COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY PLAN

The Mendocino County Board recognizes that students and staff have the right to a safe and secure campus where they are free from physical and psychological harm. The Board is fully committed to maximizing school safety and to creating a positive learning environment that teaches strategies for violence prevention and emphasizes high expectations for student conduct, responsible behavior and respect for others.

The County Superintendent or designee shall oversee the development of a comprehensive safety plan that identifies the County Office's goals and priorities for safe schools and facilities, including major safety concerns. The plan shall also outline prevention strategies and actions to be taken in the event of a crisis.

The Board shall approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan to ensure compliance with law, Board Policy and Administrative Regulation.

Tactical Response Plan

Notwithstanding the process described above, any portion of a comprehensive safety plan that includes tactical responses to criminal incidents that may result in death or serious bodily injury at the school site, including steps to be taken to safeguard students and staff, secure the affected school premises, and apprehend the criminal perpetrator(s), shall be developed by MCOE administrators in accordance with Education Code 32281. In developing such strategies, MCOE administrators shall consult with law enforcement officials and with a representative of an employee bargaining unit, if he/she chooses to participate.

When reviewing the tactical response plan, the County Superintendent may meet in closed session to confer with law enforcement officials, provided that any vote to approve the tactical response plan is announced in open session following the closed session. (Education Code 32281).

Public Access to Safety Plan(s)

The County Superintendent or designee shall ensure that an updated file of all safety-related plans and materials is readily available for inspection by the public. (Education Code 32282)

However, those portions of the comprehensive safety plan that include tactical responses to criminal incidents shall not be publicly disclosed.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

212.6 Sexual harassment 32260-32262 Interagency School Safety Demonstrations Act of 1985 32280-32289 School safety plans 35147 School site councils and advisory committees

35183 School dress code; uniforms

35291 Rules

35291.5 School-adopted discipline rules

35294-35294.9 School safety plans

48900-48926 Suspension and expulsion

48950 Speech and other communication

PENAL CODE

11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

CALIFORNIA STATE CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 28(c) Right to Safe Schools

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Our Schools: Governing Board Strategies to Combat School Violence, 1995

CDE PUBLICATIONS

Safe Schools: A Planning Guide for Action, 1995

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