



PROJECT SAVE

Brief History and Audit Findings

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Project SAVE – Safe Schools Against Violence

July 1, 2001

- District-Wide School Safety Plans
- Building-Level Emergency Response Plans (and Annual Training)
- Codes of Conduct
- Teacher Authority/Principal Authority
- Uniform Violent Incident Reporting
- Character Education
- Interpersonal Violence Prevention and Health Curriculum Changes
- School Violence Prevention Training
- Whistleblower Protection for Employees Reporting Acts of Violence
- Fingerprinting
- Felony Assaults
- Child Abuse Reporting and Silent Resignations
- Expanding Teacher Discipline
- Court Notification to Schools – Juvenile Delinquents

Project SAVE – 2016 Amendments

- Annual Training:
 - Must include violence prevention and mental health
 - Must be completed by Sept. 15
 - New hires trained within 30 days
- Addition of Policies & Procedures to Respond to Threats of Suicide Including Parental Notification
- Date to Adopt/Amend District/Building Plans
 - Changed from July 1 to Sept. 1
- NY State Standardized Building Response Plan – 2016-17
- Designation of Chief Emergency Officer
 - Responsible for coordinating communication in emergency
 - Responsible for updating district/building-level emergency response plans

Project SAVE – 2016 Amendments

- Composition of District-Wide Safety Team Amended
 - Student member to be optional
- Composition of Building-Level Safety Team Amended
 - Added fire department to mandated list
- Single Building School Districts
 - Must have both plans (district-wide and building-level)
- Removed 30-Day Public Comment Period When Adopting Building-Level Plan
- Mandated Drills
 - Four of 12 are to be lockdown
 - Eight drills by Dec. 1 extended to Dec. 31

Project SAVE - Highlight of Audit Findings 2019

- Annual Adoption of Plans Not Consistent;
 - District plans lacked 30 day public comment period (education law does not specifically reference “adoption”)
- District-Wide Plan Does Not Contain Specified Components
 - i.e. Duties of personnel, coordination with responders
- Safety Training Not Completed as Required
- District Safety Team Makeup Does Not Include All Specified Representation
 - i.e. Parent organization, board member
- District Safety Team Not Board Appointed

Project SAVE – Resources

- Previous Email Memos From Health & Safety
- Previous Email Memos From State Education Department
- Safety Officer Assistance With District-Wide and Building-Level Plans
 - BOCES template District-Wide Plan
- Assistance with Mandated Safety Training
 - Live training by safety officers and online training
- Assistance With Mandated Violence/Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Training;
 - Youth Development CoSer – participating districts
- SRO's, NYS Police Troop Liaison, NYS Center for School Safety - <https://www.nyscfss.org/>