

Title of Regulation:

Regulation No.: 43-166

STUDENT AND SCHOOL SAFETY

Effective Date: 03/28/97

Constitutional and Statutory Provisions:

Section(s):

59-5-60.	General powers of [State] Board.
59-5-65.	Powers and responsibilities of [State] Board.
59-19-90(7).	General powers and duties of school trustees.
59-63-910, <i>et seq.</i>	Fire Drills.
59-66-20.	School safety coordinator grant program; funding; requirements.

Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976.

State Board Regulation:

Student and School Safety.

A. School Safety Assessment

1. The State Department of Education shall develop a Model Safe Schools Checklist designed to assess schools' safety strengths and weaknesses. The checklist must include items addressing the following topics:

- a. the existence of a comprehensive safety plan;
- b. communication of discipline policies and procedures;
- c. intra-agency and interagency emergency planning;
- d. recording of disruptive incidents;
- e. training of staff and students;
- f. assessment of buildings and grounds;
- g. procedures for handling visitors;
- h. assignment of personnel in emergencies;
- i. emergency communication and management procedures; and
- j. transportation rules and accident procedures.

2. The State Department of Education shall submit the checklist to the State Board of Education for approval prior to dissemination to the school districts. The checklist may be revised on an annual basis by the State Board of Education in compliance with relevant provisions of the Safe Schools Act of 1990.

3. Prior to September 30 of each school year, the State Department of Education shall disseminate a copy of the model safe schools checklist to every public school district in the state.

4. School districts shall be advised by the Department of Education of the requirement to use a safe schools checklist in compliance with Section 59-5-65, S.C. Code of Laws, 1976. This safety assessment should be part of the comprehensive needs assessment conducted for school improvement purposes in compliance with Section 59-20-60(4)(d), S.C. Code of Laws, 1976. In particular, a safe schools check list should be utilized in determining "school climate" needs, one of the six indicators of school effectiveness.

B. First Aid Supplies

Each school shall provide adequate first aid supplies and equipment.

C. Support for Authorities

The Board urges all citizens to continue their active and vigorous support of the local school and civil authorities in insuring the personal safety and security of all students and teachers.

D. Emergency and Disaster Plans

A plan shall be designed to provide for the protection and welfare of students in the event of any disaster (tornado, hurricane, fire, etc.) which threatens to involve the school community. Each school shall conduct at least one emergency drill within the first month of school to insure safety against such disasters.

E. Guidelines will be developed by the State Department of Education which will refer to statutory provisions relating to school safety, as well as additional information. The State Department of Education will review and update these guidelines as needed.