

HB 232 -- SCHOOL SAFETY (Gallick)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health

Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, and all subsequent school years, this bill requires every public school to develop and implement a cardiac emergency response plan that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on a school campus. A public school with an athletic department or organized athletic program must develop and implement a plan specific to life-threatening emergencies that may occur at an extracurricular event or school-sponsored event on campus.

Members of each public school's administration will coordinate with local emergency services providers to integrate the public school's cardiac emergency response plan into the local emergency services providers' protocols. A cardiac emergency response plan must integrate evidence-based core elements, such as those recommended by the American Heart Association guidelines, Project ADAM, or another set of nationally recognized, evidence-based standard or core elements.

The bill specifies certain guidelines that a cardiac emergency response plan must integrate, including the establishment of a cardiac emergency response team and the placement of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) throughout the school campus. Appropriate AED placement will be dictated by the cardiac emergency response plan and in accordance with guidelines set by the American Heart Association or another set of nationally recognized guidelines.

Appropriate school personnel will be trained in first aid, CPR, and AED use following evidence-based guidelines set forth by the American Heart Association or nationally recognized guidelines. The school personnel required to be trained will be determined by the cardiac emergency response plan and include, but not be limited to, athletics coaches, school nurses, and athletic trainers.

This bill requires school districts and charter schools to adopt a comprehensive emergency operations plan to address school safety, crises, and emergency operations. The plan will be shared with local law enforcement, fire protection services and emergency management. Schools must ensure a physical security site assessment annually and the Department of Elementary and Secondary

Education (DESE) will develop standards for the emergency operation plans.

The bill requires that, beginning July 1, 2026, the State Board of Education (SBE) modify school safety criteria in the Missouri School Improvement Program to require a primary and secondary school safety coordinator to complete the Federal Emergency Management Administration's (FEMA) Incident Command System training courses or any successor course created by FEMA to replace the Incident Command System course or the Incident Command System (ICS) for Schools course provided by the Missouri School Boards' Association's Center for Education Safety (CES) or its successor course created by CES, within one year of being designated a coordinator.

The bill requires that school districts and charter schools equip each interior door with an anti-intruder door lock and each exterior door with bullet-resistant window film. This requirement is subject to appropriations to cover all costs; however, a school may receive donations, as specified in the bill.

Any exterior or interior door or entryway installed after the effective date of these provisions must be equipped, as specified in the bill, and, by July 1, 2029, all schools must have all existing doors, both exterior and interior, equipped per the specifications in the bills, and develop and implement policies relating to access to individual classrooms and require that doors with windows be equipped with material to cover windows during a building lockdown. Classroom doors with windows and adjoining sidelights must be equipped with material that conceals students and staff in a lockdown while maintaining some limited visibility into the room for first responders.

The bill requires behavioral risk assessments to be included in the records to be requested by school officials when enrolling a pupil.

Currently, school districts must be notified if a petition is filed in juvenile court with specific allegations. This bill expands the current requirements to also include when a charge or indictment is filed, adds the prosecutor to the list of required notifiers, and requires the notice to be within 24 hours and reduces the requirement for a summary of facts from five days to two business days following the case disposition. The bill allows school districts to request an injunction to exclude students from educational services if there is a likelihood of danger to the safety of pupils or employees in the school district. The information can be used to provide an alternative environment for the student's educational services.

This bill authorized districts and charter schools to enter into written agreements with law enforcement on procedures for reporting criminal offenses specified in the bill and allows for certain offenses for students under 11 years of age to be reported to the Children's Division, within the Department of Social Services.

The bill requires school districts to prohibit any zero-tolerance disciplinary policy. Zero-tolerance discipline that results in an automatic disciplinary consequence without reviewing each pupil in a case by case manner is prohibited.

The bill requires that cardiopulmonary resuscitation training be required for school district and charter school employees.

This bill requires that, beginning in the 2026-27 school year, all teacher and school employee training include the specified components related to potential threats, safety hazards, and other emergencies. Schools electing to provide the training must do in accordance with the schedule established in Section 168.331.

Currently, public schools are required to foster an environment where students feel comfortable reporting a potentially threatening or dangerous situation to an adult. This bill adds the requirement that schools must annually provide age-appropriate information on the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Courage2ReportMO reporting mechanism. Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, schools must annually hold active shooter exercises in which students, teachers, and school employees participate in and practice the procedures for safety and protection to be implemented when an active shooter is present.

This bill is similar to HB 1991 and SB 1032 (2024).