

# School Safety and Security Specialists

2025 Legislative Session | School Safety Updates

Utah School Safety Center  
April 23, 2025 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM



**Utah State  
Board of  
Education**



**SCHOOL  
SAFETY  
CENTER**

# Welcome!

- **Save the date:**
  - Utah School Safety Conference (Attendance is not required.)
    - Thursday and Friday, June 12 -13 | 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
    - Copper Hills High School | West Jordan, UT
- Housekeeping:
  - Throughout our training, use the “Q and A” feature to ask questions. (We love to keep track of questions!)
    - Melissa will facilitate all questions.
  - Check SPAM folder for [schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov](mailto:schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov).



# Agenda

- School Safety Administrative Rule Reminders
- Legislative Updates
  - H.B. 104 Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments
  - S.B. 170 School Discipline Amendments
  - S.B. 223 Public Education Bullying Amendments
  - H.B. 40 School Safety Amendments
- Next Steps in Canvas
- Questions



# School Safety Administrative Rule Reminders (1)

## R698-13. School Safety (*Effective Dec. 23, 2024*)

### R698-13-4. Limited Entry Points and Windows.

(1) Schools that have grade five to grade twelve shall establish and maintain a managed point of re-entry with proper visitor management beginning no later than ten minutes after the first bell rings until the final bell rings.

(2) Schools that have kindergarten to grade four shall establish and maintain a managed point of entry with proper visitor management beginning no later than 20 minutes before the first bell, and a secured point of entry ten minutes after the first bell until the final bell rings.

# School Safety Administrative Rule Reminders (2)

## R698-13-8. Fencing Around Playgrounds.

- (1)(a) A school shall install fencing that is a minimum height of six feet tall around school playgrounds and outdoor areas where school sponsored activities may take place.
- (b) Sufficient school staff observing the school playground and outdoor areas where school activities occur to ensure the area is not accessible to the public while students are present may substitute for fencing.
- (2) School outdoor areas and playgrounds may be restricted from being accessed by the public during school hours or after hours as determined by the school.

# H.B. 104 Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments (1)

(3) An LEA shall present firearm safety instruction:

- to a grade, at least three times, while a student is attending kindergarten through grade 6;
- to a grade, at least twice, once while a student is attending middle school and once while a student is attending high school;
- in a manner that is developmentally appropriate to the grade level receiving the instruction; and
- emphasizing the best practices and guidelines for the safe handling and storage of a firearm to prevent accidents and ensure personal safety.

# H.B. 104 Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments (2)

(4) An LEA providing the instruction:

- may provide the instruction:
  - in a public school using live instruction, a video, or online materials;
  - with an existing hunter safety course;
  - with the health education curriculum; or
  - with the physical education curriculum;
- may use firearm safety curricula and materials the attorney general's office previously created; and
- shall ensure that any statement regarding a firearm is politically neutral.

# H.B. 104 Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments (3)

(6)

- A school shall, before providing firearm safety instruction, notify a student's parent or legal guardian of the instruction and provide details on how to opt out.
- A school may provide an alternative educational activity to a student whose parent or legal guardian opts the student out of firearm safety instruction.
- Effective Date: July 1, 2025



# S.B. 223 Public Education Bullying Amendments (1)

"**Student bullying**" means one or more students, with the intent to cause harm, repeatedly committing a written, verbal, or physical act against another student, or engaging in a single egregious act toward another student involving an imbalance of power, that:

- (i) creates an environment that a reasonable person would find hostile; and
- (ii) interferes with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits.

# S.B. 223 Public Education Bullying Amendments (2)

"**Staff bullying**" means a school employee, with the intent to cause harm, repeatedly committing a written, verbal, or physical act against a student or another school employee, or engaging in a single egregious act toward another employee involving an imbalance of power, that:

- (i) creates an environment that a reasonable person would find hostile, threatening, or humiliating; and
- (ii) substantially interferes with a student's or employee's educational or professional performance, opportunities, or benefits.

# S.B. 223 Public Education Bullying Amendments (3)

"Staff & Student bullying" **does not mean** instances of:

- (i) ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument, or peer conflict;
- (ii) reasonable correction of behavior by a school employee; or
- (iii) reasonable coaching strategies and techniques by a school employee who is a coach.



# S.B. 223 Public Education Bullying Amendments (4)

Per Utah Code Section 53G-9-606, LEAs are required to report students who are subjected to bullying (“victim”). Most LEAs are only reporting the offender.

Clarifies reporting for:

- abusive conduct
- staff bullying
- student bullying

# S.B. 170 School Discipline Amendments

New data elements required to be reported for emergency safety interventions (ESIs) affecting Utah Code Section 53G-8-301.

- Incident outcomes
- Duration of an intervention used to respond to the incident
- Stated purpose for any intervention used
- Alternative interventions attempted
- Relevant training offered to staff and if the staff involved received the relevant training without revealing the identity of the staff member

# H.B. 40: School Safety Amendments (1)

Complete a school safety needs assessment **every three years**.

- LEAs may stagger assessments in cooperation with the County Security Chief and local law enforcement.

A principal or teacher **can be** a School Guardian in schools with 350 or fewer students.

- School Guardians and armed security guards must:
  - complete an initial "fit to carry" assessment; and
  - comply with mental health screening requirements for law enforcement officers.

# H.B. 40: School Safety Amendments (2)

Schools must install security glazing or ballistic windows on:

- Interior windows of classroom entrances or instructional areas from the floor by July 1, 2040.
- Exterior windows surrounding only the immediate entryways by the following timeline:
  - Schools in counties of the first or second class by July 1, 2035.
  - Schools in counties of the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth class by July 1, 2040.
    - (Class of counties can be found in Utah Code Section 17-50-501.)

# H.B. 40: School Safety Amendments (3)

- Each school must have a universal access key box with master keys for first responders (School Safety Center will determine standards).
- Public schools must have camera feeds accessible to law enforcement.
- Public schools must have wearable panic alert devices that communicate with Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).
- LEAs can provide adequate staff to supervise perimeters instead of using playground fencing.
- New school buildings must have automated external defibrillators (AEDs).



# H.B. 40: School Safety Amendments (4)

## Incident Response:

- Schools must use an incident response system created by the State Security Chief and the School Safety Center.
  - Schools must physically mark all hallways and doorways based on this system.

## LEA Compliance with Safety Requirements:

- The State Security Chief and School Safety Center will create an escalating system of technical assistance, intervention, and corrective action for LEAs not complying with safety requirements.

# H.B. 40: School Safety Amendments (5)

## School Safety Center Charter School Liaison

- The School Safety Center will include a charter school liaison.
- The liaison will be assigned by the State Charter School Board.
- The liaison will coordinate with charter schools on school safety issues.

## School Safety Foundation

- A nonprofit foundation authorized by the State Security Chief can fundraise for and donate school safety products to schools.
- The foundation must coordinate purchases and donations with the State Security Chief and the School Safety Center.

# Next Steps in Canvas

1. Complete **Training #3** Module
  - Viewing Confirmation Quiz (1/1)
  - Exit Ticket (4/5)
  - Discussion Board (view)
2. Complete **Evaluation and Feedback Form** Module
  - Evaluation and Feedback Form (Google Form)
  - A PDF of your Certificate of Completion will automatically be emailed to you and your building Principal upon your submission
  - Keep a copy of your certificate, as your School Safety and Security Director may also request it in order to issue your stipend.



Congratulations to

# Specialist's Name

School • Local Education Agency

**For completing the FY25 School Safety and Security Specialist  
Training Program.**

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to school safety.  
The School Safety Center appreciates you!

Date

Awarded by: *Ashley Pistello*  
School Safety Center Specialist



# MIDAS Credit

- Each exit ticket contains a set of content questions that are eligible for one (1) license renewal hour each, three (3) hours total. A score of **5/5** on the exit ticket is required to earn the one (1) license renewal hour. Earned hours will be entered into MIDAS when the entire course is complete (by June 30, 2025).
- If you need assistance (i.e., creating a MIDAS account), contact [schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov](mailto:schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov).

# Wrap-Up

- 2025 General Session of the Utah Legislature Public Education Legislative Summary - *coming soon!*
- Training Request and Technical Assistance Requests:
  - Use our [Training Request Portal!](#)
- Questions
  - Reach the USBE School Safety Center at [schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov](mailto:schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov).



# Questions