



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Johnny Key

Commissioner of Education

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SCHOOL SAFETY

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Students learn best in a school climate that is safe, friendly and student-centered. School safety is everyone's responsibility. School buildings, grounds, playground equipment and buses that meet safety standards provide an environment that enhances learning. School staff, students and family members are encouraged to work together to establish and maintain wellness policy, behavioral expectations, rules and routines. It is important that schools uphold social justice and practice mutual respect for individual differences in addition to supporting students, staff

School Safety

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and family members in teaching students how to manage their own behavior.

Parents, teachers and administrators are encouraged to review the posted tools and resources that are designed to help encourage and support a positive and safe learning environment.

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[School Safety
Laws & Rules ▶](#)

Arkansas School Safety Commission



On March 1, 2018, Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced that he issued an executive order that creates the Arkansas School Safety Commission. The Governor has also committed \$300,000 to the Criminal Justice Institute for additional training for school resource officers and security assessments for schools. The commissioners will evaluate school designs, safety and security policies, emergency plans and policies, school counseling, and mental health issues. They will evaluate school-security data, including issues such as single-point entry, electronic access badges, and school resource officers.

The School Safety Commission's initial report is due to Gov. Hutchinson on July 1, 2018. To learn more, please go to <http://bit.ly/2oGvgq6>.

Public Comments and Addressing the Commission

The public may submit comments and ideas to the School Safety Commission at Arkansas.SchoolSafetyCommission@arkansas.gov.

The public may sign up to address the School Safety Commission at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8G62Z6N>.

Meetings

- > The **Arkansas School Safety Commission** will meet at 9 a.m. May 30, 2018 at the Criminal Justice Institute, 26 Corporate Hill Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205
- > An **Arkansas School Safety Commission School Visit** is set for 10 a.m. May 22, 2018 at the Ouachita River School District, 143 Polk 96, Mena, AR 71953.
- > The **Arkansas School Safety Commission Intelligence/Communication and Law Enforcement Subcommittees** will hold a joint meeting at 2 p.m. May 29, 2018 at Arkansas State Police, Old Conference Room, #4 State Police Plaza, Little Rock, AR 72209.

Arkansas School Safety Commission Minutes

- > April 17, 2018

- > April 4, 2018
- > March 13, 2018

Arkansas Center for School Safety

The Arkansas Center for School Safety (ACSS) provides education, training, resources, and technical assistance to Arkansas educators and law enforcement professionals to assist them in providing children with a safe environment to reach their academic potential. Learn more at <https://arsafeschools.com/safe-schools-program/>.

Arkansas Safe Schools Association

The Arkansas Safe Schools Association is a statewide, non-profit organization consisting of school resource officers, school safety personnel, school administrators and others dedicated to protecting Arkansas children and helping schools maintain a safe and orderly climate, thereby creating a positive learning environment. For more information, visit <http://www.arkansassafeschools.org/index.html>.

For more information, please contact:

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State Standards

Learn more about the standards that define the knowledge and skills Arkansas students should have in order to be ready for college and careers.

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Licensure & Certification

Find critical information about renewing Arkansas educator licenses, adding areas of licensure, licensing by reciprocity from other states, background checks and more.

ESEA Flexibility

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