

MN ASSOCIATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS – NEW LAW PRIMER 2023

NEW: ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL POLICY - (MN Statutes 121A.038)

LEGAL DEFINITION – ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL

"**Active shooter drill**" means an emergency preparedness drill designed to teach students, teachers, school personnel, and staff how to respond in the event of an armed intruder on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school.

An active shooter drill is not an active shooter simulation, nor may an active shooter drill include any sensorial components, activities, or elements which mimic a real-life shooting.

NEW: ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL REQUIREMENTS

Active shooter drills with Prek-12 students must be:

- Accessible, developmentally appropriate and age appropriate, including using appropriate safety language and vocabulary
- culturally aware
- trauma-informed
- inclusive of accommodations for students with mobility restrictions, sensory needs, developmental or physical disabilities, mental health needs, and auditory or visual limitations

*Students are **prohibited** from participating in an active shooter drill if it does not meet criteria.*

DEBRIEF TIME / MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- The drill procedures must include time for teachers to debrief with their students.

NO COMBINED TRAINING

- Must **NOT** be combined or conducted at the same time as any other type of emergency preparedness drill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICE / OPT OUT

- An announcement of the training **must be made prior** to the training.
- Schools **must provide notice** of a pending active shooter drill, and the **right to opt a student out** of participating, to every student's parent or legal guardian before the drill is conducted.

NOTE: *MDE will make alternative safety education available for opted out students.*

VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING

- Schools **must annually** provide students (middle/high school) **at least one hour or class period of evidence-based** violence prevention training (*in-person, virtually, or digitally*)

NOTE: *Commissioners of Public Safety & Education will develop a list of evidence-based training by July 1, 2024.*

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO PLANNING

- Students must have the opportunity to contribute to the school's safety and violence prevention planning.

BOARD REQUIREMENTS A school board who has conducted an active shooter drill must consider at a regularly scheduled board meeting:

- Effect of the drills on the safety, and mental health and wellness of students and staff

LEGAL DEFINITION – ACTIVE SHOOTER SIMULATION

"**Active shooter simulation**" means an emergency exercise including full-scale or functional exercises, designed to teach adult school personnel and staff how to respond in the event of an armed intruder on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school which also incorporates sensorial components, activities, or elements mimicking a real-life shooting. Activities or elements mimicking a real-life shooting include, but are not limited to, simulation of tactical response by law enforcement."

An active shooter simulation is not an active shooter drill.

NEW: ACTIVE SHOOTER SIMULATION REQUIREMENTS

- Students must **NOT** be required to participate
- Must **NOT** take place during regular school hours if a majority of students are or are expected to be present at the school
- A student's parent or legal guardian must have the opportunity to **opt into** participating

EFFECTIVE DATE - AUGUST 1, 2023