Texas Ed BRIEF
A NEWSLETTER FOR TEXAS EDUCATORS

RESOURCE 04 NOV 2026

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FREE RESOURCE 04

School Safety & Security Compliance Checklist

A district-level self-check of Texas safety requirements: HB 3 (2023) plus the 2025 updates in HB 2, HB 6, HB 33, HB 121, SB 57, SB 870, and SB 838. Check each item, assign an owner, and keep your documentation ready for TEA monitoring.

Current as of November 13, 2026 · Based on TEC ch. 37, 19 TAC ch. 103, and TEA's TAA "School Safety 89th Legislative Updates" (July 17, 2025)

TEA said in July 2025 that more detail on several 2025 provisions (HB 33, HB 121 extracurricular standards, SB 57) would come in later guidance. Check TEA's School Safety page and recent TAAs before relying on any single item.

01 PEOPLE AND PERSONNEL

- [ ] At least one **armed security officer** present during regular school hours at **every campus**. The board sets the number per campus. TEC §37.0814 (HB 3, 2023)
- [ ] If you claim a **good-cause exception** to the armed-officer requirement, it is documented, includes an alternative plan, and is **reviewed and renewed every year**. HB 121 (2025)
- [ ] Written regulations cover **school marshals**, including concealed carry or open carry while in a uniform identifying the marshal. SB 870 (2025)
- [ ] A **public information officer** is employed or appointed and gets TDEM certification within one year, plus annual continuing education. HB 33 (2025)
- [ ] Required **mental health training** is completed by employees who regularly interact with students. HB 3 (2023)
- [ ] The **School Safety and Security Committee** includes a superintendent designee who is a **special education administrator**. SB 57 (2025)

02 PLANS AND PROCEDURES

- [ ] The **Multihazard Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)** covers prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, **reunification**, and recovery. TEC §37.108; HB 121
- [ ] The EOP uses **standardized response protocol terminology**. HB 33
- [ ] The EOP covers the safety of students, staff, and **spectators at extracurricular activities**, following TEA's standards. HB 121; 19 TAC §103.1217
- [ ] The EOP meets TEA standards for accessibility for students with impairments.
- [ ] **Emergency response mapping** data has been provided to every applicable emergency service district. HB 121
- [ ] All teaching staff, including aides, who may be directly affected by a campus-level threat are **notified in a timely manner**. HB 2 (2025)

03 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

- [ ] **Silent panic alert technology** in every classroom, with immediate contact to emergency services, law enforcement, health, and fire departments. SB 838 (88R), effective 2025-26
- [ ] At least **one breaching tool and one ballistic shield** available at each campus. HB 33
- [ ] A **security review** is done as soon as practicable whenever you construct, acquire, renovate, or improve a facility. HB 33
- [ ] Exterior door checks and intruder detection audits are completed and reported through **Sentinel**. 19 TAC §103.1213
- [ ] The estimated cost of three-point seat belts on each bus has been reported to TEA. SB 546 (2025)

04 THREAT ASSESSMENT AND DISCIPLINE

- [ ] **Behavioral threat assessment (BTA) teams** use TEA's Sentinel instrument, manual, and field guide (effective Aug 1, 2025). 19 TAC §103.1213
- [ ] Threat assessments are **transferred through Sentinel** when a student moves to another district. TEC §25.036; 19 TAC §103.1213
- [ ] When a student in special education is assessed, the team includes a qualified member, such as the student's special education teacher, an LBA, an LCSW or LMSW, or an LSSP. HB 6; HB 121
- [ ] Campus behavior coordinators **report** terroristic threats, weapons conduct, and concerning trends to the Safe and Supportive Schools team. HB 6 (2025)
- [ ] In-school suspension has no time limit, but an **administrative review is held every 10 school days**. Out-of-school suspension stays capped at 3 days. HB 6

05 DRILLS, AUDITS, AND REPORTING

ITEM	REQUIRED	DONE?
Secure (lockout) drill	1 per year	☐
Lockdown drill	1 per semester	☐ ☐
Evacuation drill	1 per year	☐
Shelter-in-place drill (weather or hazmat)	1 per year	☐
Fire evacuation drills	Per local fire authority; 4 per year (2 per semester) if there is none	☐
IEP/504 accommodations planned for drills	Every drill (SB 57)	☐
Comprehensive safety and security audit	At least every 3 years; report to the board and TxSSC	☐
Safety-allotment spending certified in the audit	With each audit (TEC §37.108(b-1))	☐
Board member school safety training (2 hrs)	First 120 days, then every 2 years	☐

Drill counts: 19 TAC §103.1209. Districts may conduct more drills, up to 8 per semester and 16 per year under TEC §37.114.

06 FEDERAL OVERLAY

FERPA health and safety exception

You may disclose student records to appropriate parties in a health or safety emergency (34 CFR §99.36). Document the threat and who received the records.

IDEA and Section 504

Disciplinary removals of students with disabilities trigger manifestation-determination protections. Coordinate BTAs with ARD and 504 committees.

07 OWNER AND DOCUMENTATION LOG

AREA	OWNER	EVIDENCE LOCATION	LAST REVIEWED
Armed officer coverage / good-cause exception			
EOP (including extracurricular annex)			
Panic alert, breaching tool, ballistic shield			
BTA teams and Sentinel reporting			
Drills log			

AREA	OWNER	EVIDENCE LOCATION	LAST REVIEWED
3-year audit and TxSSC report			
PIO certification			

Planning games, concerts, and graduations? The Event Safety Plan Builder from Education Administrative Resources helps districts build extracurricular security and medical plans. Contact allen@edadresources.com · **texasedbrief.org**

Sources

- TEA TAA, "School Safety 89th Legislative Updates," July 17, 2025 (HB 2, HB 6, HB 33, HB 121, SB 57, SB 546, SB 870, SB 838, 19 TAC §103.1213)
- Texas Education Code §37.0814 (HB 3, 88R); House Research Organization bill analysis, C.S.H.B. 3 (2023)
- 19 TAC §103.1209, Mandatory School Drills (Cornell LII / TEA)
- Texas Education Code §37.108 (EOP and safety and security audit)
- TASB, Current Trustee Training Requirements

This checklist is a planning aid, not a complete statement of law or a substitute for the TxSSC audit toolkit, TEA monitoring guidance, or advice from your school attorney. Requirements may be updated by TEA rulemaking. © 2026 Texas Ed Brief · Education Administrative Resources, LLC.

📌 KEY RESOURCES

Texas School Safety Center: audit toolkit and templates
txssc.txstate.edu

TEA School Safety 89th Legislative Updates (TAA)
tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/correspondence/taa-letters/school-safety-89th-legislative-updates

Texas Education Code ch. 37
statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.37.htm

Texas Division of Emergency Management
tdem.texas.gov

TEA Office of School Safety and Security
SafeSchools@tea.texas.gov

U.S. Dept. of Education student privacy (FERPA)
studentprivacy.ed.gov

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Links current as of November 2026. Requirements change, so check these official sources for the latest guidance.