



If You HEAR or SEE Something, You MUST SAY Something

S.T.O.P.! TIPLINE

Visit
your School's
Website

CLICK ON:



CALL OR
SEND A TEXT

866-EYE-on KY
(866-393-6659)

Fill Out an Online Form
BY SCANNING QR CODE



Use the S.T.O.P. Tipline to report:
Bullying, abuse, feeling sad or depressed,
threats of violence or concerning behavior

You can make an anonymous report



KCSS
KENTUCKY CENTER
for SCHOOL SAFETY

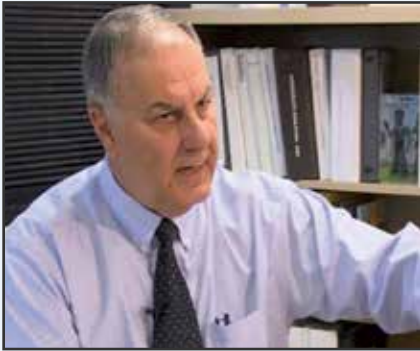


EVERYONE is essential to maintaining School Safety

Reflections

*from our
Executive Director*

As we have closed out another school year in Kentucky, I see that the vast majority of our school districts are making consistent progress in the enhancement of their schools' overall safety levels. To do this is no easy task as safety plans must frequently be adjusted in order to ensure alignment with the latest behavioral and societal trends in each respective school community. Yet, we at KCSS are seeing the strides being made in this regard throughout the state. For these herculean efforts, school officials and their staffs should be highly commended.



However, having said that, I believe that more progress could be made in school safety in Kentucky, but the schools most assuredly cannot do it alone. Simply put, school staffs need more help from outside the physical doors of the schools. They need to see and feel that there is a powerful, concerted force working with them and pulling in the same direction as they are to send the same moral and resounding message about behavior to their students. Indeed, in my view, the need is now greater than ever.

It is fair to ask why I perceive the need for such help has now reached critical heights. To that probable inquiry, I am most eager to respond. It is because each school year I see an increasing and disturbing number of complex challenges related to student behavior being laid at the front doors of our schools, with the expectation that educators can "fix" all of them, while still educating our kids at the high levels being routinely set for

instruction and learning. Whether they are mental health related issues, bullying, cyber-bullying, defiance, political issues, terroristic threats, police-involved student group activity outside of the school, belligerent parents, or etc., school staffs are being forced to address them. And, unfortunately, it is frequently without much (if any) support from some parents, courts, or even school boards to confront a glaring underlying problem, which I see as an inconsistent message being conveyed to our children from myriad sources in many ways about basic proper conduct.

I contend that in order to begin to get at this root problem, we should inundate our parents (families), juvenile courts, local governments, faith-based institutions, PTAs, Boards of Education, Chambers of Commerce, neighborhood groups, etc., with an appeal to join the schools by using their respective roles to teach our kids about the power of respect, accountability, and the general standards of common decency. Upstanding citizens know that these elements are fundamental in life in order to attain even a modicum of success in all levels of society. Therefore, in my view, the encompassing message should be, "Embrace the Golden Rule: Treat others as you would like to be treated." Indeed, make it the thread that binds us because, for too long, schools have only subtly appealed to these groups for their support on this front. Now, I assert, the time has come for educators to boldly request it in unison.



Realistically, I know that total cooperation will not be achieved. Still, an ongoing, concerted campaign by our school communities to teach common standards of behavior and character could make a positive impact on many of our students and, by extension, school safety. Imagine that such an effort could result in handsome rewards and benefit the entire community.

To some, such a proposal as this may sound like "a bridge too far;" however, I see it as a "call to action" to corporately undertake a strategy to support our students and educators while at the same time aggressively addressing school safety. So, in closing, my message is that we are doing relatively well on the school safety front, but we could make an even deeper impact if we make asking for help a corporate project in our school districts.

Have a wonderful summer and always remember that I am just a phone call, e-mail, or text away if you believe I can help, day or night.

KCSS Staff at EKU



Barbara Gateskill
Associate Director



Tiffany Hardin
Finance & Budget Analyst

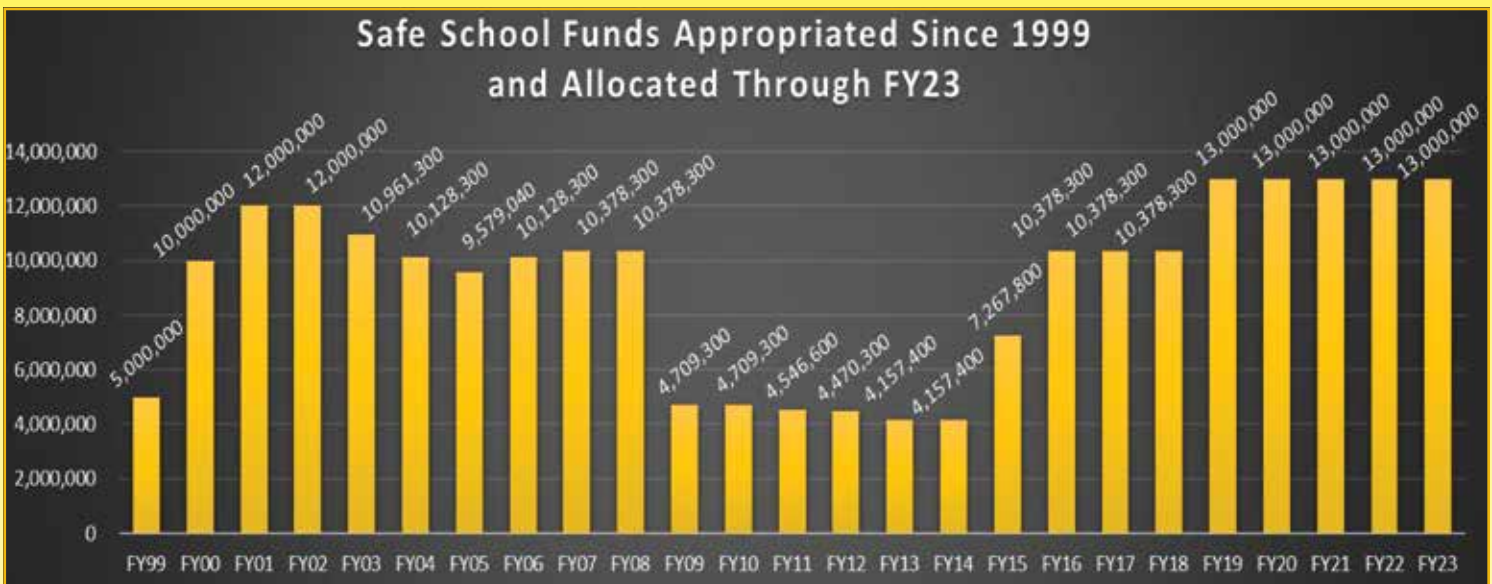
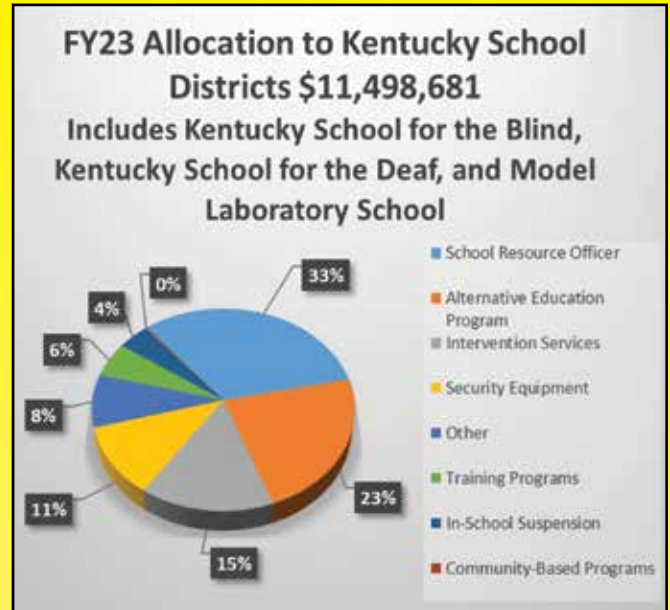
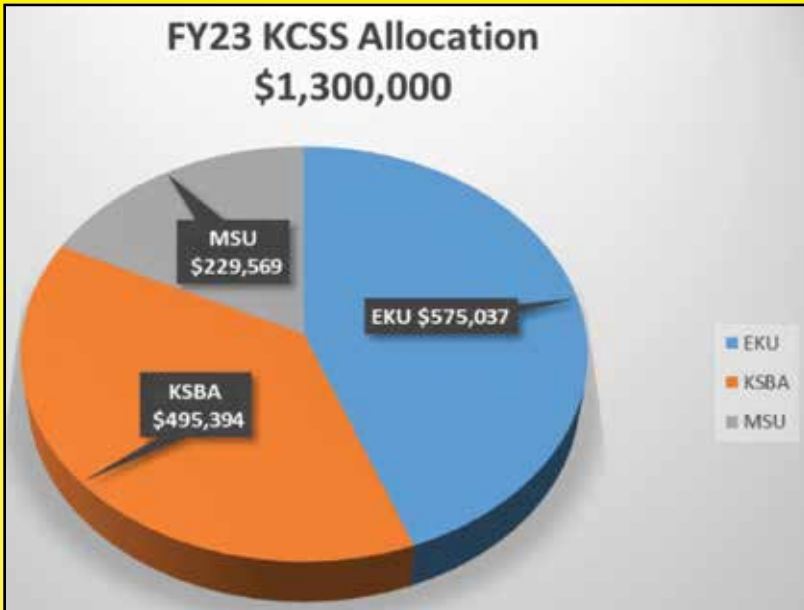


Morgan Wilson
Program Coordinator



Lee Ann Morrison
Research Analyst

Safe School Funds



BREAKDOWN OF SAFE SCHOOL FUNDS

The KY General Assembly has appropriated more than \$230 million through the Kentucky Department of Education to support safe school efforts since 1999. In 2022, under House Bill 1, the KY General Assembly passed a two year appropriation of \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2022-2024. Funding is used by Kentucky school districts for safe school programs and services, and approximately 10% is retained for the Kentucky Center for School Safety operations. Each school district receives a base allotment of \$20,000 in addition to a per pupil amount \$13.15 based on the district's Average Daily Attendance (ADA).

Kentucky Center for School Safety

Foundation

With the passage of House Bill 330, the Kentucky General Assembly established the Kentucky Center for School Safety on April 10, 1998, publishing the following statement:

The General Assembly hereby authorizes the establishment of the Center for School Safety. The center's mission shall be to serve as the central point for data analysis; research; dissemination of information about successful school safety programs, research results, and new programs; and, in collaboration with the Department of Education and others, to provide technical assistance for safe schools.



Located on the campus of Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in Richmond, Ky, KCSS frequently works in conjunction with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), the Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA), and the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security (KOHS) on projects in support of the state's K-12 schools. Three of its principal partners are the Office of the State School Security Marshal in EKU's Department of Criminal Justice Training (DOCJT), the Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) and Murray State University.

KCSS is guided in its work by a 15-member Board of Directors, each of whom is appointed by the Governor (KRS 158.441). In March of 2023, the terms of the previous KCSS Executive Board expired. A new board has now been appointed; however, KCSS would like to express its sincere appreciation to each of the former members whose dedication on the board to Kentucky's schools was truly unsurpassed. Those members were:

- Kelly Foster (Designee)
(Department of Education)
- Eric Friedlander, Secretary
(Cabinet for Health & Family Services)
- Melissa Goins (Designee)
(Cabinet for Health & Family Services)
- Vestena Robbins (Designee)
(Department for Behavioral Health)
- Nicolai Jilek
(Commissioner, Criminal Justice Training)
- Josh Keats, Executive Director
(KY Office of Homeland Security)
- William Todd Kelley
(KY League of Cities)
- Denise Bailey Adams
(KY School Boards Association)
- Cheryl Beth Dimar
(KY Parent Teacher Association)
- Taylora Schlosser
(KY Association of School Superintendents)
- James Frederick Poynter
(KY Association of School Resource Officers)
- Patricia Ann Glass
(KY School Nurses Association)
- Michelle Lynne Antle
(KY Association for Psychology in Schools)
- Amy Deniece Riley
(KY School Counselor Association)
- Stephanie Ives
(KY Education Association)
- Col. Phillip Burnett, Jr.
(Commissioner, Department of KY State Police)



School Safety (KCSS)

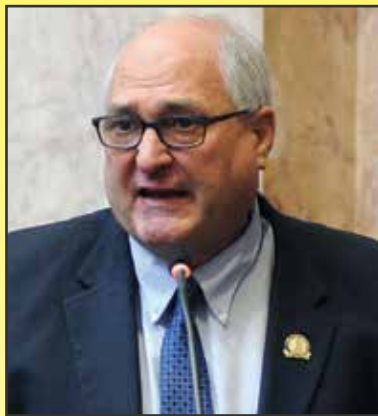
Kentucky General Assembly Support

Since the inception of KCSS, the General Assembly has made K-12 school safety a legislative priority in Kentucky. Due to the proactive steps that have been taken by our state's legislators and the budgets they have provided to support those steps, KCSS is frequently consulted by Safety Centers and school leaders across the nation for information on actions they might consider taking to urge their state governments to enact safety legislation similar to that passed in Kentucky. We commend our General Assembly for continuing to provide Kentucky's schools with the necessary support to remain on the cutting edge of school safety throughout the state.

In this year's Annual Report, we recognize Senate Education Committee Chair Stephen West and House Education Committee Chair James Tipton.



"Ensuring our schools are safe is a basic and fundamental responsibility that falls upon each and every Kentuckian. After all, if a student, teacher, or staff member is concerned about their safety, a school can't begin to meet its educational mission. Unfortunately, this task has grown more difficult as we continue to see increasing violence within our schools and schools across the nation become targets. We made great strides at increasing safety when we passed the School Safety Act in 2019, legislation that included provisions that make our schools safer but also aim to help identify and provide services to those at-risk of perpetrating a violent act. The measure has become a model for other states. However, the work is far from over and continues this year through the Kentucky General Assembly's newly appointed Task Force on School and Campus Safety."



Representative James A. Tipton

"Not only do teachers and students have a right to be safe in schools, when they feel safe, it creates an environment that best enables teaching and learning. As legislators, and especially as the Senate Education Committee chair, school safety is paramount to nearly every other issue in my purview. Between allocating funds to school districts, establishing a framework for recruiting and training school resource officers, creating guidance for hardening our campuses, implementing school mental health strategies and establishing the Center for School Safety to oversee implementation of policy, Kentucky has led on this issue and is looked to as a model for addressing and creating a comprehensive school safety strategy."

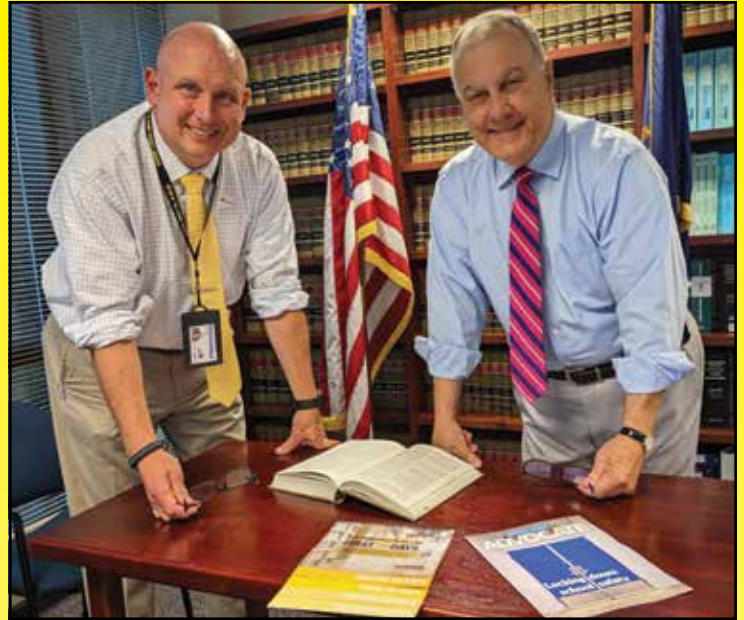


Senator Stephen West

On June 16, 2022, shortly after the Uvalde tragedy, Kentucky Senators Mike Wilson, Max Wise and Danny Carroll wrote an op-ed for the *Lexington Herald Leader* where they emphasized the enormous efforts the General Assembly has made toward school safety by stating, in part:

"We in the Kentucky General Assembly have made a concerted effort to pass effective school safety legislation. We invited all stakeholders to the table and met with local law enforcement, leaders, teachers, and parents to receive input. The Kentucky school safety model is one the entire nation can look to as a blueprint. As a matter of fact, other states consistently reach out to us to ask how we were able to successfully collaborate."

Although each has designated, individual responsibilities as defined by the state legislature, Ben Wilcox and Jon Akers now find that some of their goals can be even more effectively achieved when they work as a team. Since the passage of SB1 (School Safety and Resiliency Act) in 2019, the KCSS Executive Director and the State School Security Marshal, respectively, have continually collaborated to support Kentucky's K-12 schools in implementing all mandated safety measures, as well as to assist them on numerous other district-specific safety matters. Their work often includes promoting and detailing proven programs and strategies to enhance school safety, such as the S.T.O.P.! Tipline and Handle with Care. Additionally, much of their concerted effort involves working, alongside others, to advise and keep updated the districts' school safety coordinators, state legislators, numerous school-supporting agencies, as well as media outlets across the state. It is truly a team effort.



Illustrated on this page and the next is just a sampling of their collaborative efforts across Kentucky as they have been highlighted by media outlets, and the websites of KCSS (www.kcss.org) and OSSSM (www.docjt.ky.gov/state-school-security-marshal).



11-22-21 – Although not mandated under the law, the Kentucky State School Security Marshal's Office (under DOCJT) and KCSS have strongly encouraged state law enforcement agencies and all school districts to implement Handle with Care (HWC). Using this program, adapted from one in West Virginia, law enforcement officers at the scene of a crime or accident identify children who have been exposed to trauma and notify the child's school. Alerting a child's school gives the school staff information often needed for them to lend extra support to him/her during a traumatic period in their lives.

Jon Akers stated, "Ben Wilcox and I have been sharing information about the "Handle with Care" partnership between local law enforcement agencies and school district officials all over the state for the past two years."



06-02-2022 – In light of the recent mass shooting at a Texas elementary school, Renee Shaw talks with Jon Akers, executive director of the Kentucky Center for School Safety and State School Security Marshal Ben Wilcox about school safety policies and procedures currently expected of Kentucky schools to help keep teachers, staff, and students safe while in school.



Experts say Kentucky schools are safer now than in the past

07-13-2022 – "What I liked about the school safety resiliency law, is that you took two words out of it. 'Should' and the 'may' and you put the word 'shall' in there," said Director of the Center for School Safety Jon Akers. State School Security Marshal Ben Wilcox said the state's fourth risk assessment of the year was just completed, and he said the goal is 100% compliance with standards set by lawmakers. "Let me ask you this question, 'do you feel safer now than three years ago?' By numbers, we are," said Wilcox.

School Safety

and Kentucky Center for School Safety



07-15-2022 – Legislators Updated on School Safety: While inspections show that efforts to protect Kentucky schools are working, education experts testified before the Interim Joint Committee on Education on Friday to discuss the next steps. State School Safety Marshal Ben Wilcox and Kentucky Center for School Safety Director Jon Akers described their collaborative efforts to implement changes from Senate Bill 1, the School Safety and Resiliency Act.



08-26-2022 – On the latest episode of Kentucky Newsmakers, WKYT's Bill Bryant talks with the Kentucky Center for School Safety Executive Director Jon Akers, State School Security Marshal Ben Wilcox, and SOAR's Chief Operating Officer Joshua Ball.

@KCSSnews 2022 –Jon Akers says the state needs about 600 more SROs to meet the requirement to have an SRO on every school campus in the state.

Ben Wilcox says nearly 100 percent of school districts have complied with mandates of SB 1 to "harden" schools, such as adding secure vestibule and locking doors. A few are doing construction this summer.



04-04-2023 – Members of the Kentucky Department of Education's Commissioner's Student Advisory Council met with Jon Akers, the

Executive Director of Kentucky Center for School Safety (KCSS), Ben Wilcox, the State School Security Marshal, and Jennifer Taylor, a School Safety Analyst for the Kentucky Office for Homeland Security to discuss the council's report on actions to increase school safety. In the report, council members made 10 suggestions, including promoting the S.T.O.P.! Tipline, improving the rate of intervention in concerning behaviors, providing mental health support, supporting gun control, improving active shooter drills and improving training for first responders. The three addressed some of the students' recommendations and how they are connected with work they are doing.



06-06-2023 – Jon Akers and Ben Wilcox, along with KCSS Training Coordinator Dan Orman and others, conduct Safe School Coordinator Update Training



State safety and security leaders speak on school safety policies and procedures

RICHMOND, Ky. 3-29-23 – Two agencies in Kentucky have the same goal, to keep schools in the Commonwealth safe. The state's school Security Marshal, Ben

Wilcox, and executive director of the Kentucky Center for School Safety, Jon Akers, work together with the state's 171 districts to keep plans in place.

Akers says, "We do training, we do research, we work with legislators on a regular basis to help us craft laws." Each school district also has a school safety coordinator and each school has resource officers when funds are available. Regular risk assessments, training, drills, and updates are also performed. Both leaders say communication between the agencies, districts, and community is vital before, during, and after an incident.

Akers says, "Anybody in the community — kids, students, anybody... if they hear or see something, say something. And that's not just a cliché here, that's the actual thing that really helps prevent these things."



Discussion of the School Safety and Resiliency Act
INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2022



Ben Wilcox, State School Security Marshal
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING

Justice and Law

As of June 2023, 685 SROs assigned to Kentucky's K-12 schools

HB63 (signed by Governor, 4/8/22) amended KRS 158. 441 to: Retain original provisions; require local school boards to ensure at least one school resource officer works full-time on-site at each school campus; provide that if sufficient funds and personnel are not available, school districts shall fulfill the requirement on a per campus basis as approved by the state school security marshal; affirm that local government agencies are not required to fund school resource officer positions.



"SROs are part of the fiber of a school community. They serve as mentors, teachers, and protectors of our students."

Jon Akers

Kentucky Center for School Safety

School Resource Officer (SRO)

Mentoring Program



The free KCSS School Resource Officer Mentoring Program is designed to pair law enforcement that have been newly assigned as a SRO with an experienced SRO who has been specially trained by KCSS and KYASRO to support a new SRO in their first years of being assigned to a school environment.

The new SRO will receive:

- One (1) in person meeting with the mentor after regular school hours.
- On an on-going basis, mentors will follow-up with mentees in virtual meetings.

Mentors will review the requirements of Senate Bill 1 and Senate Bill 8 with mentee.

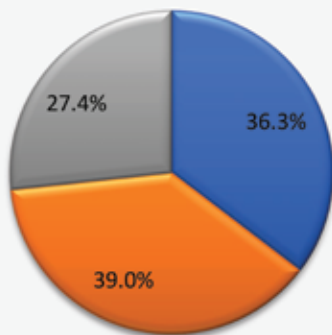
Participants will be provided networking opportunities with other new SRO via a Zoom meeting in the spring.

Mentors will discuss areas of concern with mentees upon request.

To recommend a new SRO for this free program, please email Jon Akers at jon.akers@eku.edu.

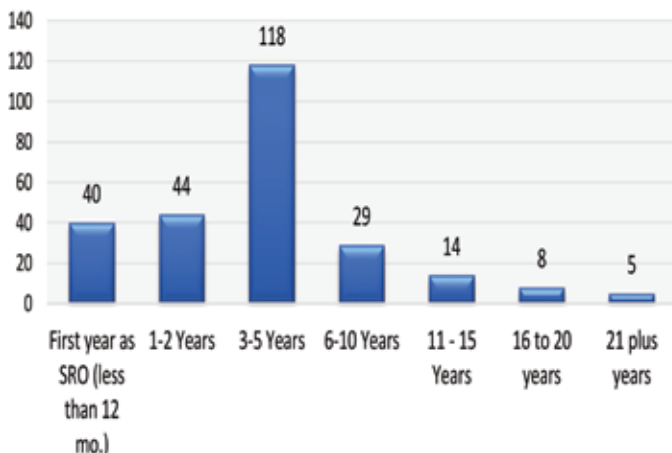
KCSS has collegial networking relationships with the Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky Association of School Administrators, the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents, the Kentucky School Boards Association, the Office of the State Security Marshal, and the Kentucky Association of School Resource Officers

Where SROs are Employed

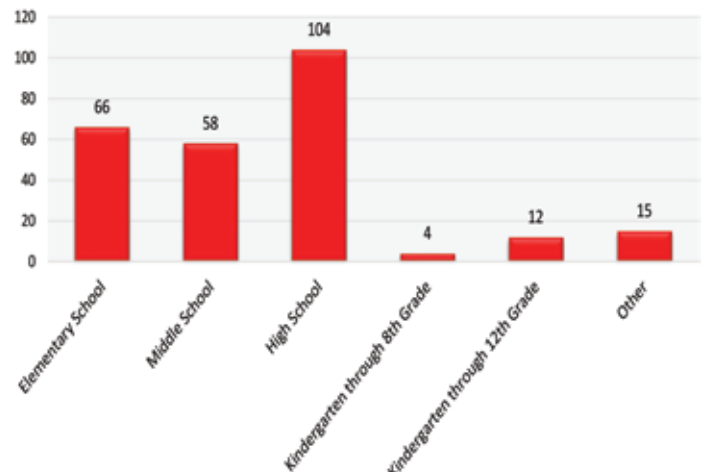


■ Sheriff's Department ■ City/County Police Department
■ School District

Years of SRO Experience



Type of School Where SRO was Assigned



Law Enforcement

Promising School Resource Officer Programs

2022-2023 Designated Competitive Award Program

KCSS, in collaboration with the Kentucky Association of School Resource Officers (KYASRO), offered a competitive award program for Kentucky SRO programs. School districts were asked to submit their SRO program to be considered as a “Kentucky SRO Promising Program,” which is a program assessed to have gone above and beyond to ensure that schools in their district maintain learning environments that are as safe and secure as they can humanly make them. In 2022, three school districts were selected. Each program demonstrates an exceptional dedication to protecting and serving the students, staffs, families and communities in their respective districts.



HARDIN COUNTY SCHOOLS
HELPING CHILDREN SUCCEED

Hardin County Schools began building their program with School Resource Officers officially in 2016, even though the district has had a collaborative working relationship with local law enforcement agencies since the early 2000s. HCS currently has 19 school campuses established. The district has 13 full-time SROs through the Sheriff’s Department and the Elizabethtown Police Department.



Anderson County Schools has had at least one SRO for the past 20 years. The current SRO program was developed as a partnership between the Anderson County Board of Education and the Anderson County Sheriff’s Office. This program has placed an SRO at every school in the Anderson County School District.



McCracken County Schools Police Department (MCPSPD) was established in 1998. In August 2022, MCPSPD became a school-based law enforcement agency under House Bill 63. The department has now been rebranded as the McCracken County Schools Campus Police. With full staffing and each campus covered, their department will grow from 8 officers to 14 in the coming years.

Safe School Assessment

The 2022-2023 school year saw the Kentucky Center for School Safety return to a full slate of safe school assessments. From the Kentucky school districts of Fulton Independent in the far west to Magoffin County in the far eastern part of the state, Gallatin County in Northern Kentucky to Allen County in the south, KCSS conducted 88 safe school assessments in 50 school districts in FY23. This program remains by far our most sought-after service as superintendents, safe school coordinators, principals, and their staffs continually seek ways to enhance the safety of their learning environments.



KCSS Consultant David Reed interviews students in Bullitt County at Pleasant Grove Elementary.



KCSS Consultant Christy Puckett interviews students at Paducah Tilghman HS. Principal Allison Stieg said, "The KCSS assessment process gives us a second set of eyes to help us see where we can improve. We're glad that they are here to show us what we can do better."



KCSS Consultant James Hardin does physical plant walkthrough at Anderson Co. MS.

Key Facts about the Safe School Assessment

- ✓ Open to all school districts as KCSS funds are made available
- ✓ No cost to school or school district
- ✓ Requests must be approved by superintendent each spring
- ✓ Perceptual surveys administered to all parents, school staff, and students (grades 4-12) of school's community approximately 4-6 weeks prior to school visit
 - ✓ Team of 6 experienced, successful educators visits school for 1 full school day
 - ✓ Comprehensive, independent review of safety practices & climate and culture of school
 - ✓ A building walkthrough to identify physical plant issues affecting safety included
 - ✓ Comprehensive document containing summary of all assessment components provided to superintendent, principal and safe schools coordinator approximately 6-8 weeks after assessment visit
 - ✓ Upon completion of comprehensive assessment report, KCSS offers to send consultant to deliver it to the superintendent/district and discuss
 - ✓ After assessment (wrap-around) services provided upon request at no cost
- ✓ Vast majority of districts requests assessments of each of their schools every 2-3 years or after a major change, such as a new principal placement
- ✓ Surveys of principals and superintendents in last decade reveal most use the service to help in developing their ongoing safety needs assessment
- ✓ To date, KCSS has conducted over 1400 safe school assessments throughout the state in 170 school districts and many private schools
- ✓ KCSS Contact for Assessments:
Barbara Gateskill - barbara.gateskill@eku.edu or (800-805-4277)

Principal Mentorship



Kem Cothran – mentor (left), Allee Adams – mentee (right), Principal of Mayfield Middle School

KCSS HELPS STRENGTHEN NEW SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

KCSS is pleased to provide the Principal Mentor Program as a cost-free service to our public schools. This is the 3rd year of a service that is being welcomed throughout the state. It is a non-evaluative program designed to support districts by assigning an experienced master principal with a first year, or inexperienced, principal. Each principal will receive an array of administrative guidance and critical up-to-date school safety information and resources.

During the 2022-23 school year, KCSS provided 15 highly trained, experienced master principals to mentor 48 new principals in effectively running their schools. Both the mentors and mentees shared information that greatly enhanced the existing program. This program is one of a kind in that the mentors have received extensive training relating to implementing the School Safety and Resiliency Act (SSRA).

CONTACT INFORMATION

In order to participate, all principals must be recommended by their superintendent.

For more information, or to recommend someone for this program, contact:

Jon Akers
KCSS Executive Director
Jon.Akers@eku.edu

Don't miss this free opportunity for your principals!



Visit the Kentucky Center for School Safety website for all of your school safety information needs.

WWW.KYCSS.ORG



On the cover:
John Crawford – mentor (left), Amy Sutter – mentee (right), Principal of Carroll County High School



Master Principals Helping New Principals

Ask For Your Copies Today!

The free KCSS Principal Mentoring Program is designed to pair new principals and/or assistant principals with an experienced administrator who has been specially trained by KCSS to support new building administrators in their first years of building leadership.



Kim Parker-Brown – mentor (left), Diana Jackson, mentee (right), Principal of Shearer Elementary

NEW PRINCIPAL?

Do you have a new principal in your district? Do you think it would be beneficial if your new principal had a seasoned, highly skilled principal to mentor him/her throughout the year? We have good news! The Kentucky Center for School Safety has initiated the Principal Mentor Program to provide that assistance to your new principal.

During the previous school year, KCSS provided fifteen highly trained, experienced mentors to forty-eight first-year principals in a specifically targeted effort to lend support to them in building leadership capacity.

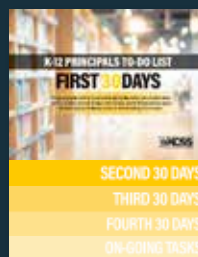
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MENTOR PROGRAM

We believe new principals need encouragement and guidance as they go through their first years of being principals. The Kentucky Center for School Safety, provides the Principal Mentor Program to districts at no cost.

To qualify to participate in this service, you must have a new principal who meets a few necessary requirements, such as:

- Be willing to meet in person and online/phone calls. NO activities are scheduled during school time, unless at the request of the principal mentee
- Be willing to share mobile phone number with the mentor to assist in quick communication
- Be willing to do a building walkthrough with their mentor
- Be willing to learn from a mentor, since this is a collegial activity
- Be willing to improve his/her effectiveness as a leader

This service is free to the district, as well as innumerable resources available from KCSS, including the "K-12 Principals To-Do List."



TESTIMONIALS



Justin Craft
LaRue Co. Middle School,
Assistant Principal

"The guidance provided by KCSS and their regional mentors has been invaluable for a brand-new administrator like me. My mentor (Kem Cothran) sends along resources and provides a listening ear as a veteran administrator for those tough scenarios that coursework and classroom experience can't prepare you for."



Lisa Farley
Raceland-Worthington Independent -
Campbell Elementary, Principal

"My mentor (Pat Downey) provided me with direction not only in the critical areas of school safety and preparedness, but in any topic that I asked her about. The principal mentorship has helped me as I navigated through school finance, developing school policies and handling SBDM questions, as well as my own personal growth as a leader."



Amy Sutter
Carroll Co. High School,
Principal

Amy was mentored by John Crawford. He said that he believes she is on her way to becoming an outstanding visionary leader.

John stated:

"Mrs. Sutter is transforming CCHS into a learning center that emphasizes internships, project-based learning, teaching real life skills and using math/science/English skills applicable to Area Technology wants and needs. She is a visionary leader that has great rapport with teachers, staff, and students. Simply put, Mrs. Sutter has CCHS on the move."

Trainings and Tec

Provided through partnership with the Ke

This collaboration is an experience of professional enrichment for both organizations. It is critical for KCSS to work directly with those who bear the responsibility of school district vision, mission and governance, as does KSBA. Inarguably, safety and security in our schools must remain the top priority and, working together, we share the various roles, responsibilities, knowledge and skills needed in our schools across the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Key Trainings in 2022-2023

- **School Safety & Resiliency Act** – Passed in 2019 and commonly known as Senate Bill 1, this powerful legislation impacts multiple statutes regarding school safety and resiliency and is the foundation of KCSS training.
- **Threat Assessment** – A team of dedicated trainings, frequently presented by Consultants Wes Cornett and Linda Tyree, to provide on-going support for districts through the implementation and maintenance of effective processes to mitigate potential school safety concerns. (As of May 30, 2023, fifty-four (54) threat assessment sessions have been conducted with 562 participants.)
- **Bullying Prevention** – Offered by several of our most experienced trainers, this training targets bullying in several areas, including cyber bullying and general internet safety.
- **Emergency Management Planning** – Based on recent professional research, these sessions help to provide districts with the tools they may need to respond to any number of threats to school safety. They also offer proven considerations districts can use to help establish working relationships with local emergency response teams.
- **Alternative Education** – This training session provides districts with effective tools to implement and maintain successful alternative school programs to better service students with varied needs in non-traditional school settings.
- **SRO Training** – In partnership with the DOCJT and KYASRO, KCSS offers a variety of trainings to help SROs build and maintain relationships within their districts and stay up to date on the latest strategies and trends.



Technical Assistance

Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA)

In 2022-2023, KCSS conducted:

- » 16 collaborative trainings with approximately 500 in attendance (conference attendance is a big contributor to this number)
- » 75 State and Regional Trainings with 375 in attendance
- » 64 Technical Assistance Presentations – 2,925 participants
- » 14 Conference Presentations – 495 participants
- » 12 Modified Safe School Physical Plant Walkthroughs
- » 54 Threat Assessment Sessions – 562 participants



October 2022 - Kentucky Center for School Safety Director Jon Akers addresses the crowd at Woodford County Middle School during a community forum on school safety.



January 2023 - Knox County resource officers and school staff were recently trained on threat assessment by KCSS Consultant Wes Cornett. "The primary objective of a student threat assessment should be providing a student with help and working to ensure positive outcomes for the student and the community," according to the 2021 Secret Service report, *Averting Targeted School Violence*.



KCSS is proud to partner with KSBA to provide training on demand for all of Kentucky's school districts. KSBA's continuing collaboration with local school boards and advocacy groups keeps KCSS abreast of policy changes, which allows both agencies, working together, to provide effective guidance and direction to schools to enhance safety across the commonwealth.

KCSS Training Coordinator Dan Orman, Administrative Assistant Alicia Lombardi and KSBA Executive Director Kerri Schelling

Resource Center

KY Safe Schools Week

This year's theme is "Create a Ripple Effect" and the focus will be on the fact that no act is ever too small to make an impact. When you create a difference in someone's life, you not only impact their life, you impact everyone influenced by them throughout their lifetime.

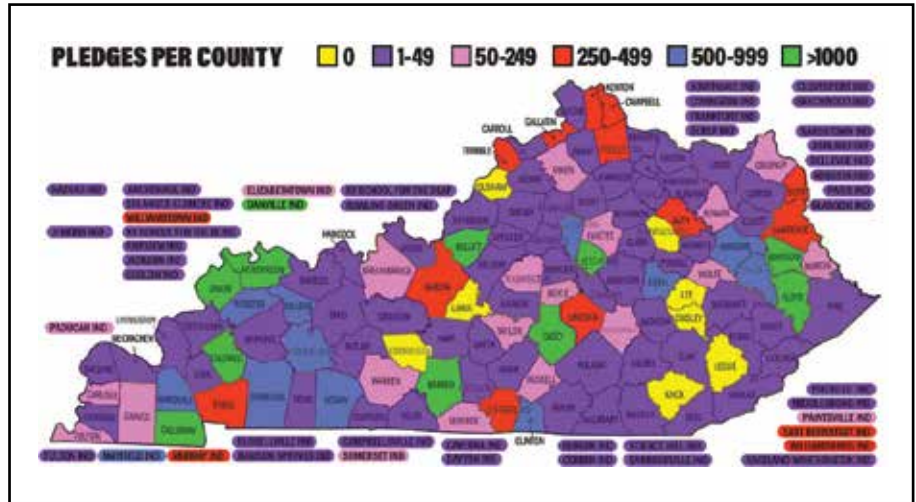
I pledge to be part of the Ripple Effect by:

- Treating others the way I want to be treated
- Saying something if I see something
- Helping others
- Being kind
- Following all school safety rules



Over 35,000 students and adults took the online pledge.

"Create a Ripple Effect" Pledge Map



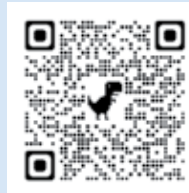
Free Safety Resources Distributed



- Over 300 Classroom Response Kits distributed to schools across the Commonwealth
- Distributed new Emergency Contact Posters
- In Total, over 27,000 pages of safety resources distributed

Request KCSS Resources Form Developed

QR Code Link to Form:



Patricia Greer, Director

KCSS Welcomes New Resource Center Director

Patricia Greer is the new director of the KCSS Resource Center including its website at kcss.org, housed at Murray State University. She has a most impressive background in education having been the Director of Pupil Personnel for Marshall County Schools, as well as principal, assistant principal and teacher at Marshall County High School from 2003-2022. She is an active member of NASSP and a founding member of the Principal Recovery Network. Under her capable and innovative leadership, along with talented Program Coordinator Elizabeth Abanathy, the KCSS Resource Center and website continue to be robust resources for school safety materials and tools to guide school administrators, teachers, and others in the development and maintenance of school plans.



Elizabeth Abanathy, Program Coordinator

KCSS Website

The KCSS website was revised and reconstructed to enhance the ease of use through a redesign. The website provides relevant tools and templates to guide school administrators and teachers in the development of safe school plans. It encompasses a wide range of safety issues from bullying to violence prevention. The website is your one-stop shop for school safety resources and professional development materials.

Introduced RESOURCES By ROLE page:

Principal

- Alternative Education
- Ask KCSS
- Back to School Safety Checklist
- Elementary School Lockdown Workbook
- Emergency Procedures
- Grants and Funding
- Handouts
- And More

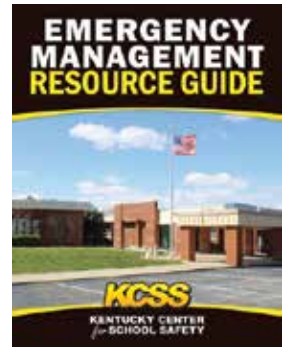
Safe Schools Coordinator

- Ask KCSS
- Back to School Safety Checklist
- Emergency Procedures
- Hotlines
- KCSS Annual Report
- KCSS Calendar
- KCSS Materials Request Form
- And More



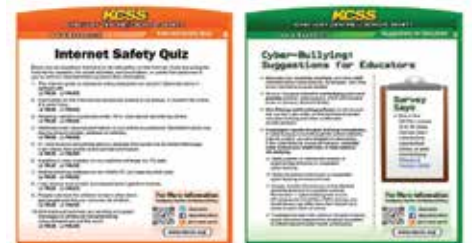
Emergency Management Resource Guide and Flipchart

The Emergency Management Resource Guide and Flipchart were revised and redesigned to provide more updated information for schools and school districts.



KCSS Informational Handouts

KCSS informational handouts were revised and redesigned to provide more updated information for schools and school districts.



FEATURED TOPICS

RESOURCES BY ROLE

SCHOOL SAFETY ISSUES

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

SAFE SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

TRAINING & COMPLIANCE

RESOURCES & RESPONDERS

REPORTS

Site Map | About | Calendar | Ask KCSS

Search...

Click on Top Navigation to Access KCSS Resources

Visit Kentucky Center for School Safety online: www.kycss.org



School Safety -

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

throughout

KENTUCKY



- it takes us all.



Kentucky Center for School Safety, Eastern Kentucky University
105 Stratton Building | 521 Lancaster Avenue | Richmond, KY 40475-3102 | Toll-Free 1-877-805-4277
The Annual Report was written and produced by Kentucky Center for School Safety staff. | For more detailed information, visit www.kysafeschools.org
All school photos in this report, with the exception of those of KCSS staff, are from a Kentucky public school.
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