School Safety Update

NOV. 20, 2018 – NOON-1 P.M.
Act 44 Implementation and Updates
Act 44 of 2018 Overview

• Establishment of School Safety & Security Committee
• School Safety & Security Coordinators
• Mandated School Safety & Security Training
• Assessment Criteria, Vendor Registration and Surveys
• School Safety & Security Grant Criteria
• School Police/School Resource Officers/Security Guards
• State Police RVAT Teams
• Safe2Say Something Anonymous Reporting System
PCCD Updates

• Committee was timely formed pursuant to Act 44 and has had monthly meetings since July 23, 2018.

• Upcoming meeting dates:
  • November 28, 2018
  • January 30, 2018

• Members consist of cabinet members from PDE, PEMA, PSP, DHS, and gubernatorial appointments.

A membership list is available on the PCCD webpage: https://www.pccd.pa.gov/schoolsafety/
On September 26, 2018, the Committee adopted:

- The first set of School Safety and Security Assessment Criteria, which can be found on PCCD’s webpage.

- Registration Criteria for individuals who wish to become registered school safety and security assessors.

- School safety and security survey, which school entities are required to respond to pursuant to Act 44. Survey was released to schools entities on October 15, 2018; they are required to respond by November 30, 2018. The Committee will use the survey results to issue findings to school entities regarding their safety and security preparedness.
On September 7, 2018, PCCD released $52.5 million in funding for school safety and security grants through a two-part solicitation.

- The Committee is in the process of developing a separate $7.5 million solicitation for community violence grant programs, which is anticipated to be released in December 2018.

On October 30, 2018, the Committee approved Part A funding to 496 school districts. Each district was approved for $25,000, totaling $12.4 million.

- Part B of the solicitation will re-open for entities after they have received findings based on their school safety and security survey. Scoring and review of the Part B grants will occur in Spring 2019.
Safe2Say Something Background

- Pursuant to Act 44 of 2018, the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General (OAG) is establishing the "Safe2Say Something" (S2SS) school safety anonymous tip program.

- S2SS allows individuals to submit secure and anonymous safety concerns to help identify and intervene when unsafe and/or harmful behaviors take place within K-12 schools statewide.

- Tips are submitted via the app, website, or through 24/7 hotline and triaged by the S2SS crisis center, housed in the Office of Attorney General. The crisis center then sends the tip to the appropriate school team and 911 County Dispatch (as needed).
Safe2Say Something Background

- The PA Office of Attorney General (OAG) is partnering with Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) to rollout S2SS to 500+ school entities across the state.

- SHP's mission is to prevent gun violence (and other forms of violence and victimization) BEFORE it happens by teaching youth and adults to identify, intervene and get help for at-risk individuals by calling 911, getting to a trusted adult, or using an anonymous reporting system.

- SHP is bringing that expertise to help the OAG setup its crisis center, train school district and County 911 dispatch teams, train middle and high schoolers on the program, and help sustain the program to create a culture of upstanders across PA.

- This program is mandated by law to be live, accepting tips, and forwarding tips to the appropriate school entity on January 14, 2019.
Each year, there are hundreds of thousands of acts of youth violence and victimization

- 749,000 students were victims of violence
- 876,000 students were afraid of attack or harm at school
- 1,000,000 students were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property
- 250,000 students seriously considered attempting suicide
- 5% of school teachers reported that they had been physically attacked by a student from their school
- 1,000,000 students were harassed, threatened or subject to other forms of cyberbullying
And sadly, many take their own life or the lives of others

Actual posts

@J someone needs to find you and assassinate you. Like, seriously. You get off by f*** up the truth. I should do it.

(No Subject)
July 13, 2013, 3:06 PM

I'm sorry to those who I offended over the years. I'm blind to see that I, as a human being, suck. I'm an individual who is doing an injustice to the world and it's time for me to leave. Please don't ever feel sorry for me, or cry - because I had an opportunity at life and that opportunity is over. I'm sorry that I wasn't able to love someone or have someone love me. I guess it's best though, because now I leave no pain onto anyone. The kids in school are right, I am a loser, a freak, and a tag and in no way is that acceptable for people to deal with. I'm sorry for not being a person that would make someone proud.

VALENCIA HIGH SCHOOL

VALENCIA HIGH SCHOOL HAS BEEN NOMINATED TO BE SHOT UP FIRST.
In a majority of these acts, there are warning signs or signals given off

- 37% of threats of violence, bullying, etc. are sent electronically. 28% used social media

- 80% of school shooters tell someone of their violent plans. 69% tell more than one person

- Most mass shootings are planned for 6+ months

- Up to 70% of people who complete suicide tell someone their plans or give some other warning sign

- Youth display/present pathway behaviors / at-risk behaviors between the ages of 13-17
  - Creating a petri-dish or breeding ground in schools
  - Creating opportunities for early identification and intervention
However – these signs are not seen because youth (and the adults around them) do NOT...

- Understand or know how to recognize signs and signals
- Believe a threat to be true because “they would never say it publicly if they meant it”
- Want to be labeled, stigmatized and/or possibly physically threatened as a “snitch”
- Want to be “that kid” or “that parent” saying something
- Feel comfortable calling 911 or talking to a trusted adult
- Know who to tell or “believe that nothing will be done to help”
- Just choose to ignore the sign or signal thinking someone else will say something – bystander effect
Teaches middle and high school youth (and the adults around them) how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, from individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and Say Something to a trusted adult, call 911 or use the S2SS anonymous reporting system.

1. LOOK for warning signs, signals & threats
2. ACT immediately, Take it seriously
3. SAY SOMETHING to a trusted adult, 911 or use S2SS
S2SS – HOW does it work?

**Step 1: Submit**
Youth or Adult
Submit a Tip using
our App, Website, and Hotline

**Step 2: Manage**
Tips are Triaged, Categorized, and Delivered to the District / Dispatch by the OAG Crisis Center

**Step 3: Disposition**
District and/or Law Enforcement Assess and Intervene as Needed

Sustained and Maintained
Step 1: Tip Submission

Step 1: Youth or Adult Submit a Tip using our App, Website, and Hotline

S2SS Hotline: 1-844-SAF2SAY
Step 2: Tip Management

Action 1: Triage
S2SS Analyst gathers caller tip information and/or receives website and app submission(s). Conducts two-way anonymous dialog as needed with tipster to capture as much information as possible.
Step 2: Tip Management at Crisis Center

**Action 1: Triage**
S2SS Analyst gathers caller tip information and/or receives website and app submission(s). Conducts two-way anonymous dialog as needed with tipster to capture as much information as possible using set SOPs.

**Action 2: Categorize**
S2SS Analyst categorizes tip as either “life safety” or “non-life safety” incident/concern/threat based on OAG approved definitions.
# Step 2: S2SS Defined Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safe2SaySomething Definitions</th>
<th>Life Safety - Imminent and In-Progress</th>
<th>Non-Life Safety - Crime or Violence</th>
<th>Non-Life Safety</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Shooter or presence of explosive device</td>
<td>Alcohol possession or use</td>
<td>Anger issues/management (non-life threatening)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bodily injury and/or emergency condition</td>
<td>Animal cruelty</td>
<td>Breaks school code of conduct</td>
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<td>Child predator</td>
<td>Cannabis/Other drug paraphernalia</td>
<td>Bullying/cyber-bullying/general teasing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dating violence</td>
<td>Distribution of inappropriate photos</td>
<td>Creating a hostile environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disorderly/dangerous conduct</td>
<td>Drunk and/or under influence of other substances</td>
<td>Depression/anxiety (non-life threatening)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic violence/victimization</td>
<td>Forgery/falsifying documents</td>
<td>Discrimination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug use, distribution/sale, and/or substance abuse</td>
<td>Graffiti and/or other defacing of property</td>
<td>Drug use NOT in progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency building condition (fire, collapse, explosion)</td>
<td>Hate crime/speech</td>
<td>Eating Disorder/anorexia/bulimia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gang violence/formation/threats</td>
<td>Sexting</td>
<td>General harassment of students/staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have attempted suicide and are requesting help</td>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>General school complaint</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Trafficking</td>
<td>Threat/ideation of performing a false alarm</td>
<td>Inappropriate behavior, language, gestures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual is unconscious/unresponsive</td>
<td>Truancy/skipping school</td>
<td>Inappropriate bus behavior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intend/threaten/ideate to commit suicide</td>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>Inappropriate intimidating physical contact</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intend/threaten/ideate to harm another person</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inappropriate use of technology/school equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intend/threaten/ideate to harm building/property</td>
<td></td>
<td>Intention, discussion, and/or planning of any hazing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missing/lost student, educator, and/or administrator</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mean/cruel towards others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Abuse</td>
<td></td>
<td>Planned parties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned attack, shooting, fight/assault</td>
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<td>Possession of lighter/matches</td>
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<td>Presence of weapons (guns, knives, explosive)</td>
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<td>Sexual harassment</td>
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<td>Reckless driving on school property</td>
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<td>Smoking tobacco, e-cigs, or vapes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault/Rape</td>
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<td>Verbal abuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terrorism threat and/or ideation</td>
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Step 2: Tip Management

Action 1: Triage
S2SS Analyst gathers caller tip information and/or receives website and app submission(s). Conducts two-way anonymous dialog as needed with tipster as needed to capture as much information as possible.

Action 2: Categorize
S2SS Analyst categorizes tip as either “life safety” or “non-life safety” incident/concern/threat based on district approved definitions

Action 3: Deliver
S2SS Analyst forwards tip via text, email and/or phone call to assigned district crisis team (3-5 members) and local dispatch (as needed) based on OAG approved process and protocols
Step 2: S2SS Process & Protocol

- Life Safety Tips are delivered 24/7 via phone call, email and text to
  - Gather a student’s address for immediate intervention
  - Inform you as to what is walking in your school the next day

- Non-life safety tips are sent to the districts between 6AM-6PM daily
Step 3: Tip Disposition

1) District Crisis Team (3-5 team members) and local law enforcement (as needed) assess, intervene, and take protective action

2) District Crisis Team closes out tip within the S2SS platform documenting / dispositioning what actions were taken
S2SS 3 Step Summary

STEP 1:

STEP 2 – Action 1:
Tip sent via App, Website and/or Call In-Take

STEP 2 – Action 2:
S2SS Crisis Center Triage Tip

STEP 2 – Action 3:
Life Safety Tip
Non-Life Safety Tip

STEP 3:
Call County 911 Dispatch
Call, Text, Email District Crisis Team
Text, Email District Crisis Team

Investigation, assessment and/or action

Submission Disposition / Status
Written Response in S2SS and Indication of case being “open or closed”
WHAT are the anticipated reporting rates?

• 3-6% of population trained will submit a tip once all students are trained and receive sustained updates - the number of tips in the first 48-72 hours will be run higher then flatten out

• Approximately 40-60% will be Life Safety Tips of which 10-15% will be very serious

• Suicide, suicide ideation, depression, anxiety, substance abuse, school violence, bullying/cyber-bullying and gang violence will likely be your top tip submissions

• Hoax or false claims are less than ½ of 1% – with most being inactionable submissions such as “clowns have red hair”
HOW is Anonymity Protected? Broken?

• All tip submissions are anonymous – no exceptions

• All tip data is owned by the school district with student information being protected via state and federal laws

• If a tipster voluntarily discloses his or her identity and verifies that he or she is willing to be identified

• If an individual abuses the system or breaks a state or federal law, the school district can request a court order to TRY and uncover anonymity
HOW will stakeholders be trained?

- **S2SS Districts and Dispatches:** In-person regional training sessions that each will attend separately (2-3 Hours)
  - Hold approx. 20-40 district sessions (~500+ districts)
  - Hold approx. 10-20 dispatch sessions (~67 dispatches)

- **Students:** Use interactive training video or use SHP Trainers to train via classroom or auditorium style (1 hour)

- **Parents / Educators and Administrators:** Materials / video provided to schools for education of school admin / educators as well as parents / caretakers (30 minutes)
Roles and responsibilities of the S2SS School/District Leads?

- Be the key contact and champion of the program for your district, charter school, cyber charter school, private school, nonpublic school, intermediary unit, and/or area vocational-technical school – any and all communication and actions needed will flow through you on S2SS issues.

- Coordinate the establishment of a 3-5 member team who will have the responsibility to receive and act upon tips ... and provide their name, address, and contact information

- Provide the name, address and contact information for all schools in your district/school system
Roles and responsibilities of the S2SS School / District Leads?

• Lead and facilitate discussion with your local County 911 Dispatch/Police to outline and fully understand how you will work together when a “life safety” tip is received.

• Coordinate the registration and attendance of the 3-5 member team to one external 2-hour training session to learn how to use the S2SS platform. Add 1-hour for your personal admin training.

• Help and encourage your 3-5 team members to practice and play with the S2SS program prior to launch to ensure comfort level in accessing and viewing tips.
Roles and responsibilities of the S2SS School / District Leads?

- Communicate and coordinate the final “test” of the system for your 3-5 member team prior to launch.

- Coordinate the training across the school / district for the students via an interactive training video, the downloading of materials to self-lead and/or direct S2SS certified trainers.

- Help maintain and sustain the program post-launch with SHP local coordinators - support includes technical support, helping with in-school awareness and (re)training of new administrators and the incoming class of students.
Action Item

- Select 3-5 member team / submit contact info Nov
- Select in-person regional training date Nov
- Attend in-person training Nov/Dec
- Meet / Set Coordination Plan with Dispatch/Police Dec
- Practice using system Dec
- Test System Dec/Jan
- School student – We are LIVE! Starting on Jan 14
- Ongoing sustaining efforts 1x per Qtr
Safe2Say Something Procedure Considerations

• Act 44 requires school entities to develop procedures for responding to Safe2Say Something reports

• No “one size fits all” approach – framework

• Coordinate with school safety and security personnel and law enforcement in accordance with MOUs

• Consult school solicitor
Safe2Say Something Procedure Considerations

General Threat Mitigation Principles

• Establish a multidisciplinary crisis response/threat assessment team
• Ensure a centralized reporting mechanism
• Determine law enforcement intervention parameters – MOU
• Establish assessment procedures
• Develop risk management considerations
• Create and promote positive school climate
• Conduct training for all stakeholders
Safe2Say Something Procedure Considerations

- Establish a Crisis Team (crisis response/threat assessment)
- Ensure training is conducted
- Develop procedures and processes for responding to both Life Safety and Non-Life Safety reports
- Establish a process for closing out the tip in Safe2Say
- Ensure a documentation process
Safe2Say Something Procedure Considerations

Crisis Team Options

- School Safety & Security Coordinator
- Student Assistance Program team member(s)
- School principal or other administrator
- Student services or other central office personnel
- Guidance counselor
- School psychologist
- School police/SRO/security personnel
- Others
Safe2Say Something Procedure Considerations

Process and Outcome Options

• Counseling – individual student, parental conference, plan meeting
• Monitoring with awareness
• Immediate intervention – student services, crisis response, law enforcement
• Outside referral
• Investigation/School Discipline
• Reporting/Law enforcement action – “incident” reporting, criminal action
Consider existing policies and procedures

✓ Bullying/Cyberbullying – 249
✓ Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response – 819
✓ Child Abuse – 806
✓ Student Assistance Program - 236
✓ Student Discipline – 218
✓ Weapons – 218.1
✓ Terroristic Threats – 218.2
✓ Controlled Substances – 227
✓ Searches – 226
✓ Emergency Preparedness – 805
✓ Relations with Law Enforcement – 805.1
Questions and Inquiries?

info@safe2saypa.org
PSBA Events

Applied School Director Training:
December 11 & 12
January 10 & 17

Board Presidents Panel:
January 29, 30, & 31

Visit PSBA.org for locations and details

Spring webcast series – coming soon!