

The background of the slide is a photograph of the Texas State Capitol building in Austin. The building is a large, classical-style structure with a prominent central dome topped by a statue. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. In the foreground, there is a well-manicured green hedge and a paved walkway leading towards the building.

SB 11, HB 906, HB 19 Update

HOUSE PUBLIC EDUCATION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2020



Presentation Agenda

- SB 11 Overview
- Update on HB 906, HB 18 and HB 19
- Overview of the School Safety Landscape
- Implementation Updates
- Recommendations

The 86th Legislature's Charge for School Safety



**Strengthen Safety and
Emergency Protocols**



**Expand Mental Health
Initiatives**



**Provide Funding for Schools to
Increase Safety and Security on
Campus**



SB 11 affects all of the 5.5 million students in the state, and has the potential to dramatically improve:

Psychological Safety
for All Texas Students

Physical Safety
for All Texas Students

Senate Bill 11: Highlights



Strengthens Safety and Emergency Protocols

- Establishes process for and requirement to conduct **behavioral threat assessment**
- Establishes **Safe and Supportive Schools Program**
- Provides stronger guidance on **mandatory drills** and **facility standards**
- Increases **monitoring** and strengthens compliance requirements for **safety planning** and protocols



Expands Mental Health Initiatives

- Requires establishment of and training on **trauma-informed care policies**
- Requires state to **conduct inventory of mental health resources**
- Creates a **statewide plan for student mental health**



Provides Funding for Schools to Increase Safety and Security on Campus

- Establishes **School Safety Allotment (SB 11)** and provides **school hardening grants (SB 500)**

Senate Bill 11: Implementation Status Highlights



Strengthens Safety and Emergency Protocols

Promulgate rules to establish Safe and Supportive Schools Program, including behavioral threat assessment	IN PROGRESS (Complete Fall 2020)
Collect data on behavioral threat assessment implementation	IN PROGRESS (Launching Fall 2020)
Promulgate rules on number and type of drills	COMPLETE
Promulgate rules on school safety facilities standards	IN PROGRESS (Complete Early 2021)



Expands Mental Health Initiatives

Collect regional mental health resources, in collaboration with ESCs and develop statewide plan	COMPLETE
Develop best practice list in collaboration with HHSC	COMPLETE
Develop statewide plan for student mental health	IN PROGRESS (Complete Fall 2020)



Provides Funding for Schools to Increase Safety and Security on Campus

School Safety Allotment incorporated into 2019-2020 FSP	COMPLETE
School hardening grants awarded	COMPLETE

HB 906

TEA to implement a School Mental Health Task Force:

- Study, evaluate and make recommendations in a report to the Legislature
- Assess the effectiveness of state funded school mental health services and training through 2025 (Nov 1, 2020, 2022, 2024)

HB 18

Strengthens district requirements to implement trauma-informed approaches and address student mental health:

- Requires rule making (SBEC, SBOE)
- Provide guidance to districts
- District Improvement Plans to include trauma
- Continuing education

HB 19

Requires a mental health professional from the LMHA to be placed in each ESC:

- Supports region and provides consultation, training, and coordination on available mental health resources

Overview of the School Safety Landscape

Before SB 11 – Disconnected Efforts and Different Levels of Focus

**School
Mental and
Behavioral
Health**

**School Safety
and Security**

**Academics and
Learning
Supports**



Increased coordination amongst school safety stakeholders



Increased data collection to drive continuous improvement



Increased support for and coordination within campuses resulting from the Safe and Supportive School Program

The School Safety Ecosystem



Creating **aligned** action plans and **executing** them well in a school is difficult given **so many entities** have a role to play in school safety.

Key Bill Implementation Highlights

Safe and Supportive School Program Team

1

Promotes a
positive school
climate

2

Builds Multi-
Tiered
Systems of
Support

3

Conducts
Behavioral
Threat
Assessments

4

Ensures staff
is well-
trained

5

Collects data
to
continuously
improve

6

Supports
emergency
planning and
execution

Status:

- Safe and Supportive Schools Program rules effective Fall 2020

Safe and Supportive School Program Team

3

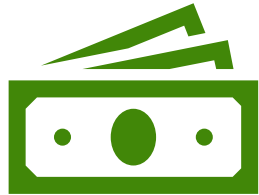
Conducts
**Behavioral
Threat
Assessments**



Status:

- Districts and charter schools will be submitting baseline data to TEA in Fall 2020 including:
 - Whether an SSSP Team has been established;
 - Number of threats reported/assessed;
- Remaining data as required by SB 11, will be reported Fall 2021

School Safety Allotment



School Safety Allotment (TEC Chapter 42)

- Approximately \$100,000,000 appropriated for the biennium (\$9.72 per student)
- Provides annual allotment to improve school safety and security, including securing school facilities, providing security, providing training and planning, and providing programs related to suicide prevention



Status: Incorporated into 2019-2020 FSP amounts



School Safety Grants

- \$100M provided in SB 500 for facilities hardening (awards ranging from \$25K-\$3M available for districts)

Status:

- Grant application opened on 10/24/19 and closed on 1/31/20. TEA communicated through “To The Administrator Addressed” correspondence and the Regional Education Service Centers
- 97% of districts applied, and all received funding

Mandatory Drills

Mandatory Drills



- TEA, in consultation with the Texas School Safety Center and the State Fire Marshal, shall designate the number of mandatory drills including designating the number of fire, lockdown, lockout, shelter-in-place, and evacuation drills

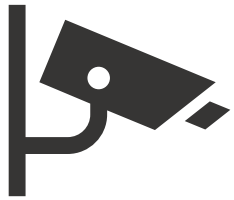




Status: Complete, Effective
Summer 2020

Required Drills:

Drill	Frequency
Secure (Lockout)	1 per year
Lockdown	1 per semester
Evacuate	1 per year
Shelter-in-Place	1 per year
Shelter for Severe Weather	1 per year
Fire Evacuation	2 per semester



Facility Standards

- TEA to establish rules to ensure building standards for instructional facilities to provide secure/safe environment for students and school personnel



Status: Effective Early 2021

Identification of Mental Health Resources



Mental Health Resource Lists

- Work with ESCs to collect regional resources
- Develop list of available state-level resources

Status: Posted March 2020

Statewide Mental and Behavioral Health Best Practice List

- Develop list of mental and behavioral health best practices to share

Status: Complete; posted August 2020

Statewide Plan for Student Mental Health

Status: In progress; will be completed Fall 2020



Recommendations

Statutory Changes for Consideration

1. Make behavioral threat assessment data collection confidential.
2. Name TEA as a standing member of the Mental Health Children's Consortium and add a TEA representative to the executive committee of the Consortium.
3. Clean up technical align between SB 11 with HB 3 statutory references. The School Safety Allotment is currently the only item remaining in Chapter 42. School finance formulas have moved to Chapter 48.

Appendix

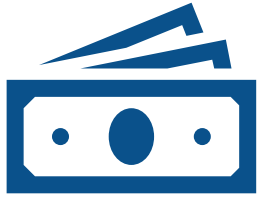


- All updated information will be communicated via “To The Administrator Addressed” letters
- Website: tea.texas.gov/schoolsafety
- Email address schoolsafety@tea.texas.gov

TEA, Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC), and ESC Roles

	TEA	TxSSC	ESCs
Threat Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt rules Collect threat assessment team data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide trainings and model policies & procedures for threat assessment teams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May provide trainings for threat assessment teams
Safety and Security Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish school safety facility standards and mandatory safety drills Administer school safety grant for facility hardening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide training and resources for safety and security audits Collect and review schools' multihazard operation plans Act as primary resource for safety and security best-practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support districts with safety and security audits
Mental Health Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and oversee the statewide plan for mental health, including conducting an inventory of mental health resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate TEA-identified resources within school safety tool kit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct regional inventory for mental health resources

Additional Federal Funding Secured by TEA for School Safety



Mental Health Focus

- **\$1,265,600** (Title IV funds) in total grants distributed to ESCs to support mental health and wrap around services.
 - Focus of the grant is for TEA to equip ESCs with school mental health training and for ESCs to support small and rural districts to implement
- **\$8,996,096** for Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education)- 5 years (competitive federal grant TEA applied for)
 - 5 high-need districts recovering from Hurricane Harvey
 - Piloting evidence-based practices and planning to scale them
 - Partnering with HHSC, ESCs and UT for program evaluation



Trauma-Informed practices – Commissioner of Education Rule

- Each school district must implement a policy integrating trauma-informed practices in each school environment, and participate in training, using resources developed by TEA.



Project Restore Training Series

- TEA created a trauma-informed training video series, which connects educators to relevant science and strategies that can help them address the emotional needs of their students, themselves, their colleagues, and students' families. The series help educators create an environment that jump starts teaching and learning and drives student achievement. All videos are created with a COVID-19 lens and include support for both in-person and remote instruction. Educators receive CPE units for viewing each of the six videos in the series.

Status: Commissioner Rule effective Fall 2020, integrated into Safe and Supportive School Program rules



Educator Training

- Continuing Education for Classroom Teachers - Adds required instruction to continuing education for teachers to include how grief and trauma affect student learning and behavior

Status: Item discussed as proposed revision to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification provisions during the December 6, 2019 State Board of Education Certification (SBEC) meeting



Curriculum Changes

- Health curriculum –Adds mental health and suicide prevention to the health curriculum standards (TEKS) adopted by SBOE

Status: Revisions to the health TEKS are scheduled to be adopted in November 2020

- Digital Citizenship – SBOE, by rule, must require school districts incorporate digital citizenship instruction into curriculum standards

Status: Revisions to the technology applications TEKS are scheduled to be adopted in June 2021