

158.442 Center for School Safety -- Duties -- School safety coordinator training program -- Members of board -- Center for School Safety and its board of directors not subject to reorganization by the Governor.

- (1) The General Assembly hereby authorizes the establishment of the Center for School Safety. The center's mission shall be to serve as the central point for data analysis; research; dissemination of information about successful school safety and school security programs, best practices, training standards, research results, and new programs; and, in collaboration with the Department of Education and others, to provide technical assistance for safe schools.
- (2) To fulfill its mission, the Center for School Safety shall:
 - (a) Establish a clearinghouse for information and materials concerning school violence prevention;
 - (b) Provide program development and implementation expertise and technical support to schools, law enforcement agencies, and communities, which may include coordinating training for administrators, teachers, students, parents, and other community representatives;
 - (c) Analyze the data collected in compliance with KRS 158.444;
 - (d) Research and evaluate school safety programs so schools and communities are better able to address their specific needs;
 - (e) Administer a school safety grant program for local districts as directed by the General Assembly;
 - (f) Promote the formation of interagency efforts to address discipline and safety issues within communities throughout the state in collaboration with other postsecondary education institutions and with local juvenile delinquency prevention councils;
 - (g) Prepare and disseminate information regarding best practices in creating safe and effective schools;
 - (h) Advise the Kentucky Board of Education on administrative policies and administrative regulations relating to school safety and security;
 - (i) By July 1 of each year, provide an annual report to the Governor, the Kentucky Board of Education, and the Interim Joint Committee on Education regarding the status of school safety in Kentucky, including the number and placement of school resource officers working in school districts in Kentucky and the source of funding and method of employment for each position in accordance with KRS 158.4414;
 - (j) Develop and implement a school safety coordinator training program based on national and state best practices in collaboration with the Kentucky Department of Education for school safety coordinators appointed pursuant to KRS 158.4412. The training shall be approved by the board of directors of the Center for School Safety and include instruction on at least the following:
 1. Policies and procedures for conducting emergency response drills using an all-hazards approach including hostage and active shooter situations;
 2. Identification and response to threats to school safety and security; and

3. Preparing for, conducting, and reviewing school security risk assessments in accordance with KRS 158.4410;
 - (k) Develop and implement a system to provide certification to school districts that the center has verified that:
 1. A potential Kentucky guardian, as defined in KRS 158.4431, has met all of the requirements of KRS 158.4431(3); and
 2. Individuals employed as guardians meet the requirements of KRS 158.4431(4) and (5), as necessary;
 - (l) If funds are available, employ an individual whose job responsibilities include oversight of the guardian program, including but not limited to:
 1. The requirements of paragraph (k) of this subsection; and
 2. The creation of model policy to be used by local boards of education when adopting the policies in KRS 158.4431(8); and
 - (m) Award a school safety coordinator certificate of completion to a school safety coordinator upon satisfactory completion of the training program.
- (3) The Center for School Safety shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of fifteen (15) members. Members shall consist of:
- (a) The commissioner or a designee of the Department of Education;
 - (b) The secretary or a designee of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services;
 - (c) The commissioner or a designee of the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities;
 - (d) The commissioner or a designee of the Department of Kentucky State Police;
 - (e) The commissioner or a designee of the Department of Criminal Justice Training;
 - (f) The executive director or a designee of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security;
 - (g) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky League of Cities;
 - (h) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky School Boards Association;
 - (i) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents;
 - (j) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky Association of School Resource Officers;
 - (k) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky Education Association;
 - (l) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky School Nurses Association;
 - (m) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky Association for Psychology in

the Schools;

- (n) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky School Counselor Association; and
 - (o) A representative which shall be appointed by the Governor from one (1) list of three (3) names submitted by the Kentucky Parent Teacher Association.
- (4) Notwithstanding KRS 12.028, the Center for School Safety and its board of directors shall not be subject to reorganization by the Governor.

Effective: April 14, 2026

History: Amended 2026 Ky. Acts ch. 163, sec. 3, effective April 14, 2026. -- Amended 2024 Ky. Acts ch. 165, sec. 2, effective July 15, 2024. -- Amended 2019 Ky. Acts ch. 5, sec. 2, effective March 11, 2019. -- Amended 2012 Ky. Acts ch. 146, sec. 14, effective July 12, 2012; and ch. 158, sec. 10, effective July 12, 2012. -- Amended 2009 Ky. Acts ch. 11, sec. 48, effective June 25, 2009. -- Amended 2006 Ky. Acts ch. 211, sec. 84, effective July 12, 2006. -- Amended 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 14, sec. 11, effective July 14, 2000. -- Created 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 493, sec. 3, effective April 10, 1998.