Student Safety
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2019 – HB120: Student and School Safety Assessment

REPRESENTATIVE
RAY WARD

ONGOING
FUNDS FOR
SCHOOL SAFETY

SCHOOL SAFETY
CENTER
School Safety Center

• Utah State Board of Education

• Department of Public Safety

• Department of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

• Additional Members - Suicide Prevention, Substance Abuse Prevention, Equity, and Utah Department of Health
To ensure the physical and emotional safety of all students through an increase in technical support, training, and emotional/behavioral resources.
Freeman High School Shooter – Caleb Sharpe
School climate affected whether students came forward.

Some students did not come forward because they disbelieved that the attacks would occur, or they misjudged the likelihood and immediacy of the planned attack.

In some situations, parents and parental figures influenced whether the bystander reported the information to school staff or other adults in positions of authority.
“If You See Something, Say Something”
POTENTIAL SCHOOL THREAT TIPS

245 potential school threats received

318 verified tips

THREAT TIPS COVERED
EXPLOSIVES
GUNS
KNIVES
PLANNED SCHOOL ATTACKS
WEAPONS

THE DOWNLOAD ON SAFEUT

DATA TIMELINE:
Mar. 1, 2018–Mar. 31, 2019

23,120 CHATS: Therapeutic dialogue through texting with a SafeUT Licensed Crisis Worker.

13,298 TIPS: School safety and mental health concerns that are immediately sent to both SafeUT staff and the school to evaluate.

POTENTIAL SCHOOL THREATS:
Tip topics include: planned school attack, explosives, weapons, guns and knives.

307 unique instances resulting in the generation of 464 tips.

TOP 5 TIP TOPICS

SUICIDE 2,310
BULLYING 1,993
DEPRESSION 1,191
DRUGS 938
CUTTING 837

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
8 Steps for creating a Comprehensive Targeted violence Prevention Plan

Federal Commission on School Safety Prevent, pg. 54

1. Establish a multi-disciplinary threat assessment team.
2. Define behaviors to include those that are prohibitive and concerning.
3. Establish and provide training on a central reporting system.
4. Determine the threshold for law enforcement intervention.
5. Establish replicable threat assessment procedures.
6. Develop risk management options.
7. Create and promote a safe school climate.
8. Provide training for all stakeholders.
Threat Assessment & Multidisciplinary Approach
The Team will receive reports about concerning students and situations, gather additional information, assess the risk posed to the school community, and develop intervention and management strategies to mitigate any risk of harm.
Ongoing Challenges School Face

- **Facility Challenges** – Older buildings not designed for single or controlled access. Charter schools occupy building not designed for schools.

- **Location Challenges** – Urban schools near homeless populations and transportation hubs. Rural schools too far from first responders.

- **Access Challenges** – Secondary schools with students transferring between classes on and off campus – Portables disconnected from main building.

- **Others** - Ensuring Schools are welcoming, Mental Health Needs, Transportation to/from School and Online Safety.
How the State can Assist

Prioritizing Resources:

#1 Remodeling existing facilities with physical safety enhancements and communication tools.

#2 “Best Practices” on school safety protocols with “site visits”. Model emergency plans, reunification drills, sample school safety policies, professional learning for administrators, educators etc., centralized, consistence online resource, prioritization of limited funds for greatest ROI (Return on Investment)

#3 Increase number of SROs, facilitating coordination of local law enforcement with schools especially charter schools, support in performing active shooter drills and evacuation exercises.
Top Three Requests

- Resources For Facilities and Equipment: 50%
- Resources For Training: 40%
- Resources for School Resource Officer & Law Enforcement Support: 20%
Utah School and Student Level Data
School Population, SY 2000-2065

- **2000:** 475,269
- **2010:** 576,335
- **2019:** 665,188
- **2020-2020 Growth:** 41%
- **2000-2020 Growth:** 41%
- **2022:** 785,108
- **2030:** 699,371
- **2040-2040 Growth:** 17%
- **2040:** 861,820
- **2050:** 946,881
- **2065:** 946,881

**Growth:**
- **2000-2020:** 41%
- **2020-2040:** 17%
- **2040-2060:** 16%

*Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute 2015-2065 State and County Projections*
Student Population by Demographic

- Economically Disadvantaged: 36.5% (2015), 35.2% (2018), 33.4% (2019) (Decreased by 0.2%)
- English Learner: 6.0% (2015), 6.7% (2018), 7.5% (2019) (Increased by 1.9%)
- Student With a Disability: 11.2% (2015), 11.7% (2018), 11.9% (2019) (Increased by 1.0%)
- Homeless: 2.0% (2015), 1.6% (2018), 1.6% (2019) (Decreased by 0.4%)
### LATEST HEADLINES/STATISTICS ON MENTAL HEALTH IN YOUNG PEOPLE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Mental Health Data</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adolescents</td>
<td>32% with anxiety disorder (NIMH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 to 17 year olds</td>
<td>12% have experienced one major depressive episode in the past year (USDHHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 19 year olds</td>
<td>Suicide Rates increased 76% (2007-17)(CDC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 14 year olds</td>
<td>suicide rate tripled (2007-17) (CDC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% of students</td>
<td>face significant trauma – two or more ACE (Adverse Child Experiences) i.e. abuse, divorce, death of a parent which are linked to problems in health, education and socialization</td>
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Source: EducationWeek, November 25, 2019 “Should Schools Be Able to Detect Every Would-Be Shooter?”
Fewer Resources...

### Ratio of Students per School Professional

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<tr>
<th>Professional</th>
<th>Recommendation*</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Utah</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Counselor</td>
<td>250:1</td>
<td>444:1</td>
<td>663:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Nurse</td>
<td>750:1 (1Nurse:1 School)</td>
<td>938:1</td>
<td>4,479:1</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Psychologist</td>
<td>700:1</td>
<td>1,526:1</td>
<td>2,720:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>250:1</td>
<td>2,106:1</td>
<td>8,198:1</td>
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What is the state doing?
SafeUT
Incidents Reported By school type on SafeUT since inception

- Charter: 5,334
- Elementary: 2,891
- High School: 23,990
- Intermediate: 642
- Jr. High: 12,825
- Middle School: 9,762
- Private: 733
- University: 4,248

Note: Compiled Data since SafeUT Inception fall 2017
Top 5 incidents reported by school type on SafeUT since inception

- **Suicide**: 1,731 incidents at High Schools
- **Bullying**: Fewer reported incidents of Bullying in High School vs. Jr. High

Note: Compiled Data since SafeUT Inception fall 2017
HB373

1. Matches grant funding for school personnel to contract for community mental health services

2. Supports the SafeUT crisis Line
HB373

All allocated funds must be matched by the LEA

$14M
Appropriated for FY 2020

$26M
FY 2021 Going Forward

Supports the SafeUT Crisis Line
($1.5M one-time allocation)
Data Talking Points

USBE has approved plans for 39 school districts.
In addition, USBE has approved plans for three Regional Service Centers and 38 charter schools.

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<th>Additional FTE</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
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<tr>
<td>LEA-Employed FTE</td>
<td>159.39</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracted FTE</td>
<td>28.93</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>188.32</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
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Common Goals for HB373 Plans

- Decrease absenteeism
- Decrease office referrals
- Increase access to mental health resources (information, counseling, skills)
- Increase achievement
- Decrease mental health concerns including self-harm and suicidal ideation
Hires by Qualified Personnel

- School Counselor: 80
- Social Worker: 59
- Contracted Services: 26
- Nurse: 25
- School Psychologist: 7
- Clinical Mental Health Counselor: 7
- Marriage Family Therapist: 5
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst: 1

Note: Numbers may reflect an increase in hours for existing qualified personnel.
HB373 by the Numbers & Moving Forward

- $12.3M Total Paid Up-to-Date
- 184 Number of Qualified Personnel
- Applications for Upcoming Years
Thank You

USHE Board of Regents Student Safety Forum

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