# **School Safety Standards Proposed Rule Summary**



# **Highlights from Proposed Rulemaking**

The <u>proposed School Safety Standards rule</u> requirements are summarized for quick reference below, consult the rule language for complete details of the proposed rule. Standards only apply to instructional facilities.

### **Key Terms**

**Instructional facility**: A building predominantly used for teaching curriculum under TEC, §28.002. It includes facilities leased or owned. Some exclusions apply for specialized properties (e.g., hospitals, universities). *See subsection (a)(3)*. **Actively monitored**: Monitored by an adult whose primary duty at the time is to visibly review visitors upon approach and can take immediate action if necessary.

**Secured area**: A fence or wall that is at least six (6) feet in height and has anti-scaling design features or is eight (8) feet high; and must be well maintained, and if gated, allows for emergency egress.

### **Facility Components**

**Exterior Doors, Exterior Classroom doors, and portable doors** should operate as fully intended, are required to remain closed, latched, and locked, and allow for emergency egress from the inside while remaining locked. Roof doors should remain closed and locked when not in use. *Doors can be unlocked during the instructional day if they are actively monitored or within a secured area.* 

**Windowed doors** on the ground level or windows that are adjacent to or near a door and are large enough to allow someone to enter if broken must be reinforced with entry-resistant film unless within a <u>secured area</u>.

Panic Alert System must allow an alert to be triggered manually by campus staff, automatically with a 911 call, include location of where alert was triggered, alerts administrators which can then alert law enforcement, and can simultaneously send an alert to all staff. Where applicable, trigger doors to lock if electronic door system allows.

**Other facility components** that are required in the proposed rule include exterior door numbering, radio signal repeaters (where needed), and exterior secure master key lock boxes.

# **Operating Requirements**

**Exterior Door Sweeps** must be conducted weekly to certify that all doors are properly closed, locked, and latched. Issues must be reported to the school safety and security committee and the campus principal in order to address any deficiencies.

**Exterior Door Numbering Site Plan** must be developed and accurately maintained, readily available in the main office, and shared digitally with the local 911 entity.

#### **Maintenance Requirements**

The school system must perform maintenance checks twice annually to ensure that the facility components within the rule function properly and as intended

## Implementation and Certification Timeline for Facilities Upgrades

- 2022-2023 SY School systems must certify requirements are met starting with the 2022-23 school
- August 2023 Deadline to have contractor procured and a final timeline to complete all work required