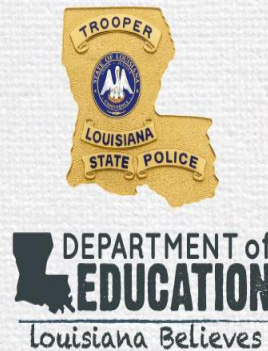




# SCHOOL SAFETY SUMMIT

JUNE 15, 2023



RAISING CANE'S RIVER CENTER | BATON ROUGE, LA



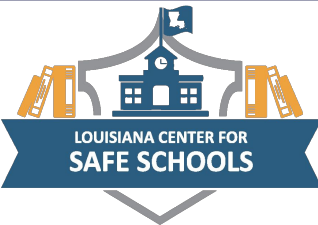




## Louisiana Center for Safe School

**Develop a comprehensive planning/training model that will ensure all stakeholders can adopt and or integrate in their current school safety plans.**

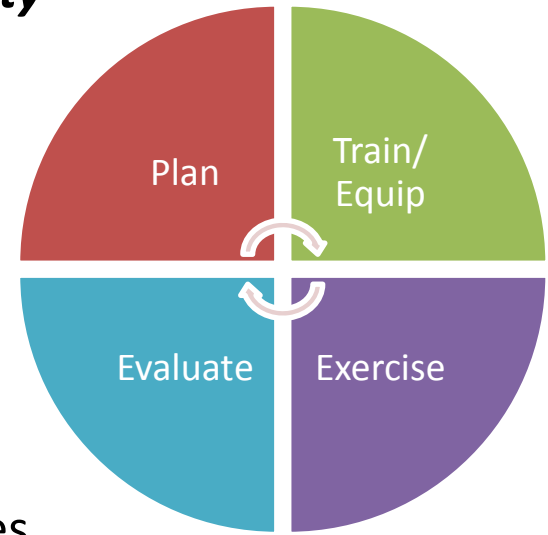
- 1) Prepare school systems to respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters at the individual, local, and state levels.
- 2) Increase intelligence, information sharing, and situational awareness capabilities.
- 3) Document, assess, and facilitate the enhancement of protective measures for schools to reduce vulnerability.
- 4) Participate in specific exercises, drills, meetings, workshops, and trainings on emergency preparedness coordination.

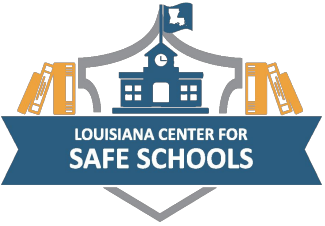


# Louisiana Center for Safe School

Department of Justice COPS School Safety Office's  
***10 Actions to Improve School Safety***

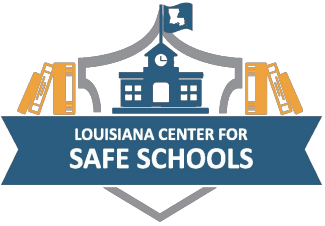
- 1) EOPs: Planning, Drills, and Exercises
- 2) Coordination with First Responders
- 3) Anonymous Reporting Systems
- 4) Threat Assessments and Mental Health Resources
- 5) School Based Law Enforcement
- 6) Improving Existing and Proposing New Legislation





## EOPs: Planning, Drills, and Exercises

- a. Develop & regularly update a comprehensive crisis or emergency operation plan addressing all hazards.
- b. Conduct regular safety drills, including lockdown drills, to familiarize students and staff with emergency procedures.
- c. Regularly assess and address physical vulnerabilities, such as broken locks inadequate lighting, or areas of the school that are difficult to monitor.
- d. Establish a clear protocol for responding to threats or incidents including a designated crisis team and communication channels
- e. Continuously evaluate and assess the effectiveness of school safety measures and adapt them as needed to address emerging threats or vulnerabilities.



## Coordinate with First Responders & School-Based Law Enforcement

- a. Establish strong relationships with local law enforcement, first responders, and support services; whole community stakeholder engagement
- b. Develop local/district threat assessment teams & allow the subject matter experts to assist in planning, training, and exercising the plan
- c. Establish a clear protocol for responding to threats or incidents, including designated crisis teams and specific communication channels.
- d. Conduct regular safety drills with the necessary responders to familiarize and drill the appropriate emergency procedures.
- e. Encourage regular presence; patrols, safety days, community events, CTE talks or job fairs, etc.





## Physical Security and Safety Screening

- a. Conduct thorough background checks on all school staff members.
- b. Implement a visitor management system that requires all visitors to check in and obtain appropriate identification.
- c. Install and maintain security cameras throughout the school premises, including entrances, hallways, and common areas.
- d. Ensure all entry points are secured with controlled access systems, such as locked doors with key cards or buzz-in systems.
- e. Enhance communication systems within the school, including emergency alert systems, intercoms, and reliable communication channels for staff members.
- f. Consider installation of metal detectors or other screening measures at entrances to detect and deter potential weapons.



# Threat Assessment and Mental Health Resources and Supports

- a. Provide ongoing training for teachers and staff on recognizing and addressing potential threats, including identifying signs of stress in students.
- b. Provide student trainings on personal safety, conflict resolution, violence prevention, and recognizing potential dangers within and outside of school.
- c. Create a culture of inclusivity and support within the school to help students feel connected and less likely to resort to violence; student-to-student and trusted adults; i.e. encourage peer-lead groups and support clubs to promote positive relationships and reduce social isolation, anonymous reporting systems for threats and online cyberbullying.
- d. Implement robust mental health support systems that include counseling services and access to qualified professionals for students needs.
- e. Foster strong community partnerships with organizations and agencies to provide additional resources and support





# Louisiana Center for Safe School

- Website: <https://lasafeschools.la.gov/>
- **Single location for resources**
- Administrators and Superintendents
- Parents and Students
- Faculty and Staff
- First Responders and Resource Officers
- Behavioral and Mental Health



LOUISIANA CENTER FOR SAFE SCHOOLS

HOME MISSION RESOURCES CONTACT


## Active Panic Button

MORE INFO

### Mission

Homeland Security starts with Hometown Security. The purpose of the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools is a virtual resource library to connect local stakeholders for emergency preparedness planning, training, execution, recovery, and reporting. The Louisiana Center for Safe Schools provides school communities and their school safety partners with quality information and resources by identifying and promoting strategies, practices, and programs that support safe schools for all as part of the total academic mission. After all, Education is the key to opportunity and advancement. And likewise, providing safe and secure learning environments are the core foundation of learning and engagement.

 Administrators and Superintendents

 Faculty and Staff



## Historical Prospective

2013

- La. R.S. 17:416.16 - Requires school **crisis management and response plans** (review, report, train, & drills)

2014

- US DOE - Grants for School Emergency Management (GSEM)
- *Louisiana School Emergency Management Program (LA SEMP)*
- Provide comprehensive program to **develop *Highly Effective School EOPs***

2015

- US DOE GSEM Continues
- Provide **training and technical assistance** for *Highly Effective School EOPs*

2018

- BJA COPS (SVPP) Grant & BJA (STOP) Grants
- Launch statewide **emergency notification** and **anonymous reporting** systems

2018

- Act 716: **threat/violence reporting** and **mandatory health evaluations**.
- Act 168: **parental notification** of violence incident or emergency situation



## Historical Prospective

2019

- **Whole-Community Stakeholder Engagement** Philosophy developed
- Act 93 **Suicide Prevention** trainings and student supports
- Act 44 **Student input** for EOPs

2020

- GOHSEP joins the **Nation School Safety Alliance** and hosts Monthly Collaborative Calls
- GOHSEP launches the **Louisiana Center for Safe Schools website** for resources; etc.

2021

- LDOE encourages LEAs to **designate** an **Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Recovery** point of contact for coordination purposes

2022

- LDOE and LSP host **Inaugural School Safety Summit**
- HR 208 requests public school principals to conduct quarterly drills for active shooter

2022

- HR 218 requests a **Study on school safety & security issues** by LDOE
- HR 236 creates a **Special Study Committee** within the House of Representatives





## Current Legislation

2023

- SB 207:
- requires **safety drill** during high traffic/transition times; creation of **district threat assessment teams**, and requires **bleed kits and training** (SCR 62 from 2020)
- adds members to the Louisiana Commission on School & Nonprofit Safety
- establishes the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools within GOHSEP

2023

- HB 348:
- **immediate reporting of all threats** to admin & LEOs with investigation timelines
- outlines **removal from campus** and continues Acts 168 & 716 from 2018

2023

- HB 353:
- guides **mental health absences**, redefining **willful disobedience**
- expands **student support awareness** through district & school websites
- requires OPH form **adolescent school health initiative** & **list of health centers**
- requires LDOE to develop & pilot **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE)** program



## Current Legislation

2023

- HB 78 (Hughes): School facilities preservation, Capital Improvement Fund, and System-wide needs program
- HB 86 (Hodges): **Protect Teachers Act**; civil liability
- HB 242 (Hilferty): prohibits Corporal punishment without parental consent
- HB 289 (Ivey): **Organ donor** curriculum

2023

- HB 169 (Owen): Safety policy for K-5 carpool and bus lines.
- Vehicles to come to a **complete stop** & student remains restrained or at a safe distance
- Student in grades K-5 be **accompanied by** a school **employee**.
- Employees wear **traffic vests**

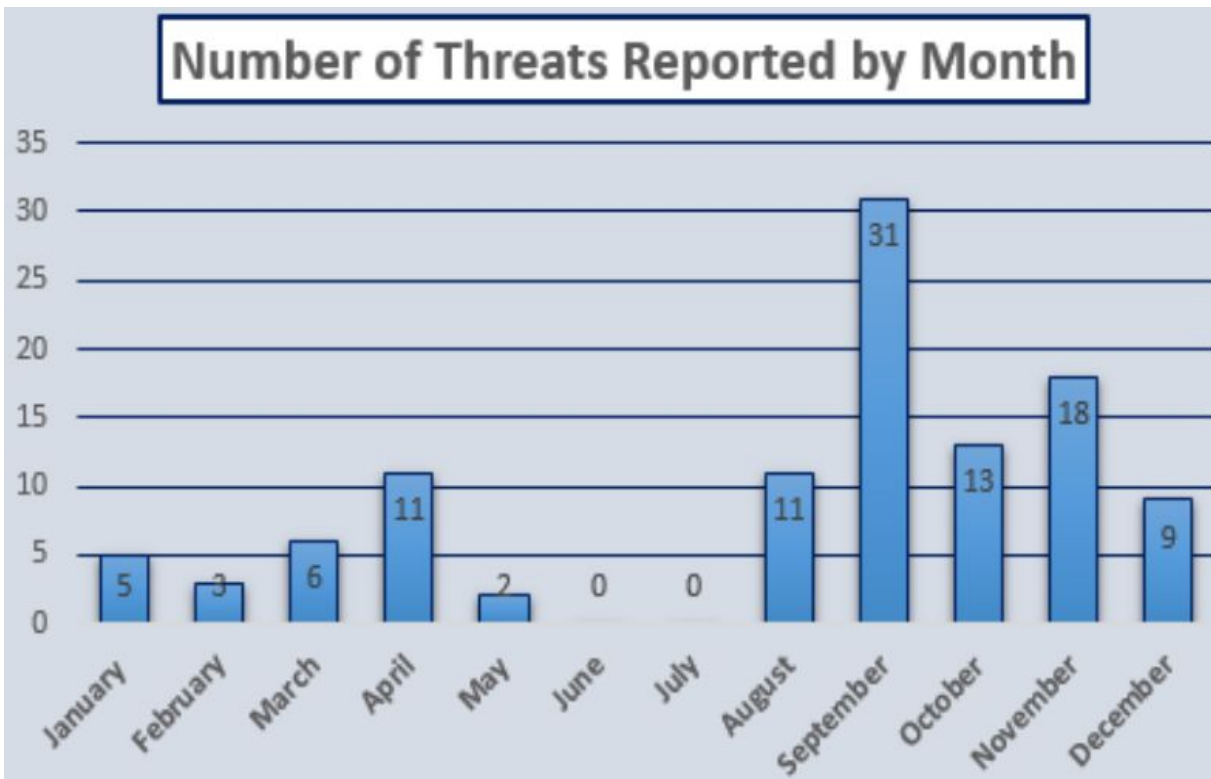
2023

- SB12 (Fields): AEDs / Jumpstart Your Heart Fund
- require AED at each elementary, middle, and high school; and at athletic events;
- require an individual trained to use the AED and first-aid CPR at the events
- require a **cardiac emergency response plan**



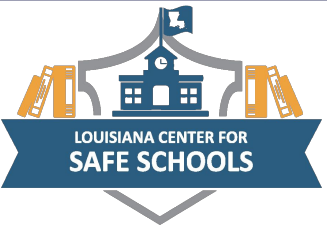
## 2022 Reported School Threats

- LA SAFE Fusion Center received 109 threats to school safety in 2022.



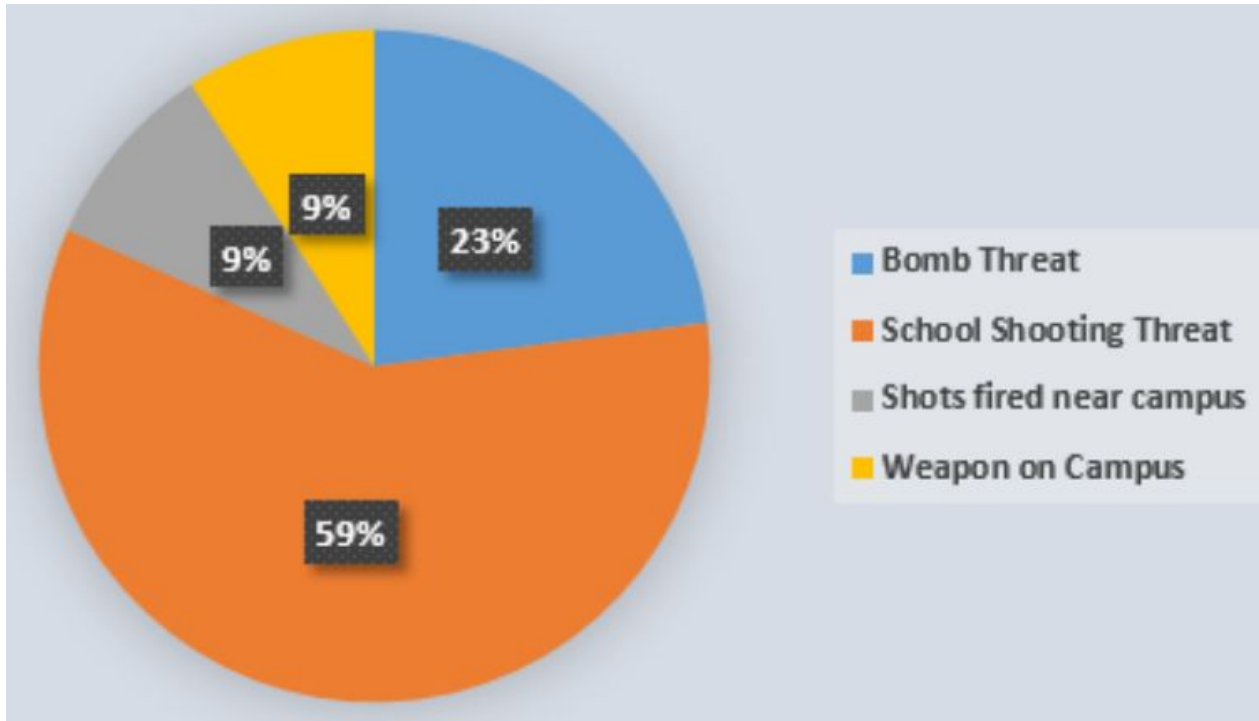
These statistics are by calendar year, not school year.

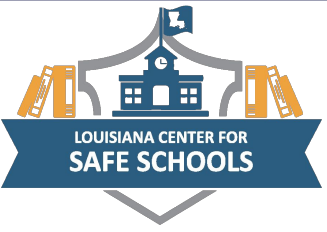




## 2022 Reported School Threats

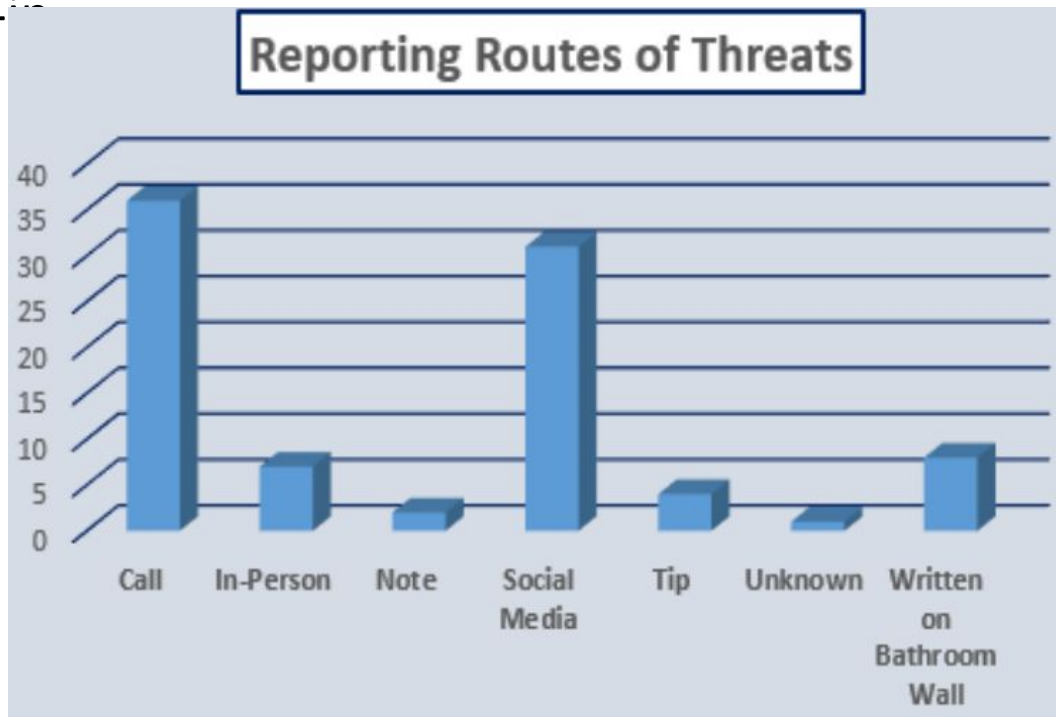
- Majority of threats were made by students (44), while (32) were spoof/hoax calls. Shootings and bomb threats made up the majority of calls received.





## 2022 Reported School Threats

- Students making school threats primarily used social media via Instagram and Snapchat. School shooting threats were reported in the form of call-ins and social media, whereas most bomb threats were reported strictly by call-in.



## RAVE Panic Button

- [Rave Panic Button](#) accelerates emergency response.
- The App is **free** to all K-12; public, private, and charter schools as a **coordination and communication** resource for **administrators, faculty, and staff**; not students.
- Places a **911 call** while sending an **In-App notification, Text message, and Email** allowing school employees to become immediate responders.



**All K-12 Campuses**

**Total Schools:**

**Opted-Out:**

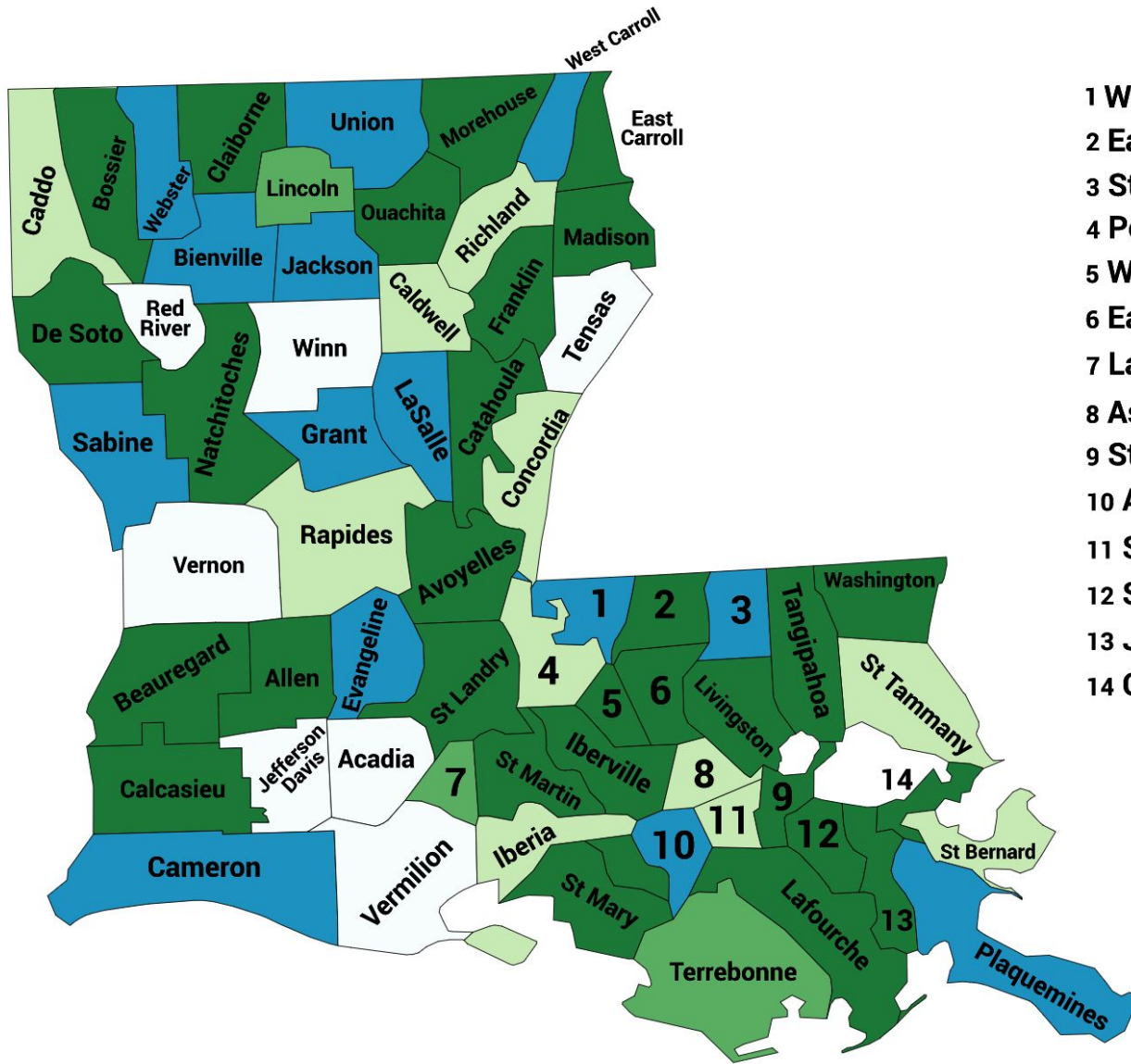
**Opted-In**

**In-Progress**

**LIVE!**

**Mark Benton**, State Director  
RAVE Mobile Safety (Louisiana Panic Button)  
Office: 225-806-4273  
Email: [mbenton@ravemobilesafety.com](mailto:mbenton@ravemobilesafety.com)





- 1 West Feliciana
- 2 East Feliciana
- 3 St Helena
- 4 Pointe Coupee
- 5 West Baton Rouge
- 6 East Baton Rouge
- 7 Lafayette
- 8 Ascension
- 9 St John the Baptist
- 10 Assumption
- 11 St James
- 12 St Charles
- 13 Jefferson
- 14 Orleans

**Opted-Out:**  
*Ascension Parish SB: 27 schools*  
*Caddo Parish SB: 62 Schools*  
*Private Schools: 2 schools*



# Anonymous Reporting

- The **Safe Schools Louisiana App** is for **students** in grades 6 through 12; public, private, and charter schools, statewide.
- The Safe Schools App is aimed at **preventing an event** from occurring through anonymous reporting.
- The app allows students to **share what they know** with people who can prevent the preventable.

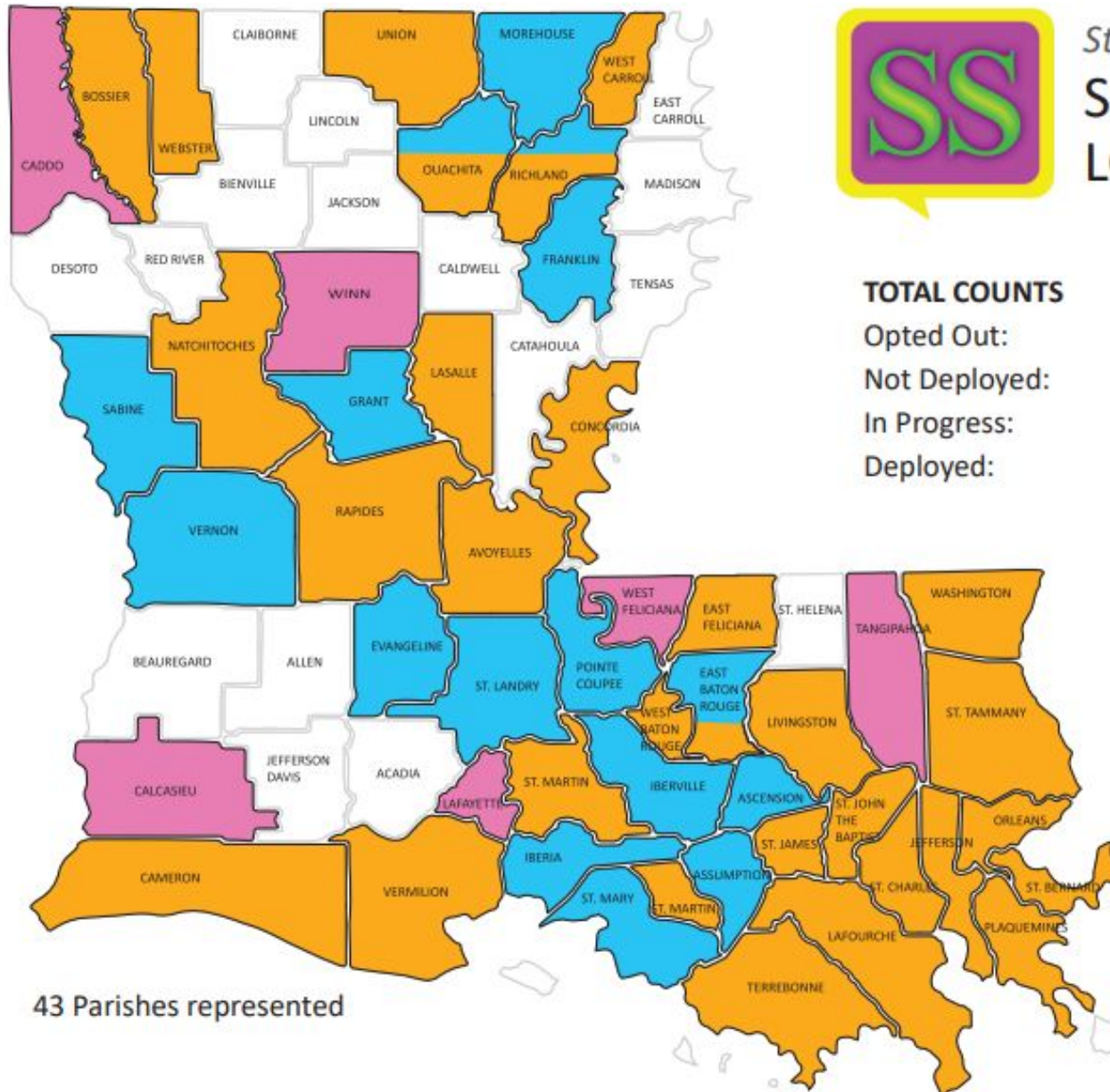
<https://youtu.be/3PdxdjkRIg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YEROpisI3A>

- Crimestoppers President/CEO Darlene Cusanza at [Darlene@crimestoppersgno.org](mailto:Darlene@crimestoppersgno.org) (504) 837-8477







43 Parishes represented



Statewide Deployment  
**SAFE SCHOOLS  
LOUISIANA APP**

**TOTAL COUNTS**

Opted Out:	200 Schools (16%)
Not Deployed:	357 Schools (27%)
In Progress:	232 Schools (18%)
Deployed:	498 Schools (39.5%)

- OPTED OUT
- NOT DEPLOYED
- IN PROGRESS
- DEPLOYED

\*Total based on  
1287 Schools per LSP  
as of May 23, 2023





## Louisiana School Safety: Path Forward

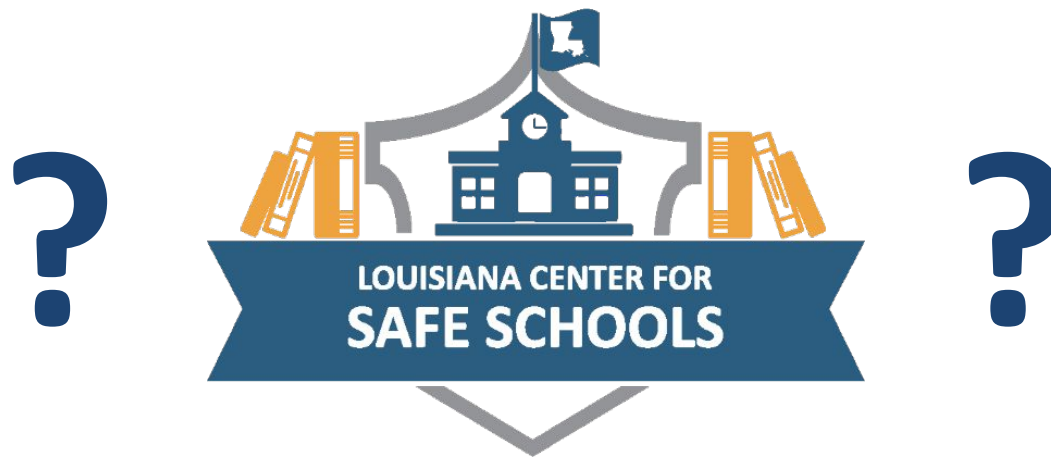
- Continued development of the comprehensive statewide comprehensive school safety model
- Funding review to leverage federal grant opportunities and request of additional appropriations
- Securing and expanding model components
- Continued Collaborative Working Groups involving Whole Community Stakeholders
- Coordinate Regional Engagement Workshops
- Providing research and reporting to the School Safety Advisory Board and other state partners
- Louisiana Center for Safe Schools staffing (11 positions)



# Louisiana School Safety: Path Forward

- Created School Safety Working Groups
- Collaborate to identify the current state of school safety
  - ▶ Organizational Structure
  - ▶ Legislation
  - ▶ Emergency Operation Plans and Assessment
  - ▶ Funding
  - ▶ Behavioral & Mental Health
  - ▶ Technology Integration

\*Developing short-term and long-term recommendations



## **Trevis A. Thompson**

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National School Safety Alliance Board of Directors

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