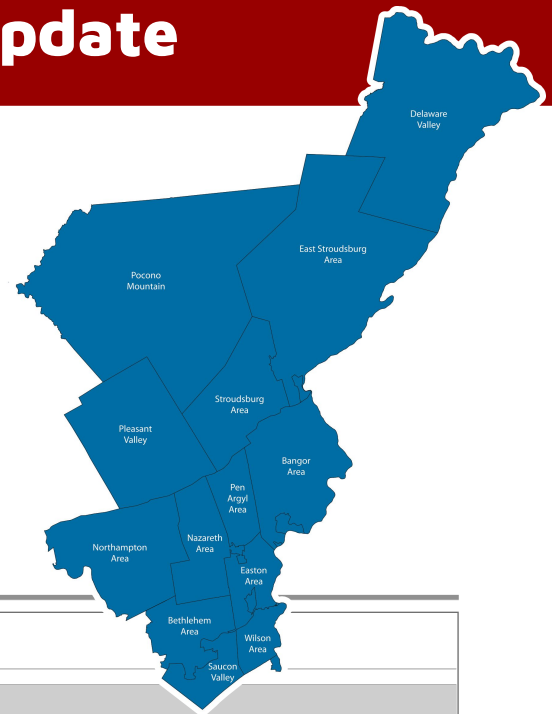


ACT 44 OF 2018 - June 2019 Update

Act 44 of 2018 amends the Public School Code to include various topics related to school safety and security. It was signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf on June 22, 2018. The following document outlines the key aspects of the bill as it relates to ongoing responsibilities of school entities, including:

- Specific duties for the School Safety and Security Coordinator
- Training requirements related to school safety and security
- Definitions, duties, and reporting responsibilities for School Police Officers, School Resource Officers, and School Security Guards
- Safe2Say Something Program Requirements
- Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Teams



Section	Title	Action	Timing	Details
1309-B	SCA Appoint School Safety and Security Coordinator*	Shall Appoint	By August 21, 2018	(c) Specific duties – The school safety and security coordinator shall:
			As necessary	(1) Review the school entity's policies and procedures relative to school safety and security and compliance with Federal and State laws regarding school safety and security.
				(2) Coordinate training and resources for students and school entity staff in matters relating to situational awareness, trauma-informed education awareness, behavioral health awareness, suicide and bullying awareness, substance abuse awareness, and emergency procedures and training drills, including fire, natural disaster, active shooter, hostage situation, and bomb threat.
				(3) Coordinate school safety and security assessments as necessary.
				(4) Serve as the school entity liaison with the committee, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), law enforcement, and other organizations on matters of school safety and security.
			By June 30	(5) Make a report no later than June 30, 2019, and each June 30 thereafter, to the school entity's board of directors on the school entity's current safety and security practices that identify strategies to improve school safety and security. The report shall be presented to the school entity's board of directors at an executive session of the school entity's board of directors. The report shall be submitted to the Committee and shall not be subject to the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law.
			Every two years	(6) Coordinate a tour of the school entity's buildings and grounds biennially or when a building is first occupied or reconfigured with the law enforcement agencies and first responders that are primarily responsible for protecting and securing the school entity to discuss and coordinate school safety and security matters.
Committee – The School Safety and Security Committee established under section 1302-B				

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Section	Title	Action	Timing	Details
1301-C	School Police Officers*	Are Defined		A school police officer is defined as a law officer employed by a school district whose responsibilities, including work hours, are established by the school district.
1306-C		Shall Be Authorized		<p>A school police officer is defined as a law officer employed by a school district whose responsibilities, including work hours, are established by the school district.</p> <p>A school police officer appointed under section 1302-C(b) shall possess and exercise all the following powers and duties:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To enforce good order in school buildings, on school buses and on school grounds, in the respective school entities or nonpublic schools. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "school bus" shall include a vehicle leased by the school entity or nonpublic school to transport students and a vehicle of mass transit used by students to go to and from school when the school police officer responds to a report of an incident involving a breach of good order or violation of law. (2) If authorized by the court, to exercise the same powers as exercised under authority of law or ordinance by the police of the municipality in which the school property is located. (3) If authorized by the court, to issue summary citations or to detain individuals until local law enforcement is notified.
1303-C	Annual Report to PDE	Shall Report	Annually	<p>A school entity or nonpublic school which employs a school police officer shall report annually to PDE and the Office of Safe Schools the following information regarding school police officers receiving training as required under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D (relating to municipal police education and training):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The identity of the school entity or nonpublic school and the number of school police officers employed by the school entity or nonpublic school. (2) The municipalities comprising the school entity or in which the nonpublic school is located. (3) The date and type of training provided to each school police officer.



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Section	Title	Action	Timing	Details
1301-C	School Resource Officers*	Are Defined		A school resource officer is a law enforcement officer commissioned and employed by a law enforcement agency whose duty station is located in a school entity and whose stationing is established by an agreement between the law enforcement agency and the school entity.
1313-C		Shall Be Authorized		<p>(a) Powers and duties. A school entity may confer the following powers and duties upon school resource officers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To assist in the identification of physical changes in the environment which may reduce crime in or around the school. (2) To assist in developing school policy which addresses crime and to recommend procedural changes. (3) To develop and educate students in crime prevention and safety. (4) To train students in conflict resolution, restorative justice, and crime awareness. (5) To address crime and violence issues, gangs, and drug activities affecting or occurring in or around a school. (6) To develop or expand community justice initiatives for students.
1303-C	School Security Guards*	Are Defined		A school security guard is an individual employed by a school entity or a third party contractor who is assigned to a school for routine safety and security duties and is not engaged in programs with students at the school.
1314-C		Shall Be Authorized		<p>A school security guard may provide the following services as determined by the school entity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) School safety support services. (2) Enhanced campus supervision. (3) Assistance with disruptive students. (4) Monitoring visitors on campus. (5) Coordination with law enforcement officials, including school police officers and school resource officers. (6) Security functions which improve and maintain school safety.
1303-D	Safe2Say Something Program Requirements	Shall Develop		(d) School entity – Each school entity shall develop procedures for assessing and responding to reports received from the program.

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Section	Title	Action	Timing	Details
1307-B	Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Teams		<p>By March 31, 2019</p> <p>When school is in session</p> <p>After review</p>	<p>(a) The Pennsylvania State Police shall establish six Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Teams to operate within six regions geographically designated by the Pennsylvania State Police in consultation with the Committee.</p> <p>(1) Each Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team shall conduct school safety and security assessments based upon the Committee's criteria when school is in session at school entities within the team's region on a systematic basis free of charge.</p> <p>(2) When conducting school safety and security assessments required under section 1305-B, a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team shall give priority to school entities based upon the ranking of the school entities' market value/income aid ratio from high to low.</p> <p>(3) School safety and security assessments conducted by the Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team shall be considered to meet the Committee's criteria.</p> <p>(d) Reports. Each Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team shall annually report to the Committee the following:</p> <p>(1) The school entities where the Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team has conducted a school safety and security assessment.</p> <p>(2) Critical school entity safety and security needs.</p>
1310-B	School Safety and Security Training*	Shall Provide	Three hours, every five years <i>(can be in any one or combination of areas.)</i>	<p>School entities shall provide their employees with mandatory training on school safety and security subject to the following:</p> <p>(1) Training shall address the following:</p> <p>(i) Situational awareness.</p> <p>(ii) Trauma-informed education awareness.</p> <p>(iii) Behavioral health awareness.</p> <p>(iv) Suicide and bullying awareness.</p> <p>(v) Substance use awareness.</p> <p>(vi) Emergency training drills, including fire, natural disaster, active shooter, hostage situation, and bomb threat.</p> <p>(2) Training may be provided through the Internet or other distance communication systems.</p> <p>(3) Employees shall complete a minimum of three hours of training every five years.</p> <p>(4) Employees required to undergo continuing professional education under section 1205.2 shall receive credit toward their continuing professional education requirements if the training program has been approved by PDE in consultation with the Committee.</p>

*Further clarification in Acts 18 and 67