



2025-2026 Phase Two: District Safety Report_10072025_11:00

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Hardin County Schools
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District Safety Report

Pursuant to KRS 158.162, the local board of education shall require the school council or, if none exists, the principal in each school to adopt an emergency plan that must be utilized in case of fire, severe weather, earthquake, or a building lockdown and that: establishes evacuation routes; identifies the best available severe weather zones; develops earthquake protocols for students; and, develops and adheres to practices controlling access to the school building. The emergency plan shall be annually reviewed by the council, principal, and first responders and revised as needed.

In addition to the emergency plan requirements in KRS 158.162, KRS 158.164 requires the local board of education to direct the school council or, if none exists, the principal in each school to establish procedures to perform a building lockdown and to invite local law enforcement to assist in establishing lockdown procedures.

KRS 158.162 also requires the emergency plan be discussed with all school staff prior to the first instructional day of the school year and provided, along with a diagram of the facility, to appropriate first responders. Further, the principal in each school shall conduct, at a minimum, the following emergency response drills within the first 30 instructional days of the school year and again during the month of January: one severe weather drill, one earthquake drill, and one lockdown drill. In addition, required fire drills shall be conducted according to administrative regulations promulgated by the Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction.

KRS 158.162, local Superintendents must submit verification to the Kentucky Department of Education that all schools are in compliance by November 1 each year. This diagnostic is the means by which this reporting requirement is fulfilled.

Pursuant to KRS 156.095, by November 1 of each year, a minimum of one (1) hour of training on how to respond to an active shooter situation shall be required for all school district employees with job duties requiring direct contact with students. The training shall be provided either in person, by live streaming, or via a video recording prepared by the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training.

Additionally, in accordance with KRS 156.095, all school administrators, certified personnel, office staff, instructional assistants, and coaches and extracurricular sponsors who are employed by the school district shall complete comprehensive evidence-informed training within ninety (90) days of being hired and then every two (2) years after on child abuse and neglect prevention, recognition, and reporting that encompass child physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect.

Finally, in accordance with KRS 156.095, every public school shall prominently display the statewide child abuse hotline number administered by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the National Human Trafficking Reporting Hotline number administered by the United States Department for Health and Human Services, and the Safe Haven Baby Boxes Crisis Line

number administered by the Safe Haven Baby Boxes national organization or any equivalent successor entity.

Questions Related to the Adoption and Implementation of the Emergency Plan

1. Has the local board adopted a policy requiring the school council or, if none exists, the principal in each school to adopt and implement an emergency plan as required by KRS 158.162?

Please reference the appropriate board policy number(s) and/or title(s) in the comment box.

Yes. Policy 5.4

2. Has each school council or, where applicable, principal adopted an emergency plan in accordance with local board policy and in compliance with the specifications in KRS 158.162(3)?

If all schools in the district have NOT met the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box. Please note that KRS 158.162(3)(d) requires, for example, classroom doors remain closed and locked during instructional time as well as classroom doors with windows be equipped with material to quickly cover the window during a building lockdown. Schools are encouraged to comply with these changes as soon as practicable but, if needed, have until July 1, 2022 to fully implement. Accordingly, failure to comply with KRS 158.162(3)(d), as amended, shall be reported for the 2022-2023 school year and each year thereafter.

Yes

3. Has each school provided local first responders with a copy of the school's emergency plan along with a diagram of the school as required by KRS 158.162(2)(b)?

If all schools in the district have NOT met the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

4. Has each school posted primary and secondary evacuation routes in each room by any doorway used for evacuation as required by KRS 158.162(3)(a)?

If all schools in the district have NOT met the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

5. Has each school posted the location of severe weather safe zones in each room as required by KRS 158.162(3)(b)?

If all schools in the district have NOT met the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

6. Have best practices for students to follow during an earthquake been developed as required by KRS 158.162(3)(c) and is a copy maintained on file for review?

If all schools in the district have NOT met the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

7. Are practices in place to control access to each school building, including but not limited to controlling outside access to exterior doors during the school day; controlling the main entrance of the school with electronically locking doors, a camera, and an intercom system; controlling access to individual classrooms; requiring classroom doors to remain closed and locked during instructional time (with limited exceptions outlined in statute); requiring classroom doors with windows to be equipped with material to quickly cover the windows during a lockdown; requiring all visitors to report to the front office of the building, provide valid identification, and state the purpose of the visit; and providing a visitor's badge to be visibly displayed on a visitor's outer garment as required by KRS 158.162(3)(d)?

If all schools in the district have NOT met the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

8. Was each school's emergency plan reviewed following the end of the prior school year by the school nurse, school council, principal, and first responders and revised as needed as required by KRS 158.162(2)(c) and is a copy maintained on file for review?

Please provide the most recent date of review/revision of the emergency plan for each school in the district in the comment box. If all schools in the district did NOT meet the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

9. Did each principal for each school discuss the emergency plan with **all** school staff prior to the first instructional day of the current school year and appropriately document the time and date of such discussion as required by KRS 158.162(2)(d)?

Please provide the date each school in the district completed this discussion in the comment box. If all schools in the district have NOT met the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes 8/5/25

10. Does the school maintain a portable automated external defibrillator in a public, readily accessible, well-marked location in every school building and, as funds become available, at school-sanctioned athletic practices and competitions and meets the requirements of 158.162(2)(e) subsections 1 through 4?

If the answer is "no", please explain in the comment box.

Yes

11. Has the cardiac emergency response plan for each school been rehearsed by simulation prior to the beginning of each athletic season by all licensed athletic trainers, school nurses, and athletic directors; and interscholastic coaches and volunteer coaches of each athletic team active during that athletic season in accordance with KRS 158.162(2)(e)?

If the answer is "no", please explain in the comment box.

Yes

12. During the first 30 instructional days of the current school year, did the principal in each school within the district conduct at least one severe weather drill, one earthquake drill, and one lockdown drill as required by KRS 158.162(5) and were drills logged in the current drill log?

If all schools in the district did NOT meet the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

13. During the month of January during the prior school year, did the principal in each school within the district conduct at least one severe weather drill, one earthquake drill, and one lockdown drill as required by KRS 158.162(5) and were drills logged in the appropriate drill log and maintained on file?

If all schools in the district did NOT meet the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

14. Over the immediately preceding twelve months, did each school within the district conduct fire drills in accordance with administrative regulations promulgated by the Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction as required by KRS 158.162(5)?

If all schools in the district did NOT meet the requirement, respond "no" and please explain further in the comment box.

Yes

15. Prior to the beginning of each athletic season, did the principal conduct the emergency response plan rehearsal by simulation and the venue-specific emergency action plan rehearsal by simulation as required by KRS 158.162(5)2 and is documentation maintained on file in the school office?

If the answer is "no", please explain in the comment box.

Yes

16. Do all schools in the district have the National Human Trafficking Reporting Hotline, Kentucky Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline, and the Safe Haven Baby Boxes Crisis Line displayed prominently as required by KRS 156.095? Downloadable posters are available on KDE's Human Trafficking Website. [KDE's Human Trafficking Website](#)

Yes