

Reference Guide of Indiana Laws Related to School Safety

I. Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy

IC 5-2-10.1-9

School safety specialists; duties

Sec. 9. (a) Each school corporation shall designate an individual to serve as the school safety specialist for the school corporation.

(b) The school safety specialist shall be chosen by the superintendent of the school corporation with the approval of the governing body.

(c) The school safety specialist shall perform the following duties:

(1) Serve on the county school safety commission, if a county school safety commission is established under section 10 of this chapter.

(2) Participate each year in a number of days of school safety training that the council determines.

(3) With the assistance of the county school safety commission, if a county school safety commission is established under section 10 of this chapter, develop a safety plan for each school in the school corporation.

(4) Coordinate the safety plans of each school in the school corporation as required under rules adopted by the Indiana state board of education.

(5) Act as a resource for other individuals in the school corporation on issues related to school discipline, safety, and security.

IC 5-2-10.1-11

School safety specialist training and certification program

Sec. 11. (a) The school safety specialist training and certification program is established.

(b) The school safety specialist training program shall provide:

(1) annual training sessions, which may be conducted through distance learning or at regional centers; and

(2) information concerning best practices and available resources; for school safety specialists and county school safety commissions.

(c) The department of education shall do the following:

(1) Assemble an advisory group of school safety specialists from around the state to make recommendations concerning the curriculum and standards for school safety specialist training.

(2) Develop an appropriate curriculum and the standards for the school safety specialist training and certification program. The department of education may consult with national school safety experts in developing the curriculum and standards. The curriculum developed under this subdivision must include training in identifying, preventing, and intervening in bullying.

(3) Administer the school safety specialist training program and notify the institute of candidates for certification who have successfully completed the training program.

- (d) The institute shall do the following:
 - (1) Establish a school safety specialist certificate.
 - (2) Review the qualifications of each candidate for certification named by the department of education.
 - (3) Present a certificate to each school safety specialist that the institute determines to be eligible for certification.

II. County School Safety Commissions

IC 5-2-10.1-10

County school safety commissions; members; duties

- Sec. 10. (a) A county may establish a county school safety commission.
- (b) The members of the commission are as follows:
 - (1) The school safety specialist for each school corporation located in whole or in part in the county.
 - (2) The judge of the court having juvenile jurisdiction in the county or the judge's designee.
 - (3) The sheriff of the county or the sheriff's designee.
 - (4) The chief officer of every other law enforcement agency in the county, or the chief officer's designee.
 - (5) A representative of the juvenile probation system, appointed by the judge described under subdivision (2).
 - (6) Representatives of community agencies that work with children within the county.
 - (7) A representative of the Indiana state police district that serves the county.
 - (8) A representative of the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Indiana who specializes in the prosecution of juveniles.
 - (9) Other appropriate individuals selected by the commission.
 - (c) If a commission is established, the school safety specialist of the school corporation having the largest ADM (as defined in IC 20-18-2-2) in the county shall convene the initial meeting of the commission.
 - (d) The members shall annually elect a chairperson.
 - (e) A commission shall perform the following duties:
 - (1) Perform a cumulative analysis of school safety needs within the county.
 - (2) Coordinate and make recommendations for the following:
 - (A) Prevention of juvenile offenses and improving the reporting of juvenile offenses within the schools.
 - (B) Proposals for identifying and assessing children who are at high risk of becoming juvenile offenders.
 - (C) Methods to meet the educational needs of children who have been detained as juvenile offenders.
 - (D) Methods to improve communications among agencies that work with children.
 - (E) Methods to improve security and emergency preparedness.
 - (F) Additional equipment or personnel which are necessary to carry out safety

plans.

(G) Any other topic the commission considers necessary to improve school safety within the school corporations within the commission's jurisdiction.

(3) Provide assistance to the school safety specialists on the commission in developing and requesting grants for safety plans.

(4) Provide assistance to the school safety specialists on the commission and the participating school corporations in developing and requesting grants for school safe haven programs under section 7 of this chapter.

(5) Assist each participating school corporation in carrying out the school corporation's safety plans.

(f) The affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members of the commission are required for the commission to take action on a measure.

III. Safe School Committees

IC 5-2-10.1-12

Safe school committees; school plans

Sec. 12. (a) Each school within a school corporation shall establish a safe school committee. The committee may be a subcommittee of the committee that develops the strategic and continuous school improvement and achievement plan under IC 20-31-5.

(b) The department of education and the school corporation's school safety specialist shall provide materials to assist a safe school committee in developing a plan for the school that addresses the following issues:

(1) Unsafe conditions, crime prevention, school violence, bullying, and other issues that prevent the maintenance of a safe school.

(2) Professional development needs for faculty and staff to implement methods that decrease problems identified under subdivision (1).

(3) Methods to encourage:

(A) involvement by the community and students;

(B) development of relationships between students and school faculty and staff;
and

(C) use of problem solving teams.

(c) As a part of the plan developed under subsection (b), each safe school committee shall provide a copy of the floor plans for each building located on the school's property that clearly indicates each exit, the interior rooms and hallways, and the location of any hazardous materials located in the building to the law enforcement agency and the fire department that have jurisdiction over the school.

IV. Bullying Definition and Discipline Rules

IC 20-33-8-0.2

"Bullying"

Sec. 0.2. As used in this chapter, "bullying" means overt, repeated acts or gestures, including:

- (1) verbal or written communications transmitted;
- (2) physical acts committed; or
- (3) any other behaviors committed;

by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the other student..

IC 20-33-8-13.5

Discipline rules prohibiting bullying required

Sec. 13.5. (a) Discipline rules adopted by the governing body of a school corporation under section 12 of this chapter must:

- (1) prohibit bullying; and
- (2) include provisions concerning education, parental involvement, reporting, investigation, and intervention.

(b) The discipline rules described in subsection (a) must apply when a student is:

- (1) on school grounds immediately before or during school hours, immediately after school hours, or at any other time when the school is being used by a school group;
- (2) off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event;
- (3) traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
- (4) using property or equipment provided by the school.

(c) This section may not be construed to give rise to a cause of action against a person or school corporation based on an allegation of noncompliance with this section. Noncompliance with this section may not be used as evidence against a school corporation in a cause of action.

V. Internet Safety

IC 20-30-5.5-1

Sec. 1. Each school corporation shall include in the school corporation's curriculum for grades 3 and above instruction concerning safe usage of the Internet by children.

IC 20-30-5.5-2

Sec. 2. The:

- (1) department shall develop guidelines; and
 - (2) state board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2;
- concerning the instruction required under this chapter to assist teachers assigned to teach the material described in this chapter.

IC 20-30-5.5-3

Sec. 3. Guidelines and rules adopted under section 2 of this chapter must cover:

- (1) safe online communication;
- (2) privacy protection;
- (3) cyberbullying;
- (4) viewing inappropriate material;

- (5) file sharing;
- (6) the importance of open communication with responsible adults; and
- (7) any other matters that the department or the state board finds will assist children in using the Internet safely.

VI. Suspension and Expulsion

IC 20-33-8-14

Grounds for suspension or expulsion

Sec. 14. (a) The following are the grounds for student suspension or expulsion, subject to the procedural requirements of this chapter and as stated by school corporation rules:

- (1) Student misconduct.
- (2) Substantial disobedience.
- (b) The grounds for suspension or expulsion listed in subsection (a) apply when a student is:
 - (1) on school grounds immediately before or during school hours, or immediately after school hours, or at any other time when the school is being used by a school group;
 - (2) off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event;
 - or
 - (3) traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event.

IC 20-33-8-15

Unlawful activity by student

Sec. 15. In addition to the grounds specified in section 14 of this chapter, a student may be suspended or expelled for engaging in unlawful activity on or off school grounds if:

- (1) the unlawful activity may reasonably be considered to be an interference with school purposes or an educational function; or
 - (2) the student's removal is necessary to restore order or protect persons on school property;
- including an unlawful activity during weekends, holidays, other school breaks, and the summer period when a student may not be attending classes or other school functions.

VII. Weapons

IC 20-33-8-16

Possession of firearms, deadly weapons, or destructive devices

Sec. 16. (a) As used in this section, "firearm" has the meaning set forth in IC 35-47-1-5.

(b) As used in this section, "deadly weapon" has the meaning set

forth in IC 35-41-1-8. The term does not include a firearm or destructive device.

(c) As used in this section, "destructive device" has the meaning set forth in IC 35-47.5-2-4.

(d) Notwithstanding section 20 of this chapter, a student who is:

(1) identified as bringing a firearm or destructive device to school or on school property; or

(2) in possession of a firearm or destructive device on school property;

must be expelled for at least one (1) calendar year, with the return of the student to be at the beginning of the first school semester after the end of the one (1) year period.

(e) The superintendent may, on a case by case basis, modify the period of expulsion under subsection (d) for a student who is expelled under this section.

(f) Notwithstanding section 20 of this chapter, a student who is:

(1) identified as bringing a deadly weapon to school or on school property; or

(2) in possession of a deadly weapon on school property; may be expelled for not more than one (1) calendar year.

(g) A superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the property where the school is located if a student engages in a behavior described in subsection (d). The superintendent may give similar notice if the student engages in a behavior described in subsection (f). Upon receiving notification under this subsection, the law enforcement agency shall begin an investigation and take appropriate action.

(h) A student with disabilities (as defined in IC 20-35-7-7) who possesses a firearm on school property is subject to procedural safeguards under 20 U.S.C. 1415.

IC 35-47-9-2

Possession of firearms on school property, at school function, or on school bus; felony

Sec. 2. A person who possesses a firearm:

(1) in or on school property;

(2) in or on property that is being used by a school for a school function; or

(3) on a school bus;

commits a Class D felony.

IC 35-47-5-2.5

Possession of a knife on school property

35-47-5-2.5 Sec. 2.5. (a) As used in this section, "knife" means an instrument that:

(1) consists of a sharp edged or sharp pointed blade capable of inflicting cutting,

stabbing, or tearing wounds; and

(2) is intended to be used as a weapon.

(b) The term includes a dagger, dirk, poniard, stiletto, switchblade knife, or gravity knife.

(c) A person who recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally possesses a knife on:

(1) school property (as defined in IC 35-41-1-24.7);

(2) a school bus (as defined in IC 20-27-2-8); or

(3) a special purpose bus (as defined in IC 20-27-2-10);

commits a Class B misdemeanor. However, the offense is a Class A misdemeanor if the person has a previous unrelated conviction under this section and a Class D felony if the offense results in bodily injury or serious bodily injury to another person.

(d) This section does not apply to a person who possesses a knife:

(1) if:

(A) the knife is provided to the person by the school corporation or possession of the knife is authorized by the school corporation; and

(B) the person uses the knife for a purpose authorized by the school corporation;

or

(2) if the knife is secured in a motor vehicle.

VIII. Autism Training

IC 20-26-5-31

Sec. 31. (a) If a school corporation, including a school city (as defined in IC 20-25-2-12), establishes a school corporation police department, the governing body of the school corporation shall adopt a policy that requires every individual appointed as a school corporation police officer to complete training and education, approved by the state board, that will enable the school corporation police officer to appropriately deal with individuals with autism and Asperger's syndrome.

(b) This subsection applies to a regular or special police officer who is assigned as a security police officer for a school corporation under IC 36-8-3-7. The governing body of the school corporation to which the police officer is assigned shall ensure that the police officer receives training and education, approved by the state board, that will enable the police officer to appropriately deal with individuals with autism and Asperger's syndrome.

IX. School Corporation Police Departments

IC 20-26-16

Sec. 1. This chapter applies to a school corporation, including a school city (as defined in IC 20-25-2-12).

Sec. 2. The governing body of a school corporation may establish a school corporation police department under this chapter.

Sec. 3. The governing body of a school corporation may do the following for the school corporation police department:

- (1) Appoint school corporation police officers.
- (2) Prescribe the duties and direct the conduct of school corporation police officers.
- (3) Prescribe distinctive uniforms.
- (4) Provide emergency vehicles.

Sec. 4. An individual appointed as a school corporation police officer must successfully complete at least:

- (1) the pre-basic training course established under IC 5-2-1-9(f); and
- (2) the minimum basic training and educational requirements adopted by the law enforcement training board under IC 5-2-1-9 as necessary for employment as a law enforcement officer.

Sec. 5. (a) Notwithstanding section 4 of this chapter and IC 5-2-1-9, an individual appointed as a school corporation police officer before July 1, 2007, must complete, not later than July 1, 2010, at least:

- (1) the pre-basic training course established under IC 5-2-1-9(f); and
- (2) the minimum basic training and educational requirements adopted by the law enforcement training board under IC 5-2-1-9 as necessary for employment as a law enforcement officer.

(b) As set forth in IC 5-2-1-9, an individual appointed as a school corporation police officer may not:

- (1) make an arrest;
- (2) conduct a search or a seizure of a person or property; or
- (3) carry a firearm;

unless the school corporation police officer successfully completes a pre-basic training course under IC 5-2-1-9(f).

Sec. 6. (a) A school corporation police officer appointed under this chapter:

- (1) is a law enforcement officer (as defined in IC 5-2-1-2(1));
- (2) must take an appropriate oath of office in a form and manner prescribed by the governing body;
- (3) serves at the governing body's pleasure; and
- (4) performs the duties that the governing body assigns.

(b) School corporation police officers appointed under this chapter have general police powers, including the power to arrest, without process, all persons who within their view commit any offense. They have the same common law and statutory powers, privileges, and immunities as sheriffs and constables, except that they are empowered to serve civil process only to the extent authorized by the employing governing body; however, any powers may be expressly forbidden them by the governing body employing them. In addition to any other powers or duties, such police officers shall enforce and assist the educators and administrators of their school corporation in the enforcement of the rules and regulations of the school corporation, and assist and cooperate with other law enforcement agencies and officers.

(c) Such police officers may exercise the powers granted under this section only upon any property owned, leased, or occupied by the school corporation, including the streets passing through and adjacent to the property. Additional jurisdiction may be established by agreement with the chief of police of the municipality or sheriff of the county or the appropriate law enforcement agency where the property is located, dependent upon the jurisdiction involved.

Sec. 7. A school corporation police department established before July 1, 2007, shall be considered, after June 30, 2007, a school corporation police department established under this chapter.

X. Information Sharing

IC 20-33-11

Interrogation of a Student

Sec. 1. The definitions in IC 20-33-8 apply to this chapter.

Sec. 2. A school, including a public or nonpublic school, shall comply with this chapter.

Sec. 3. (a) This section applies if a school does not have a policy that requires a student's parent to be notified if the student is interrogated on school property by a law enforcement officer.

(b) If a student who is at least eighteen (18) years of age is interrogated by a law enforcement officer:

(1) on school property; and

(2) regarding an investigation in which the student may be a suspect;

the school principal must make an effort to immediately notify the student's parent of the interrogation, or if immediate notification is not possible, the school principal must notify the student's parent not later than twelve (12) hours after the interrogation occurs. This subsection does not require the presence of a student's parent at the interrogation if the student is eighteen (18) years of age or older.

Sec. 4. If a school has a policy that requires a student's parent to be notified by a designated school employee if the student is interrogated on school property by a law enforcement officer, the school policy must apply to all students, regardless of the age of the student.

IC 31-37-4-3

Notification of Arrest of Child

Sec. 3. (a) This section applies if a child is arrested or taken into custody for allegedly committing an act that would be any of the following crimes if committed by an adult:

(1) Murder (IC 35-42-1-1).

(2) Attempted murder (IC 35-41-5-1).

(3) Voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3).

(4) Involuntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-4).

(5) Reckless homicide (IC 35-42-1-5).

(6) Aggravated battery (IC 35-42-2-1.5).

(7) Battery (IC 35-42-2-1).

(8) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).

(9) A sex crime listed in IC 35-42-4-1 through IC 35-42-4-8.

(10) Sexual misconduct with a minor (IC 35-42-4-9).

(11) Incest (IC 35-46-1-3).

(12) Robbery as a Class A felony or a Class B felony (IC 35-42-5-1).

(13) Burglary as a Class A felony or a Class B felony (IC 35-43-2-1).

- (14) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2).
 - (15) Assisting a criminal as a Class C felony (IC 35-44-3-2).
 - (16) Escape (IC 35-44-3-5) as a Class B felony or Class C felony.
 - (17) Trafficking with an inmate as a Class C felony (IC 35-44-3-9).
 - (18) Causing death when operating a motor vehicle (IC 9-30-5-5).
 - (19) Criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3) as a Class B felony.
 - (20) Arson (IC 35-43-1-1) as a Class A or Class B felony.
 - (21) Possession, use, or manufacture of a weapon of mass destruction (IC 35-47-12-1).
 - (22) Terroristic mischief (IC 35-47-12-3) as a Class B felony.
 - (23) Hijacking or disrupting an aircraft (IC 35-47-6-1.6).
 - (24) A violation of IC 35-47.5 (controlled explosives) as a Class A or Class B felony.
 - (25) A controlled substances offense under IC 35-48.
 - (26) A criminal gang offense under IC 35-45-9.
- (b) If a child is taken into custody under this chapter for a crime or act listed in subsection (a), the law enforcement agency that employs the law enforcement officer who takes the child into custody shall notify the chief administrative officer of the primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school, in which the child is enrolled or, if the child is enrolled in a public school, the superintendent of the school district in which the child is enrolled:
- (1) that the child was taken into custody; and
 - (2) of the reason why the child was taken into custody.
- (c) The notification under subsection (a) must occur within forty-eight (48) hours after the child is taken into custody.
- (d) A law enforcement agency may not disclose information that is confidential under state or federal law to a school or school district under this section.

IC 31-39-2-13.8

Information Sharing with Juvenile Court

Sec. 13.8. (a) The juvenile court may grant a school access to all or a portion of the juvenile court records of a child who is a student at the school if:

- (1) the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee;
- (2) the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school, or the chief administrative officer's designee; or
- (3) the individual with administrative control within a charter school, or the individual's designee;

submits a written request that meets the requirements of subsection (b).

(b) A written request must establish that the juvenile court records described in subsection (a) are necessary for the school to:

- (1) serve the educational needs of the child whose records are being released; or
- (2) protect the safety or health of a student, an employee, or a volunteer at the school.

(c) A juvenile court that releases juvenile court records under this section shall provide notice to the child and to the child's parent, guardian, or custodian that the child's juvenile

records have been disclosed to the school.

(d) A juvenile court that releases juvenile court records under this section shall issue an order requiring the school to keep the juvenile court records confidential. A confidentiality order issued under this subsection does not prohibit a school that receives juvenile court records from forwarding the juvenile records to:

- (1) another school;
- (2) a person if a parent, guardian, or custodian of the child consents to the release of the juvenile court records to the person; or
- (3) an entity listed in IC 31-39-9-1.

A school or a person that receives juvenile court records under this subsection must keep the juvenile court records confidential.

IC 31-39-9

Exchange of Information Concerning Delinquent Children

Sec. 1. The following entities and agencies may exchange records of a child who is a child in need of services or has been determined to be a delinquent child under IC 31-37-1-2, if the information or records are not confidential under state or federal law:

- (1) A court.
- (2) A law enforcement agency.
- (3) The department of correction.
- (4) The department of child services.
- (5) The office of the secretary of family and social services.
- (6) A primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school.

IC 35-50-8

Student Delinquency and Criminal Conviction Information

Sec. 1. (a) If an individual is enrolled in a primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school, and:

- (1) is convicted of:
 - (A) a Class A felony;
 - (B) a Class B felony;
 - (C) a Class C felony; or
 - (D) at least two (2) Class D felonies; or
- (2) has been adjudicated as a delinquent child for:
 - (A) an act that would be:
 - (i) a Class A felony;
 - (ii) a Class B felony; or
 - (iii) a Class C felony; or
 - (B) acts that would be at least two (2) Class D felonies;if committed by an adult;

the judge who presided over the trial, accepted the plea agreement, or adjudicated the child a delinquent child shall give written notification of the conviction or adjudication to the chief administrative officer of the primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school, or, if the individual is enrolled in a public school, the superintendent of the school district in which the individual is enrolled.

- (b) Notification under subsection (a) must occur within seven (7) days after the

conclusion of the trial, the date a plea agreement is accepted, or the date the child is adjudicated a delinquent child.

(c) The notification sent to a school or school district under subsection (a) must include only:

(1) the felony for which the individual was convicted or that the individual would have committed if the individual were an adult; and

(2) the individual's sentence or juvenile law disposition.

(d) If the court later modifies the individual's sentence or juvenile law disposition after giving notice under this section, the court shall notify the school or the school district in which the individual is enrolled of the sentence or disposition modification.

XI. Attendance Records Review and Enforcement

IC 20-33-2-20

Attendance Records

Sec 20. (a) An accurate daily record of the attendance of each student who is subject to compulsory school attendance under this chapter shall be kept by every public and nonpublic school.

(b) In a public school, the record shall be open at all times for inspection by:

(1) attendance officers;

(2) school officials;

(3) agents of the department of labor

(4) security police officers appointed under IC 36-8-3-7; and

(5) school corporation police officers appointed under IC 20-26-16. Every teacher shall answer fully all lawful inquiries made by an attendance officer, a school official, an agent of the department of labor, or a security police officer appointed under IC 36-8-3-7.

(c) In a nonpublic school, the record shall be required to be kept solely to verify the enrollment and attendance of a student upon request of the:

(1) state superintendent; or

(2) superintendent of the school corporation in which the nonpublic school is located.

IC 20-33-2-26

Enforcement of chapter

Sec. 26. (a) It is the duty of each:

(1) superintendent;

(2) attendance officer;

(3) state attendance official;

(4) security police officer appointed under IC 36-8-3-7; and

(5) school corporation police officer appointed under IC 20-26-16;

to enforce this chapter in their respective jurisdictions and to execute the affidavits authorized under this section. The duty is several, and the failure of one (1) or more to act does not excuse another official from the obligation to enforce this chapter.

(b) An affidavit against a parent for a violation of this chapter shall be prepared and

filed in the same manner and under the procedure prescribed for filing affidavits for the prosecution of public offenses.

(c) An affidavit under this section shall be filed in a court with jurisdiction in the county in which the affected child resides. The prosecuting attorney shall file and prosecute actions under this section as in other criminal cases. The court shall promptly hear cases brought under this section.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.

XII. Locker Searches

IC 20-33-8-32

Locker searches

Sec. 32. (a) A school corporation must provide each:

(1) student; and

(2) student's parent;

a copy of the rules of the governing body on searches of students' lockers and locker contents.

(b) A student who uses a locker that is the property of a school corporation is presumed to have no expectation of privacy in:

(1) that locker; or

(2) the locker's contents.

(c) In accordance with the rules of the governing body, a principal may search:

(1) a student's locker; and

(2) the locker's contents;

at any time.

(d) A law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the geographic area having a school facility containing a student's locker may:

(1) at the request of the school principal; and

(2) in accordance with rules of the governing body of the school corporation;

assist a school administrator in searching a student's locker and the locker's contents.

XIII. Duty to Report Threats

IC 20-33-9-10

Duty to report threat

Sec. 10. In addition to any other duty to report arising under this article, an individual who has reason to believe that a school employee:

(1) has received a threat;

(2) is the victim of intimidation;

(3) is the victim of battery; or
(4) is the victim of harassment;
shall report that information as required by this chapter.

IC 20-33-9-11

Procedure to make report

Sec. 11. (a) If an individual who is required to make a report under this chapter is a member of the staff of a school, the individual shall make the report by immediately notifying the principal of the school that a school employee may have received a threat or may be the victim of intimidation, battery, or harassment.

(b) An individual who receives a report under subsection (a) shall immediately make a report or cause a report to be made under section 13 of this chapter.

IC 20-33-9-12

Relief of obligation to report

Sec. 12. This chapter does not relieve an individual of the obligation to report a threat, intimidation, a battery, or harassment on the individual's own behalf, unless a report has already been made to the best of the individual's belief.

IC 20-33-9-13

Oral report to local law enforcement agency

Sec. 13. An individual who has a duty under sections 10 through 12 of this chapter to report that a school employee may have received a threat or may be the victim of intimidation, battery, or harassment shall immediately make an oral report to the local law enforcement agency.

IC 20-33-9-14

Immunity from liability

Sec. 14. Except as provided in section 15 of this chapter, an individual, other than a person accused of making a threat against a school employee, intimidating a school employee, committing a battery against a school employee, or harassing a school employee, who:

- (1) makes, or causes to be made, a report under this chapter; or
- (2) participates in any judicial proceeding or other proceeding:
 - (A) resulting from a report under this chapter; or
 - (B) relating to the subject matter of the report;

is immune from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be imposed because of such actions.

IC 20-33-9-15

Liability

Sec. 15. An individual who has acted maliciously or in bad faith is not immune from civil or criminal liability under this chapter.

IC 20-33-9-16

Good faith

Sec. 16. An individual making a report under sections 10 through 14 of this chapter or assisting in any requirement of sections 10 through 14 of this chapter is presumed to have acted in good faith.

XIV. Sex Offenders

IC 35-42-4-10

Unlawful employment near children

Sec. 10. (a) As used in this section, "offender against children" means a person who is an offender against children under IC 35-42-4-11.

(b) As used in this section, "sexually violent predator" means a person who is a sexually violent predator under IC 35-38-1-7.5.

(c) A sexually violent predator or an offender against children who knowingly or intentionally works for compensation or as a volunteer:

- (1) on school property;
- (2) at a youth program center; or
- (3) at a public park;

commits unlawful employment near children by a sexual predator, a Class D felony. However, the offense is a Class C felony if the person has a prior unrelated conviction based on the person's failure to comply with any requirement imposed on an offender under IC 11-8-8.

IC 35-42-4-11

Sex offender residency restrictions

Sec. 11. (a) As used in this section, and except as provided in subsection (d), "offender against children" means a person required to register as a sex or violent offender under IC 11-8-8 who has been:

- (1) found to be a sexually violent predator under IC 35-38-1-7.5; or
- (2) convicted of one (1) or more of the following offenses:

- (A) Child molesting (IC 35-42-4-3).
- (B) Child exploitation (IC 35-42-4-4(b)).
- (C) Child solicitation (IC 35-42-4-6).
- (D) Child seduction (IC 35-42-4-7).

(E) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2), if the victim is less than eighteen (18) years of age and the person is not the child's parent or guardian.

(F) Attempt to commit or conspiracy to commit an offense listed in clauses (A) through (E).

(G) An offense in another jurisdiction that is substantially similar to an offense described in clauses (A) through (F).

A person is an offender against children by operation of law if the person meets the conditions described in subdivision (1) or (2) at any time.

(b) As used in this section, "reside" means to spend more than three (3) nights in:

- (1) a residence; or
- (2) if the person does not reside in a residence, a particular location;

in any thirty (30) day period.

- (c) An offender against children who knowingly or intentionally:
- (1) resides within one thousand (1,000) feet of:
 - (A) school property, not including property of an institution providing post-secondary education;
 - (B) a youth program center; or
 - (C) a public park; or
 - (2) establishes a residence within one (1) mile of the residence of the victim of the offender's sex offense;
- commits a sex offender residency offense, a Class D felony.
- (d) This subsection does not apply to an offender against children who has two (2) or more unrelated convictions for an offense described in subsection (a). A person who is an offender against children may petition the court to consider whether the person should no longer be considered an offender against children. The person may file a petition under this subsection not earlier than ten (10) years after the person is released from incarceration, probation, or parole, whichever occurs last. A person may file a petition under this subsection not more than one (1) time per year. A court may dismiss a petition filed under this subsection or conduct a hearing to determine if the person should no longer be considered an offender against children. If the court conducts a hearing, the court shall appoint two (2) psychologists or psychiatrists who have expertise in criminal behavioral disorders to evaluate the person and testify at the hearing. After conducting the hearing and considering the testimony of the two (2) psychologists or psychiatrists, the court shall determine whether the person should no longer be considered an offender against children. If a court finds that the person should no longer be considered an offender against children, the court shall send notice to the department of correction that the person is no longer considered an offender against children.

XV. Gangs

IC 35-45-9-1

"Criminal gang" defined

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "criminal gang" means a group with at least three (3) members that specifically:

- (1) either:
 - (A) promotes, sponsors, or assists in; or
 - (B) participates in; or
- (2) requires as a condition of membership or continued membership;

the commission of a felony or an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult or the offense of battery (IC 35-42-2-1).

IC 35-45-9-5

Criminal gang recruitment

Sec. 5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), an individual who knowingly or intentionally solicits, recruits, entices, or intimidates another individual to join a criminal gang commits criminal gang recruitment, a Class D felony.

- (b) The offense under subsection (a) is a Class C felony if:

- (1) the solicitation, recruitment, enticement, or intimidation occurs within one thousand (1,000) feet of school property; or
- (2) the individual who is solicited, recruited, enticed, or intimidated is less than eighteen (18) years of age.

XVI. Manmade Occurrence Disaster Drill

IC 20-34-3-20

Sec. 20. (a) The governing body of a school corporation shall require each school in the governing body's jurisdiction to conduct periodic fire drills during the school year in compliance with rules adopted under IC 4-22-2 by the state board.

(b) Each school and attendance center shall conduct at least:

- (1) one (1) tornado preparedness drill; and
- (2) one (1) manmade occurrence disaster drill;

during each semester.

(c) The governing body of a school corporation shall require each principal to file a certified statement that all drills have been conducted as required under this section.

XVII. Criminal History and Notice of Conviction for Educators

IC 20-5-2-7

Adoption of criminal history information policy; administration of policy; requirements; costs

Sec. 7. (a) A school corporation, including a school township, shall adopt a policy concerning criminal history information for individuals who:

(1) apply for:

(A) employment with the school corporation; or

(B) employment with an entity with which the school corporation contracts for services;

(2) seek to enter into a contract to provide services to the school corporation; or

(3) are employed by an entity that seeks to enter into a contract to provide services to the school corporation;
if the individuals are likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the individuals' employment.

(b) A school corporation, including a school township, shall administer a policy adopted under this section uniformly for all individuals to whom the policy applies. A policy adopted under this section may require any of the following:

(1) The school corporation, including a school township, may request limited criminal history information concerning each applicant for noncertificated employment or certificated employment from a local or state law enforcement agency before or not later than three (3) months after the applicant's employment by the school corporation.

(2) Each individual hired for noncertificated employment or certificated employment may be required to provide a written consent for the school corporation to request under IC 10-13-3 limited criminal history information or a national criminal history background check concerning the individual before or not later than three (3) months after the individual's employment by the school corporation. The school corporation may require the individual to provide a set of fingerprints and pay any fees required for a national criminal history background check.

(3) Each individual hired for noncertificated employment may be required at the time the individual is hired to submit a certified copy of the individual's limited criminal history (as defined in IC 10-13-3-11) to the school corporation.

(4) Each individual hired for noncertificated employment may be required at the time the individual is hired to:

(A) submit a request to the Indiana central repository for limited criminal history information under IC 10-13-3;

(B) obtain a copy of the individual's limited criminal history; and

(C) submit to the school corporation the individual's limited criminal history and a document verifying a disposition (as defined in IC 10-13-3-7) that does not appear on the limited criminal history.

(5) Each applicant for noncertificated employment or certificated employment may be required at the time the individual applies to answer questions concerning the individual's limited criminal history. The failure to answer honestly questions asked under this subdivision is grounds for termination of the employee's employment.

(6) Each individual that:

(A) seeks to enter into a contract to provide services to a school corporation; or

(B) is employed by an entity that seeks to enter into a contract with a school corporation;

may be required at the time the contract is formed to comply with the procedures described in subdivisions (2), (4), and (5). An individual who is employed by an entity that seeks to enter into a contract with a school corporation to provide student services in which the entity's employees have direct contact with students in a school based program may be required to provide the consent described in subdivision (2) or the information described in subdivisions (4) and (5) to either the individual's employer or the school corporation. Failure to comply with subdivisions (2), (4), and (5), as required by the school corporation, is grounds for termination of the contract. An entity that enters into a contract with a school corporation to provide student services in which the entity's employees have direct contact with students in a school based program is allowed to obtain limited criminal history information or a national criminal history background check regarding the entity's applicants or employees in the same manner that a school corporation may obtain the information.

(c) If an individual is required to obtain a limited criminal history under this section, the individual is responsible for all costs associated with obtaining the limited criminal history.

(d) Information obtained under this section must be used in accordance with IC 10-13-3-29.

IC 20-5-2-8

Use of information; notice of conviction of certain offenses

Sec. 8. (a) This section applies to:

(1) a school corporation; and

(2) an entity:

(A) with which the school corporation contracts for services; and

(B) that has employees who are likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employees' employment.

(b) A school corporation or entity may use information obtained under section 7 of this chapter concerning an individual's conviction for one (1) of the following offenses as grounds to not employ or contract with the individual:

(1) Murder (IC 35-42-1-1).

(2) Causing suicide (IC 35-42-1-2).

(3) Assisting suicide (IC 35-42-1-2.5).

(4) Voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3).

(5) Reckless homicide (IC 35-42-1-5).

(6) Battery (IC 35-42-2-1) unless ten (10) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(7) Aggravated battery (IC 35-42-2-1.5).

(8) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).

(9) Criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3).

(10) A sex offense under IC 35-42-4.

(11) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2).

(12) Arson (IC 35-43-1-1) unless ten (10) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(13) Incest (IC 35-46-1-3).

(14) Neglect of a dependent as a Class B felony (IC 35-46-1-4(b)(2)) unless ten (10) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(15) Child selling (IC 35-46-1-4(d)).

(16) Contributing to the delinquency of a minor (IC 35-46-1-8) unless ten (10) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(17) An offense involving a weapon under IC 35-47 or IC 35-47.5 unless ten (10) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(18) An offense relating to controlled substances under IC 35-48-4 unless ten (10) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(19) An offense relating to material or a performance that is harmful to minors or obscene under IC 35-49-3 unless ten (10) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(20) An offense relating to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated under IC 9-30-5 unless five (5) years have elapsed from the date the individual was discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever is later.

(21) An offense that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in this

subsection in which the judgment of conviction was entered under the law of any other jurisdiction.

(c) An individual employed by a school corporation or an entity described in subsection (a) shall notify the governing body of the school corporation if during the course of the individual's employment the individual is convicted in Indiana or another jurisdiction of an offense described in subsection (b).

XVIII. Items Excepted From Public Disclosure

IC 5-14-3-4 Records excepted from disclosure requirements; time limitations; destruction of records; time limitations; destruction of records

Sect. 4. (a) The following public records are excepted from section of this chapter and may not be disclosed by a public agency, unless access to the records is specifically required by a state or federal statute or is ordered by a court under the rules of discovery:

(18) School safety and security measures, plans, and systems ,including emergency preparedness plans developed under 511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5.

XIX. Indiana State Board of Education Rules

511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5 Safe schools and emergency preparedness planning

Authority: IC 20-19-2-8; IC 20-31-4-17

Affected: IC 20-31-4-1

Sec. 2.5. (a) Each school corporation shall, in consultation with local public safety agencies, develop a written emergency preparedness plan for the school corporation and each school in the corporation. An emergency preparedness plan shall, at a minimum, contain the following:

- (1) Appropriate warning systems.
- (2) Procedures for notifying other agencies and organizations.
- (3) Posting of evacuation routes.
- (4) Emergency preparedness instruction for staff and students.
- (5) Public information procedures.
- (6) Steps that will be taken prior to a decision to evacuate buildings or dismiss classes.
- (7) Provisions to protect the safety and well-being of staff, students, and the public in case of:
 - (A) fire;
 - (B) natural disaster, such as tornado, flood, or earthquake;
 - (C) adverse weather conditions, such as winter storms or extreme heat;
 - (D) nuclear contamination, such as power plant or transport vehicle spills;
 - (E) exposure to chemicals, such as pesticides, industrial spills and contaminants, laboratory chemicals, and cleaning agents; and

(F) manmade occurrences, such as student disturbance, weapon, weapon of mass destruction, contamination of water supply or air supply, hostage, and kidnapping incidents.

(b) Within sixty (60) days after the beginning date of each school year, the superintendent shall certify to the department that the emergency preparedness plans for the school corporation and each school in the school corporation have been reviewed and revised, if necessary. Within sixty (60) days of opening a new or significantly remodeled school, the superintendent shall certify to the department that a new plan has been developed or that the existing plan has been reviewed and revised, if necessary.

(c) Emergency preparedness plans shall be available for inspection by the department.

511 IAC 4-1.5-7 Crisis intervention plans

Authority: IC 20-19-2-8; IC 20-31-4-17

Affected: IC 20-31-4-6

Sec. 7. Each school corporation shall, in concert with the emergency preparedness plan developed under 511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5, develop a crisis intervention plan for the school corporation and for each school in the school corporation. The plan, which should be developed by student services personnel in conjunction with school administrators and community crisis intervention personnel, shall include crisis management and intervention provisions.

This document is meant to be a quick reference to the laws and board rules in the State of Indiana, and is not meant to substitute for a full review of the Indiana Code. It is not a complete resource for each law, nor is it precise in its organization. For complete review of the information we refer you to the complete citation in the Indiana Code.