

Mental Health and Prevention Subcommittee



All school districts should provide access to training in Youth Mental Health First Aid for all personnel who interact with students. Additional school personnel training may include: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Trauma-Informed Schools, Drug-Endangered Children, and Social-Emotional Learning.

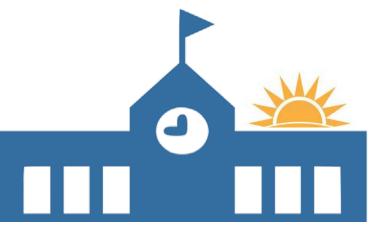


- Act 620 and 648 of 2021 requires all school counselors to complete YMHFA training every four years.
- Act 551 and 622 of 2021 requires all school resource officers to complete YMHFA training every 4 years.
- To date ACSS staff has trained 611 SROs and school counselors.
- **CJI's Maltreatment and Drug Endangered Children Initiative).**



Recommendation 3 continued:

- DESE's Project AWARE has trained 2500 educators, counselors, and community members in YMHFA
- ■UAMS: Arkansas Building Effective Services for Training (ARBEST); Trauma Resource Initiative for Schools (TRIS).
- ■UAMS/ACSS working to implement the Arkansas PAYcheck Program statewide. (Part of Maltreatment and Drug Endangered Children Initiative).
 - o Dr. Nikki Edge UAMS



The Arkansas Trauma Resource Initiative for Schools (TRIS)



TRAUMA RESOURCE INITIATIVE GOAL



■ The Trauma Resource Initiative for Schools (TRIS) will support schools in their efforts to prepare for, respond to, and recover from traumatic events affecting members of the school community.



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How TRIS Supports Schools

Trauma Training Foundations

 Live and online training building basic trauma knowledge

Resource Dissemination

 Equipping school staff with resources to prepare for and respond to traumatic events

Consultation to Administrators

 Individualized support in aftermath of a trauma impacting a school community

Trauma-Related Care Navigation

 Reducing barriers to accessing evidence-based trauma treatment



More About the TRIS

- TRIS leverages the expertise and infrastructure of the UAMS Department of Family and Preventive Medicine and the Psychiatric Research Institute and collaborations with the Arkansas Department of Education
- •Initial three-years funded by the Blue & You Foundation in July 2021.

Find us at www.tris-ar.org







All school districts should establish a behavioral threat assessment team and process.



- ACSS BJA School Safety Grant 2019 providing Basic and Advanced Behavioral Threat Assessment (BTA) training, developed online class, tool kit, and draft policy.
- Basic BTA 10 classes delivered (307 attendees) with 76 school districts participating.
- Advanced BTA 1 class delivery with 13 school districts participating.



The Arkansas Department of Education should review roles and responsibilities of school counselors to provide increased time with students for provision of counseling and socialemotional learning, as well as referral to community resources as appropriate.



Act 190 of 2019 requires that school counselors spend 90% of time with students.

Law Enforcement and Security Subcommittee



If financially practicable, schools should ideally have at least one SRO for each campus.



■460 total SROs in 223 districts across the state (79% of districts, 2022 data.)



School districts should execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with their partnering law enforcement agency that identifies the roles and responsibilities of SROs and other critical elements.



- Act 551 and 622 of 2021 requires all school districts to adopt a model SRO policy developed by ACSS and DESE.
- Model MOU developed and distributed to school districts for implementation in the 2023 school year.
- Act 551 and 622 of 2021 requires superintendents and district employees supervising SROs to take a one-hour ACSS training on SRO roles and responsibilities.
- Institutional PDs through mirroring MOU with policies and procedures.



SROs whose primary assignment is within the schools should receive specialized training.



- Act 551 and 622 of 2021 requires all SROs to
 - Complete 40-hour basic class.
 - Complete SRO refresher every 5 years.
 - Complete 12 hours of school safety continuing education every year.
 - ACSS shall monitor compliance in fulfilling these requirements.



Arkansas's Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training (CLEST) should study the feasibility of school districts being allowed to establish their own law enforcement agencies.



- Act 629 of 2019 allowed school districts to form their own law enforcement agency.
- ■To date 16 school districts have been approved by ACLEST to form an institutional law enforcement agency.

Audits, Emergency Operation Plans and Drills Subcommittee



Each campus should also designate one current staff member as a School Safety Coordinator.



- ■98% of school districts have identified a school safety coordinator.
- ACSS with BJA STOP School Violence grant funding has developed a 1 day School Safety Coordinator Academy to begin delivery in September 2022.



The ADE's Safe Schools Committee membership should be expanded.



Act 809 of 2019 expanded the Safe Schools Committee to include the Director of CJI, ADEM, APSRC, and AREA, a Chief or Sheriff, State Fire Marshal, and school psychologist.



Comprehensive school safety assessments should be required to be conducted every three years and reviewed by the school board and school administration.



- Acts 620 and 648 of 2021 requires all public school districts and open enrollment charter schools to conduct comprehensive school safety assessment every three years.
- The ACSS offers online and in-person site safety assessment classes.



School nurses and staff should be trained in efforts that enhance the emergency medical response within schools.



In 2019 CJI and the Arkansas Drug Director's Office partnered with the Arkansas Department of Education and the Arkansas School Nurses Association. CJI established a Naloxone administration protocol for school nurses and trained 715 school nurses from across the State.

Intelligence and Communications Subcommittee



School districts, in collaboration with local and other law enforcement agencies, should implement and expand strategies to promote reporting, to include anonymous reporting, of suspicious activity/behavior and threats.



- ■45% of districts utilize an anonymous reporting system.
- ■28% of districts have a behavioral threat assessment team.
- There is no statewide anonymous reporting system with trained mental health professionals to assist youth.



An analysis should be conducted to determine how the Arkansas State Fusion Center (ASFC) could be more effectively utilized to receive and disseminate information pertaining to threats against schools. In addition, the ASFC could provide timely and relevant information to schools and other appropriate entities pertaining to school safety.



The Arkansas Center for School Safety is partnering with the Arkansas State Fusion Center to disseminate important school safety information to schools.

Physical Security Priorities (2019 data)



Physical Security Priorities:

- Control access to school buildings during school hours.
- Require visitors to sign-in or check-in and wear badges.
- Equip classroom doors with locks so that doors can be locked from the inside.
- Campuses have a single-entry point for main campus buildings.
- District campuses have any bullet-related/anti-shatter resistant glass and wall at reception desk chick-in.



- Physical Security Priorities:

 District campuses have electronic access controls on all exterior doors.
- District campuses have vehicle ram protection (bollards, landscaping, fencing, low walls, etc.) at school entrances, especially main entrance.
- District campuses have numbers on classrooms or on exterior so first responders can reference position of students and/or intruders.
- Campuses use a visitor management program.
- Districts use vision panels on classroom doors that also allow students a blind area to 'hide'.

