



School Safety and Security Assessment Program

“School safety is a human concern, one that every school and community must take seriously and strive continually to achieve. It is also a legal concern; schools can be held liable if they do not make good-faith efforts to provide a safe and secure school environment.

How schools are built and maintained is an integral part of school safety and crisis planning. Schools with poor access control are more vulnerable to intruders. Students in schools with overlapping pickup and drop off points are more likely to be hurt by a bus or car. Schools that store materials in stairways will have egress problems during a fire or emergency.

Every school is unique by virtue of its design, location, and students, and each has its own history and culture. Some schools are relatively open and safe; others are highly protected yet unsafe.

Improving the safety of school facilities is not a new idea. All schools practice it in some way, but often informally and on an *ad hoc* basis. A school and its occupants are best protected by conducting and maintaining a systematic, careful, and well-documented hazard mitigation planning process. This also fulfills the school’s legal obligation to maintain an appropriate standard of care.” (*National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities (NCEF) – Mitigating Hazards in Schools*)

Utilizing the NCEF assessment methodology, the Missouri School Boards’ Association, working in conjunction with experts in schools safety and security, has developed a school assessment program which is available at a very reasonable cost to all school districts across Missouri. This assessment focuses on the following 26 areas:

1. School Grounds and Site Access Control
2. Outdoor Athletic Facilities and Playgrounds
3. Building Access Control: Entry Doors, Windows, Walls, Roofs
4. Entry and Reception Areas
5. Corridors, Interior Doors, and Lockers
6. Stairs and Stairwells
7. Elevators
8. Exit-ways
9. Classrooms
10. Portable Classrooms
11. Art, Music, and Dance Rooms
12. Labs, Shops, and Computer Rooms
13. Offices, Workrooms, and Conference Rooms
14. Food Service Areas and Student Commons
15. Restrooms
16. Library/Media Center
17. Health Services Center

18. Auditorium/Theater/Performing Arts Center
19. Indoor Athletic Facilities
20. Emergency Communications, Power, Fuel, and Water
21. Security and Surveillance Systems
22. Fire Alarm and Control Systems
23. Mechanical Systems
24. Custodial and Equipment Rooms
25. Areas of Refuge/Community Shelter
26. Transportation Program
27. Cyber Security
28. School Climate (Bullying Policies, Gang Presence, etc.)
29. Emergency Plans/Emergency Planning
30. Other Areas of Consideration

A pre-survey conference with school leadership as well as a post survey conference is held with school leadership, and a comprehensive report is provided as a result of the assessment, with suggestions for consideration where items are identified that may warrant additional attention. It is recognized and left to the discretion of the School District to review these comments and prioritize any suggested considerations in the context of the overall assessment and other information which the School District may have available, which may not be a part of the assessment.

Utilizing a nationally recognized and accepted "assessment" methodology, a specific school risk are analyzed as part of the overall assessment, so that any future investments by the school to reduce existing risk can be done in a logical and effective manner.

Cost of the Assessment is as follows:

1 school campus of up to 500 Students	\$ 3,000 for initial assessment and \$1,000 to update
2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th campus	\$ 1,000 for initial assessment and \$ 500 to update
Campus of between 500-1,000 Students	\$ 4,000 for initial assessment and \$1,500 to update
2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th campus	\$ 1,500 for initial assessment and \$ 1,000 to update
Campus between 1,000 – 2,000 Students	\$5,000 for initial Assessment and \$2,000 to update
2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th campus	\$ 2,000 for initial assessment and \$ 1,500 to update

Campus over 2,000 Students or extremely small campuses/schools: Price structure to be determined between MSBA and the School District/School System.

An initial consultation to discuss overall cost, scope of the assessment, etc. is free of charge, and can be arranged by contacting Paul Fennewald, MSBA Special Advisor to the Center for Education Safety, at: Fennewald@msbanet.org or calling (573) 445-9920, Extension 421.

Travel and other expenses in conjunction with the assessment will be billed consistent with existing MSBA policy, and an estimate of any expenses will be provided as part of the initial consultation.