



SAFE SCHOOLS





School Safety Act of 2023

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.





School Safety Act of 2023

- 1. Comprehensive School Safety Assessment
- 2. School Climate
- 3. Campus, Building, and Classroom Security
- 4. Anonymous Reporting Systems
- 5. Coordination with First Responders
- 6. Behavior Threat Assessment and Management Teams
- 7. School-Based Law Enforcement
- 8. Mental Health Resources
- 9. Drills
- 10. Social Media Research (not Monitoring)





Historical Perspective

2024

- Jacques Thibodeaux is named Executive Director of GOHSEP
- School Safety Section is developed and staffed within GOHSEP

2024

- LCSS partners with SDMI for statewide dashboards & reporting
- LCSS releases Data Call Questionnaire for Safety Act reporting

2024

- LCSS launches the School & Nonprofit Security Grant Program
- LCSS submit annual School Safety Report to Gov. Landry

2024

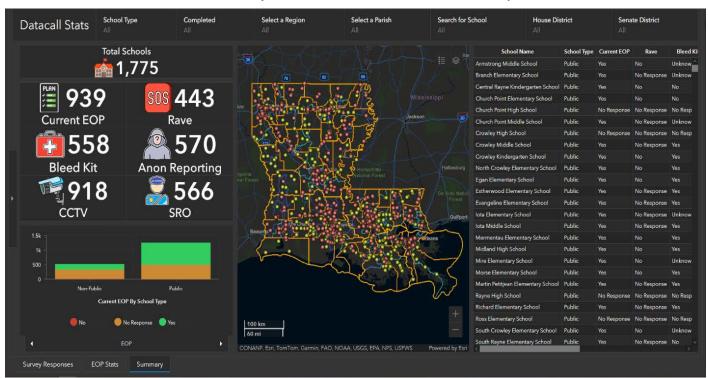
- LCSS full-day school-based active shooter training at LEMC
- LCSS \$5M dedicated to local school districts in Grant Program





Data Call Questionnaire

- March 2024 Current Statewide Data Call creates a baseline operating view in compliance with the legislative mandates and national best practices for each campus statewide.
- March 2024 Current Creation of ESRI powered Dashboards displaying all schools, data call metrics, and other critical school safety information for solution expansion.







School & Nonprofit Security Grant Program

The Fiscal Year Louisiana School and Nonprofit Security Grant Program (LSNSGP) (FY) 2024 is a competitive, State-funded grant program for local school systems and non-profits to fund school safety projects which prevent potential acts of violence or other extremist attacks, priorities include: physical and security enhancements, enhancing the protection of soft targets/crowded places, effective planning; training and awareness campaigns; and exercises.

Available Funding FY24 LSNSGP	\$5,000,000.00
Projected Number of Awards	Distribution by Regions, will vary.
Maximum Award Amount	\$50,000.00

300+ grant application were received for consideration.

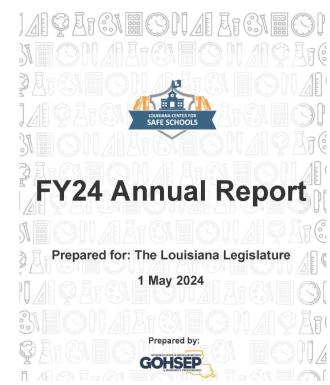




School Safety Annual Report

Per Act 224 of 2023; P. 10, lines 4-8 (Paragraph C), "The center shall provide an annual report to the governor, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Senate Committee on Education, and the House Committee on Education regarding the status of school safety in Louisiana, the work of the center and resources identified to increase school safety."

LCSS is committed to continued growth and support to partner agencies and schools as we look into FY25. What has been achieved in the last quarter of FY24 is just the beginning. Creating safe learning environments require a collective effort at all levels of government and within the school systems, to include students, communities and families. By continuing to work together, committed to providing the resources needed, we will exceed mission requirements and make Louisiana schools a safe place for both educators and students.







LEMC Post Conference Training

Post Conference Training:

School Based Active Shooter Exercises May 9, 2024

Module 1: Prevention

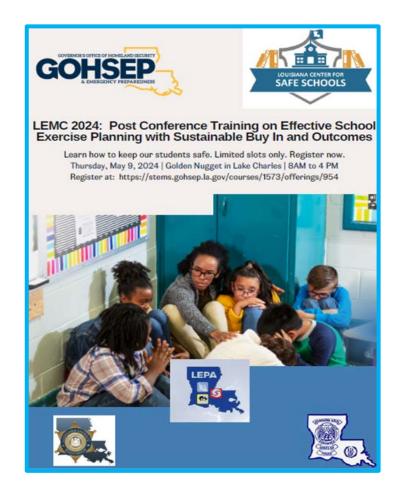
Module 2: Initial Response

Module 3: Tactical Response

Module 4: Evacuation and Reunification

Module 5: Crisis Counseling

The following partnerships provided audience engagement for the discussions: US Secret Service, DHS CISA; Ascension, Beauregard, St. Charles, and Union Parish Schools, Sheriff's Association, SROs & Supervisors, Superintendents and Principals, Parish OHSEP Directors, LDH – OBH, Southeast Counseling Service, LA Emergency Response Network (LERN), and several participating attendees contributed feedback and input.







Purpose of Threat Assessment

Threat assessment is a problem-solving approach to violence prevention that involves investigation and intervention with those who threatened violence in some way.

- Identify individuals whose behavior causes concern for the pathway to violence.
- Gather additional relevant information in a lawful and ethical manner.
- Assess individual situations in context.
- Manage individual situations to prevent violence:
 - Includes providing assistance to the intended victims and the student who
 makes the threat.





Consistent Training Models

ALERRT is the official training model endorsed by the Louisiana Sheriff's Association for it's law enforcement officers. CRASE is the recommended civilian response for schools.

Consistent training is a key component to skill retention during a potentially life threatening hazard. The more often one trains, the more prepared they will be under stress.

Training may be focused on responding to a threat, as well as prevention of the issue from escalating to that point. Success in an adverse event, such as a school shooting, relies on effective implementation of these different facets of training.

There are many components to an effective drill and may be provided by different agencies. Alignment and cohesiveness are critical.

The more occasions training and drills occur in schools, the more competent the students and staff will be in taking action.



DHS CISA System-based Approach

Taking a systems-based approach to school physical security means ensuring that various security measures across a school campus work together in an integrated way, and that planning also incorporates the relevant policies and training programs that must also be in place for the entire system to function effectively.

The Systems-Based Approach At-A-Glance:

- Understand the five core elements of school physical security
- Consider a school's specific circumstances to tailor measures
- Identify the various security layers that exist at the school
- Determine security efforts in alignment with P-PM-RR
- Engage in the school security physical planning process





DHS CISA System-Based Approach

- When layering a System-based approach, the <u>community</u> needs to be the first line of defense by noting specific things by thinking in terms of a bad guy.
- Ask an individual to try to get into the school to identify weaknesses.
 - If an individual is able to freely walk into a secured school, an After Action Report (AAR) is needed to be able to mitigate the flaws identified.
- It is important to conduct walkthroughs, speak out on suspicious activity, and to look at your school through the lens of a school shooter to identify security concerns.
- Maintenance is a key component within security because keeping a tentative repair schedule prevents faulty areas from becoming a security concern.





K-12 Security Guide Product Suite

DHS-CISA – Physical Security Assessments & Tools to address K-12 Threats

- SchoolSafety.gov
- School Security Assessment Tool (<u>SSAT</u>) is a web-based program that
 offers stakeholders a vulnerability analysis and provides
 recommendations for improving physical security based on provided
 specifications.
- K-12 Site Assessments/Risk Assessments
- <u>Table Top Exercise Kits</u> for Elementary / Middle School / High School
- Strategies & Resources for Trauma-Informed Schools

REMS TA Center SITE ASSESS & the District Walkthrough Model





Louisiana Center for Safe Schools

- Administrators and Superintendents
- Parents and Students
- o Faculty and Staff
- First Responders and Resource Officers
- Behavioral and Mental Health
- Louisiana Legislation

Website: https://lasafeschools.la.gov/



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.







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