

# Legislative Report 2023



## Idaho Standard Command Responses For Schools



*A Standardized Approach To School Safety For All Idaho Schools*

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## **Mission**

**Goal 1:** Develop and employ a comprehensive process and instrument for triennial school assessments and reports. [33-5902] (4)(5)(8)

**Goal 2:** Maintain accurate information on school locations and conditions, tracking facility additions and changes. [33-5902] (1)(2)(3)

**Goal 3:** Identify and implement multiple modes of support for the improvement of safety and security within schools. [33-5902] (1)(2)(3)(6)(7)

**Goal 4:** Identify and establish connection with the agencies, institutions and organizations that serve schools, school personnel, or provide some type of service useful for promoting safety and security within the school environment. [33-5902] (1)(3)

**Goal 5:** Identify incidents, conditions and trends that threaten schools. Research and develop effective practices and training. Research and evaluate the efficacy of technological security solutions, advising school on possible implementation. [33-5902] (1)(2)(3)(6)(7)(8)

## Goal 1,2- Triennial Assessments

Number of school campuses that have been completed in round 2: 358  
(goal 1,2,3)

Number of school campuses that have been completed last school year 21/22: 152  
(goal 1,2,3)

Current campuses in state: 735

Training and Consulting Projects (goal 3,5,4)

- Pandemic Planning
- Major Incident Review
- Reunification Plan Development
- SRO Support Plan Development
- Idaho Standard Command Responses for Schools (ISCRS)
- Effective Supervision Practices
- Behavioral Threat Assessment
- Title IX Support
- Emergency Operations Planning Support
- Radio Communications Plan Development
- COVID-19 Reopening Planning & Support

Updated Vulnerability Assessment to current law and research (goal 1,3,5)

Updated Vulnerability Assessment methods to allow for better data aggregation (goal 1,3,5)

## ASSESSMENT STATISTICS

Customarily this portion of the report is intended to provide statewide aggregated statistical information to help inform policymaker and lawmaker prioritization relating to the current observations of K-12 student safety and security throughout the State of Idaho.

152 assessments were completed during the disrupted 2021-2022 school year and all assessment documentation was delivered to local school boards and administrators. These vulnerability assessments were accurate snapshots of analyst observations at the time of the assessment.

However, aggregated data for this school year contains a high degree of variance and a low degree of confidence in representing the actual state of student safety throughout the state. While the data is accurate, it is not meaningful due to the following considerations:

1. **Low Sample Size-** The disruptions relating to school staffing, pandemic restrictions and closures required a much higher than normal number of cancellation and rescheduled assessments. The cancellations and rescheduling negatively impacted the total number of assessments that able to be completed.
2. **High Degree of Variance Over Time-** The evolution of school operations throughout the school year proved to be especially damaging to statistical comparison this year. A single school may have moved from hybrid schedules in the fall of 2021, to periods of fully remote learning due to illness or staffing shortages and then back to near-normal operations toward the end of the school year. Since Analysts are only present for a single day, the observations, while accurate, may not be representative and useful for long term planning.
3. **Assessment tool updated.** Within the vulnerability assessment tool some questions were added and removed to enhance clarity, prevent scope creep of the assessment, and better communicate vulnerabilities to local governance bodies.

## **Idaho School Safety and Security Program (ISSSP)**

The following is a systematic process that directs a school toward effectiveness in safety planning and implementation through:

- 1) establishing a multidisciplinary safety team.
- 2) creating a comprehensive safety plan based on the ISSSP multi-hazard vulnerability assessment.
- 3) aligning resources and efforts with the comprehensive safety plan.
- 4) monitoring progress toward the comprehensive safety plan objectives.

### **Domains within ISSSP Vulnerability Assessment**

#### **Student Supervision:**

Schools shall demonstrate appropriate student supervision across the campus, throughout the day, and at all school activities.

#### **Operations:**

Schools shall demonstrate safe daily operational procedures and practices.

#### **Facility:**

Schools shall demonstrate physical measures that maximize facility safety.

#### **Security:**

Schools shall demonstrate security measures that control space to prevent intrusion or victimization.

#### **Policy/Training:**

Schools shall demonstrate effectiveness by creating and reviewing policies that establish protocols, practices, and define training for a safe school environment. Training programs shall be aligned with safe school policies.

#### **Community:**

Schools shall demonstrate cooperative planning for prevention and mitigation of, response to, and recovery from all hazards effecting schools.

#### **Climate/Culture:**

Schools shall demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between safe school environments and a positive climate and culture.

## Elements within Domains

### Student Supervision:

- General supervision
- Specific supervision
- Indoor supervision
- Outdoor supervision

### Operations:

- Visitor management
- Access control
- Communication
- Safety practices

### Facility:

- Communication equipment
- Building usage and capacity
- High risk areas
- Maintenance
- Parking
- Safety Equipment
- Signage

### Security:

- Outer perimeter
- Exterior Areas
- Internal Spaces
- Secure spaces
- Surveillance

### Policy/Training:

- Discipline processes
- General safety policies
- Staff training
- Planning
- Specialized staff training
- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

### Climate/Culture:

- Behavior support resources
- Mental health support resources
- Physical health support resources
- Community involvement
- Student engagement
- Social Skills programs

### Community:

- Community resources
- Emergency management
- Medical
- Fire suppression
- Law Enforcement
- School Resource Officer
- Written Agreements (MOU)

### **Goals 3, 4, 5: SPECIAL PROJECTS**

1. Federal Grant Management
2. Reunification Plan Template Documents Completed
3. Expansion of Statewide Tipline
4. SRO Support Technical Working Group
5. Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Development
6. Clery Act Training and Support



## 1. FEDERAL GRANTS-

US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance: Stop School Violence Grants

Grant #2018-YS-BX-0059 Statewide tip line system (See, Tell, Now!)

\$ 195,465.00, 10/01/2018 – 09/30/21- **Completed**

Grant #2018-YS-BX-0222, State of Idaho Threat Assessment Model for Schools

\$ 344,970.00, 10/01/2018 - 09/30/22- **Extended to 9/30/2023**

Grant #2019-YS-BX-0086 Enhancing Idaho State School Safety Center

\$ 445,000.00, 10/01/2019 – 09/30/22- **Extended to 9/30/2023**

IOEM Hazard Mitigation Grant- Cascade SD- **Completed**

\$57,000- Install a functional communication system to reach all occupied areas of the facility in the event of an emergency.

IOEM Hazard Mitigation Grant- Swan Valley SD- **Completed**

\$34,000- Install a functional communication system to integrate with the fire detection system as well as provide for verbal command and control during a non-fire emergency.

## **Reunification Plan Template Document Package and Training- Completed**

One of the clear, statewide needs evidenced by the vulnerability assessments was the lack of functional reunification plans. Reunification following an emergency is an incredibly complex, resource intensive and carries with it the potential for significant damage when done poorly.

To that end the ISSSP worked with a group of statewide stakeholders to develop a series of template plans to help guide local school safety teams through the plan development process. Training is also available for any district interested in ensuring that their plans will allow them to account for all students, return them to their parent/guardian and document all steps of the process.

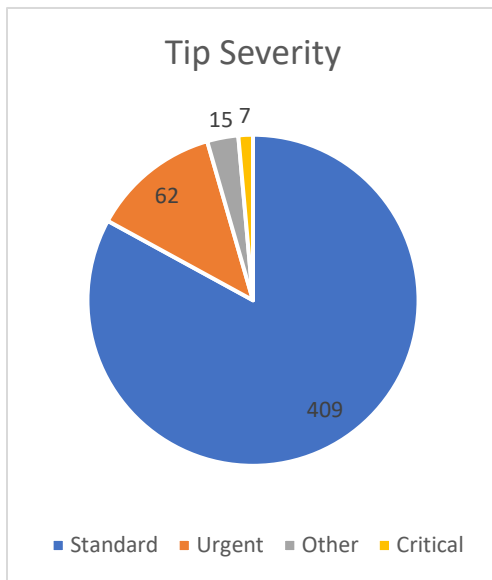
Template plans and documents and training are freely available to all Idaho public K-12 schools at the ISSSP website. <https://schoolsafety.idaho.gov/>

## **Statewide Tipline Expansion- Ongoing**

The statewide confidential tipline has significantly expanded the number of schools that are actively participating this year. School leaders have found the service to be of great benefit for students and school communities. The legislature’s movement to stabilize program funding has demonstrated a commitment to the safety of all students.

Most importantly the program is working. Students, parents and community members are using the service to confidentially communicate safety concerns to the local leaders who can directly address them. The tipline is available to all students, in all schools throughout the state.

The number of schools actively promoting the program to their students has expanded each year since the inception of the program. Over 290 schools in 75 school districts are presenting the tipline to their students. Tipline materials or training have reached over 133,000 students, in public, charter and private schools.



**Tip Severity-** The tipline is saving student lives. While most tips are related to interpersonal conflicts within the school setting. A significant number (62) require urgent attention to address immediate safety concerns. Thankfully the highest level of severity is relatively infrequent, however 7 tips represented an imminent threat to a student’s life and were immediately transferred to emergency services.

**Youth Suicide Prevention-** Approximately %5 of all tips received are related to concerns of youth suicide. Most tips are from students reporting concerns for a friend or peer. Students who contact the tipline to self-report

suicidal ideation (2) are immediately connected to professional support through the Idaho Crisis and Suicide Hotline.

A full report of the progress of the See Tell Now tipline and more information on how to participate is available on our website at <https://schoolsafety.idaho.gov/see-tell-now/>

### **SRO Support Position- In Process**

During the summer of 2021 a multi-agency working group was developed to investigate and mitigate weaknesses within the statewide deployment of School Resource Officers. A multi-strategy approach was adopted that included the following initiatives.

1. Statewide needs assessment
2. Adoption of a common training standard (NASRO Certified, POST Certified)
3. Development of a job duties for a .5 FTE School Resource Officer Support (SROS) position that would include.
  - a. Coordination and identification of School Resource Officers and supporting agencies.
  - b. Serving as a statewide training coordinator to develop regionalized training opportunities targeting rural and remote districts.
  - c. Identify improvement opportunities and funding for increasing the effectiveness of School Resource Officers throughout the state.
4. Identification of existing funds and overhead support to support the SROS position.
5. Implement the contract to begin supporting SRO's

## Cooperating Agencies

### **Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections**

Monty Prow

### **Idaho Office of Drug Policy**

Maryanne King

### **Idaho Department of Education**

Dr. Eric Studebaker

### **Idaho Association of School Resource Officers**

Shawn Scott

### **Idaho Peace Officers Standards and Training**

Leahann Romero

### **Office of the State Board of Education**

Mike Munger

### **Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Grants - Initial Development**

In 2022, following the school shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas, the United States Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA). This act appropriated funding to be disbursed to local educational agencies (LEAs) to support students and improve school safety and security. Idaho was allocated 4.8 million dollars toward this grant program.

The award process is required to be 1) directed to “high-need” schools and 2) awarded through a competitive application process.

The ISSSP has been working in conjunction with the Idaho Department of Education to develop the framework and the decision points that will be involved in the competitive grant application process.

Work is ongoing and the tentative application period for districts and charters will be in time for the 2023-2024 school year.

### **Clery Act Training and Support for Institutions of High Education- Ongoing**

The Clery Act requires colleges and universities to report campus crime data, support victims of violence, notify students of crimes or dangerous situations on campus, and publicly outline the policies and procedures they have put into place to improve campus safety. The purpose of the Clery Act is to allow students and parents to make informed decisions relating to reported crimes on and around campuses.

The ISSSP hosts monthly calls to Clery coordinators at all institutions of higher education (IHEs) and has developed a statewide consortium to develop and refine best practices. This consortium provides a venue for questions, consultation, training and the opportunity to leverage the expertise of the group.

The program also hosts trainings from subject matter experts to help support IHE's as they work to improve the safety of their own campuses. To date, ISSSP has hosted 4 formal training opportunities with 2 more scheduled for the upcoming school year.