ENSURED THAT PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES HAVE TOURED THE SCHOOL TO REVIEW POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO SAFETY AND SECURITY THIS SCHOOL YEAR.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,127	86.76%
NO	172	13.24%

2.11 - THE PRINCIPAL HAS RECEIVED TRAINING ON PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETION OF THE SCHOOL SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,277	98.31%
NO	22	1.69%

2.12 - THE PRINCIPAL HAS PROVIDED WRITTEN NOTICE WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE FIRST INSTRUCTIONAL DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, TO ALL STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND GUARDIANS, OF THE PROVISIONS OF KRS 508.078 AND POTENTIAL PENALTIES UNDER KRS 532.060 AND 534.030.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,289	99.23%
NO	10	0.77%

2.13 - THE SCHOOL ADOPTED A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO EDUCATION.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,287	99.08%
NO	12	0.92%

2.14 - A CERTIFIED SCHOOL COUNSELOR IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,191	91.69%
NO	108	8.31%



2.15 - THE DISTRICT MEETS THE GOAL OF ONE SCHOOL COUNSELOR/SCHOOL BASED MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER, WHO IS EMPLOYED BY THE DISTRICT, PER 250 STUDENTS.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	544	41.88%
NO	755	58.12%

**The statewide ratio of mental health providers to students is 1:328. The goal is 1:250.*

2.16 - THE SCHOOL CURRENTLY HAS A TRAUMA-INFORMED TEAM.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,259	96.92%
NO	40	3.08%

2.17 - THE COUNSELOR DOCUMENTS TIME SPENT WITH STUDENTS.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,230	94.69%
NO	69	5.31%

2.18 - PRIOR TO THE FIRST INSTRUCTIONAL DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, THE PRINCIPAL'S DESIGNEE DISCUSSED AND DOCUMENTED THE EMERGENCY PLAN WITH ALL SCHOOL PERSONNEL.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,297	99.85%
NO	2	0.15%

2.19 - ALL EMPLOYEES, THAT HAVE JOB DUTIES REQUIRING DIRECT CONTACT WITH STUDENTS, HAVE ATTENDED A MINIMUM ONE-HOUR HIGH QUALITY SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	823	63.36%
NO	0	0%
N/A	476	36.64%



2.20 - STAFF MEMBERS HIRED AFTER THE INITIAL SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING ARE PROVIDED PREVENTION MATERIALS.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	816	62.82%
NO	3	0.23%
N/A	480	36.95%

2.21 - ALL SCHOOL EMPLOYEES, WITH JOB DUTIES REQUIRING DIRECT CONTACT WITH STUDENTS, ATTENDED A MINIMUM ONE-HOUR TRAINING ON HOW TO RESPOND TO AN ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATION DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,296	99.77%
NO	3	0.23%

2.22 - THE DISTRICT PROVIDES TRAINING TO SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS ON SUICIDE PREVENTION, ACTIVE SHOOTER, AND EMERGENCY PLAN FAMILIARIZATION.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,274	98.08%
NO	25	1.92%

2.23 - THE 24-HOUR STATEWIDE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE NUMBER 1-877-597-2331 IS PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED IN THE SCHOOL.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,253	96.46%
NO	46	3.54%



2.24 - THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING REPORTING HOTLINE NUMBER 1-888-373-7888 IS PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED IN THE SCHOOL.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	1,248	96.07%
NO	51	3.93%

2.25 - THE SCHOOL CURRENTLY HAS AN ASSIGNED SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER(S) PURSUANT TO STATE LAW.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	558	42.96%
NO	741	57.04%

2.26 - THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER(S) HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED, OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETING, REQUIRED PHASES OF KLEC APPROVED SRO CERTIFICATION TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	640	
NO		

**More officers completed SRO training in 2020-21 than are employed full-time. The 640 statistic includes part-time SRO's.*



SAFETY AND SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2021-2022

- Continue work toward 100% compliance with School Safety and Resiliency Act mandates.
- Continue work toward the goal of one Mental Health Professional for every 250 students, as funds and personnel become available.
- Continue work toward assigning a full-time, certified School Resource Officer to every campus where one (1) or more school buildings are used to deliver instruction to students on a continual basis.
- Foster a school climate where students and staff affirm the importance of controlling access to exterior doors as well as closing and locking classroom doors during instructional time.
- Complete all renovations and building projects to equip classroom doors with hardware allowing doors to be locked from the outside but opened from the inside.
- Complete all renovations and building projects to ensure the school's main entrance is equipped with electronically locking doors, video camera and an intercom system.
- Ensure all classroom doors with windows are equipped with blackout material to safely cover the windows during a building lockdown.
- Work toward training all front office staff to properly use security features such as the electronically locking door, camera and intercom systems. Staff should also be trained on the proper way to check-in a visitor, ensure proper ID is shown, and learn the reason for the visit.



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