

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 76

Short Title: School Safety Omnibus. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives White, Torbett, Horn, and Elmore (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 14, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY, AS
3 RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **PART I. REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL SAFETY FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

7 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-5 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

8 "(11) Public school unit. – Any of the following:

9 a. A local school administrative unit.

10 b. A charter school.

11 c. A regional school.

12 d. A school providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by
13 one of the following:

14 1. The State Board of Education, including schools operated
15 under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter.

16 2. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated
17 under Articles 4, 29, and 29A of Chapter 116 of the General
18 Statutes."

19 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.46, 115C-105.47A, and 115C-105.48 are codified
20 into Part 1 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, Local Plans for Alternative
21 Schools/Alternative Learning Programs and Maintaining Safe and Orderly Schools. Part 1 shall
22 be entitled "Local Plans for Alternative Schools/Alternative Learning Programs." The remaining
23 sections of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes shall be codified into Part 2, which
24 shall be entitled "Maintaining Safe and Orderly Schools."

25 **SECTION 1.(c)** G.S. 115C-105.49 reads as rewritten:

26 "**§ 115C-105.49. School safety exercises.**

27 (a) At least once annually, each ~~local school administrative~~ public school unit shall
28 require each school under its control to hold a full school-wide tabletop exercise and drill based
29 on the procedures documented in its School Risk Management Plan ~~(SRMP)~~ (SRMP) and shall
30 report the date and time the drill is conducted to the Center for Safer Schools. The drill shall
31 include a practice school lockdown due to an intruder on school grounds. Each school is
32 encouraged to hold a tabletop exercise and drill for multiple hazards included in its SRMP.
33 Schools are strongly encouraged to include local law enforcement agencies and emergency
34 management agencies in their tabletop exercises and drills. The purpose of the tabletop exercises
35 and drills shall be to permit participants to (i) discuss simulated emergency situations in a



1 low-stress environment, (ii) clarify their roles and responsibilities and the overall logistics of
2 dealing with an emergency, and (iii) identify areas in which the SRMP needs to be modified.

3 ...
4 (d) The Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, and the
5 Center for Safer Schools shall provide guidance and recommendations to ~~local school~~
6 ~~administrative-public school~~ units on the types of multiple hazards to plan and respond to,
7 including intruders on school grounds."

8 **SECTION 1.(d)** G.S. 115C-105.49A(b) reads as rewritten:

9 "(b) In constructing the SRRMS, the Division of Emergency Management and the Center
10 for Safer Schools shall leverage the existing enterprise risk management database, the School
11 Risk Management Planning tool managed by the Division. The Division shall also leverage the
12 ~~local school administrative-public school unit~~ and participating nonpublic school schematic
13 diagrams of school facilities. Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any
14 anonymous tip lines established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.51 and any 911-initiated panic alarm
15 systems authorized as part of a SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). The Division and the Center
16 for Safer Schools shall collaborate with the Department of Public Instruction and the North
17 Carolina 911 Board in the design, implementation, and maintenance of the SRRMS."

18 **SECTION 1.(e)** G.S. 115C-105.52 reads as rewritten:

19 **"§ 115C-105.52. School crisis kits.**

20 The Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety
21 through the North Carolina Center for Safer Schools, may develop and adopt policies on the
22 placement of school crisis kits in schools and on the contents of those kits. The kits should
23 include, at a minimum, basic first-aid supplies, communications devices, and other items
24 recommended by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

25 The principal of each school, in coordination with the law enforcement agencies that are part
26 of the ~~local board of education's-public school unit's~~ School Risk Management Plan, may place
27 one or more crisis kits at appropriate locations in the school."

28 **SECTION 1.(f)** G.S. 115C-105.53 reads as rewritten:

29 **"§ 115C-105.53. Schematic diagrams and emergency access to school buildings for local
30 law enforcement agencies.**

31 (a) Each ~~local school administrative-public school~~ unit shall provide the following to
32 local law enforcement agencies: (i) schematic diagrams, including digital schematic diagrams,
33 and (ii) either keys to the main entrance of all school buildings or emergency access to key storage
34 devices such as KNOX® boxes for all school buildings. ~~Local school administrative-Public~~
35 school units shall provide updates of the schematic diagrams to local law enforcement agencies
36 when substantial modifications such as new facilities or modifications to doors and windows are
37 made to school buildings. ~~Local school administrative-Public school~~ units shall also be
38 responsible for providing local law enforcement agencies with updated access to school buildings
39 when changes are made to the locks of the main entrances or to key storage devices such as
40 KNOX® boxes.

41 (b) The Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Public
42 Safety, shall develop standards and guidelines for the preparation and content of schematic
43 diagrams and necessary updates. ~~Local school administrative-Public school~~ units and
44 participating nonpublic schools may use these standards and guidelines to assist in the
45 preparation of their schematic diagrams.

46"

47 **SECTION 1.(g)** G.S. 115C-105.54(a) reads as rewritten:

48 "(a) Each ~~local school administrative-public school~~ unit shall provide the following to the
49 Division of Emergency Management (Division) at the Department of Public Safety: (i) schematic
50 diagrams, including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response information
51 requested by the Division for the School Risk Management Plan (SRMP). ~~Local school~~

1 ~~administrative~~ Public school units shall also provide updated schematic diagrams and emergency
2 response information to the Division when such updates are made. The Division shall ensure that
3 the diagrams and emergency response information are securely stored and distributed as provided
4 in the SRMP to first responders, emergency personnel, and school personnel and approved by
5 the Department of Public Instruction."

6 **SECTION 1.(h)** G.S. 115C-218.75(b), (d), and (e) are repealed.

7 **SECTION 1.(i)** G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

8 "(g) Each charter school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of Article
9 8C of this Chapter."

10 **SECTION 1.(j)** G.S. 115C-238.66(7a), (7b), (7c), and (7d) are repealed.

11 **SECTION 1.(k)** G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

12 "(14) Each regional school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2
13 of Article 8C of this Chapter."

14 **SECTION 1.(l)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(10), (11), (12), and (13) are repealed.

15 **SECTION 1.(m)** G.S. 116-239.8(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

16 "(17) Laboratory schools shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of
17 Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

18 **SECTION 1.(n)** G.S. 115C-75.9 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

19 "(h1) School Safety. – Innovative schools shall comply with the applicable requirements of
20 Part 2 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

21 **SECTION 1.(o)** Article 9C of Chapter 115C is amended by adding a new section to
22 read:

23 "**§ 115C-150.16. School safety.**

24 A school governed by this Article shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of
25 Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

26 **SECTION 1.(p)** Article 4 of Chapter 116 is amended by adding a new section to
27 read:

28 "**§ 116-69.2. School safety.**

29 The school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of Article 8C of Chapter
30 115C of the General Statutes."

31 **SECTION 1.(q)** G.S. 116-235 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

32 "(j) School Safety. – The school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2
33 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

34 **SECTION 1.(r)** G.S. 115C-551 reads as rewritten:

35 "**§ 115C-551. Voluntary participation in the State programs.**

36 (a) Any ~~such~~ private church school or school of religious charter may, on a voluntary
37 basis, participate in any State operated or sponsored program which would otherwise be available
38 to such school, including but not limited to the high school competency testing and statewide
39 testing programs.

40 (b) All private church schools and all schools of religious charter are encouraged to do
41 the following:

42 (1) School Risk Management Plan. – In coordination with local law enforcement
43 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents
44 of school violence. In constructing and maintaining these plans, the school
45 may utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)
46 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not considered a
47 public record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall
48 not be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6.

49 (2) Schematic diagrams and school crisis kits. – Provide schematic diagrams and
50 keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law enforcement
51 agencies, in addition to implementing the provisions in G.S. 115C-105.52.

- 1 (3) School safety exercises. – At least once a year, hold a full school-wide
2 lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and emergency management
3 agencies that are part of the regional school's SRMP.
- 4 (4) Safety information provided to the Department of Public Safety, Division of
5 Emergency Management. – Provide the following: (i) schematic diagrams,
6 including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response
7 information requested by the Division for the SRMP. The schematic diagrams
8 and emergency response information are not considered public records as the
9 term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not be subject to
10 inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

11 **SECTION 1.(s)** G.S. 115C-559 reads as rewritten:

12 **"§ 115C-559. Voluntary participation in the State programs.**

13 (a) ~~Any such~~ qualified nonpublic school may, on a voluntary basis, participate in any
14 State operated or sponsored program which would otherwise be available to such school,
15 including but not limited to the high school competency testing and statewide testing programs.

16 (b) All qualified nonpublic schools are encouraged to do the following:

- 17 (1) School Risk Management Plan. – In coordination with local law enforcement
18 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents
19 of school violence. In constructing and maintaining these plans, the school
20 may utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)
21 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not considered a
22 public record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall
23 not be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6.
- 24 (2) Schematic diagrams and school crisis kits. – Provide schematic diagrams and
25 keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law enforcement
26 agencies, in addition to implementing the provisions in G.S. 115C-105.52.
- 27 (3) School safety exercises. – At least once a year, hold a full school-wide
28 lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and emergency management
29 agencies that are part of the regional school's SRMP.
- 30 (4) Safety information provided to the Department of Public Safety, Division of
31 Emergency Management. – Provide the following: (i) schematic diagrams,
32 including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response
33 information requested by the Division for the SRMP. The schematic diagrams
34 and emergency response information are not considered public records as the
35 term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not be subject to
36 inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

37 **SECTION 1.(t)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning
38 with the 2019-2020 school year.

39
40 **PART II. CLARIFY THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE CENTER FOR SAFER**
41 **SCHOOLS**

42 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-105.57 reads as rewritten:

43 **"§ 115C-105.57. Center for Safer Schools.**

44 (a) Center for Safer Schools Established. – There is established the Center for Safer
45 Schools. The Center for Safer Schools shall be administratively located in the Department of
46 Public Instruction. The Center for Safer Schools shall consist of an ~~executive director~~ Executive
47 Director appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and such other professional,
48 administrative, technical, and clerical personnel as may be necessary to assist the Center for Safer
49 Schools in carrying out its powers and duties.

1 (b) Executive Director. – The Executive Director shall report to and serve at the pleasure
2 of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at a salary established by the Superintendent within
3 the funds appropriated for this purpose.

4 (c) Powers and Duties. – The Center for Safer Schools shall have the following duties,
5 and all other powers and duties provided in this Article.~~Article:~~

- 6 (1) Serve as a resource and referral center for the State by conducting research,
7 sponsoring workshops, and providing information regarding current school
8 safety concerns.
- 9 (2) Provide training and professional development for public school personnel in
10 the development and implementation of initiatives promoting school safety.
- 11 (3) Maintain and disseminate information to public schools on effective school
12 safety initiatives in North Carolina and across the nation.
- 13 (4) Collect, analyze, and disseminate various North Carolina school safety data.
- 14 (5) Provide technical and instructional assistance to facilitate the development of
15 partnerships between the public and private sectors to promote school safety
16 in North Carolina.
- 17 (6) Recommend a system of accountability to the General Assembly to document
18 school safety exercises, including practice school lockdowns, required by
19 G.S. 115C-105.49.
- 20 (7) Develop model policies for threat assessment teams for public school units,
21 including procedures for the assessment of and intervention with students
22 whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of school staff or students. The
23 Center of Safer Schools shall consult with and involve the Task Force for
24 Safer Schools and relevant State government agencies in development of the
25 model policies.
- 26 (8) Assist law enforcement officers assigned to schools and their agencies in
27 active shooter response drills and other pertinent school safety-related
28 training.
- 29 (9) Collaborate with the North Carolina Justice Academy, the North Carolina
30 Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, and the
31 North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission to
32 establish and maintain updated training curriculum for school resource
33 officers.
- 34 (10) Coordinate grants for school resource officers in elementary and middle
35 schools and ensure that training requirements for school resource officers
36 funded by those grants are met.
- 37 (11) Provide technical assistance to public school units in the development and
38 implementation of initiatives promoting school safety.

39 (d) Agency Cooperation. – All State agencies and departments shall cooperate with the
40 Center for Safer Schools in carrying out its powers and duties, as necessary, in accordance with
41 this Article. The Center of Safer Schools shall coordinate, collaborate, and seek information as
42 necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities from State and local government agencies,
43 who shall provide information upon request to the Center. These agencies include the following:

- 44 (1) Department of Public Safety.
- 45 (2) Department of Health and Human Services.
- 46 (3) Department of Public Instruction.
- 47 (4) North Carolina Justice Academy.
- 48 (5) Governor's Crime Commission.
- 49 (6) State Bureau of Investigation Fusion Center, Information Sharing, and
50 Analysis Center.
- 51 (7) Governing bodies of public school units.

1 (8) Local law enforcement agencies.

2 (e) Task Force Guidance. – The Center of Safer Schools shall receive guidance and
3 advice from the Task Force for Safer Schools."

4 **SECTION 2.(b).** This section is effective when it becomes law. Model policies for
5 threat assessment teams required by G.S. 115C-105.57(c)(7), as enacted by this act, shall be
6 developed by the Center for Safer Schools no later than December 31, 2019.

7 8 **PART III. THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS**

9 **SECTION 3.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
10 adding a new section to read:

11 **"§ 115C-105.60. Threat assessment teams.**

12 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

13 (1) Superintendent. – The superintendent or, if there is no superintendent, the staff
14 member with the highest decision-making authority.

15 (2) Threat. – A concerning communication or behavior that indicates that an
16 individual poses a danger to the safety of school staff or students through acts
17 of violence or other behavior that would cause harm to self or others. The
18 threat may be expressed or communicated behaviorally, orally, visually, in
19 writing, electronically, or through any other means, and is considered a threat
20 regardless of whether it is observed by or communicated directly to the target
21 of the threat or observed by or communicated to a third party, and regardless
22 of whether the target of the threat is aware of the threat.

23 (3) Threat assessment. – A fact-based process emphasizing an appraisal of
24 observed, or reasonably observable, behaviors to identify potentially
25 dangerous or violent situations, to assess them, and to manage or address
26 them.

27 (4) Threat assessment team. – A team that includes persons with expertise in
28 counseling, instruction, school administration, and law enforcement that
29 conducts threat assessments in a public school unit. When practicable, at least
30 one member of a threat assessment team shall be a psychologist or
31 psychiatrist. Members of a threat assessment team who are not employees of
32 the public school unit may review student records as provided in 34 C.F.R. §
33 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B) pursuant to a written agreement with the public school unit
34 of the requirements and responsibilities for use of student records under the
35 federal Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act.

36 (b) The governing body of the public school unit shall adopt policies for the establishment
37 of threat assessment teams, including the conduct of threat assessments and intervention with
38 individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff or students, consistent
39 with the model policies developed by the Center for Safer Schools in accordance with
40 G.S. 115C-105.57(c)(7). Such policies shall include procedures for referrals to health care
41 providers for evaluation or treatment, when appropriate.

42 (c) The superintendent may establish a committee charged with coordination and
43 monitoring of the threat assessment teams operating within the unit, which may be an existing
44 committee established by the unit. The committee shall include individuals with expertise in
45 human resources, education, school administration, mental health, and law enforcement.

46 (d) Each school in the public school unit shall have a threat assessment team established
47 by the superintendent. In the discretion of the superintendent, an established threat assessment
48 team may serve more than one school in the unit. Each team shall do the following:

49 (1) Provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of
50 threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community,
51 school, or self.

- 1 (2) Conduct threat assessments to determine appropriate actions and intervention
2 based on the level of threat determined by the assessment. A threat assessment
3 team shall determine the level of threat posed by an individual or situation as
4 follows:
- 5 a. Low risk. – A threat in which the individual or situation does not
6 appear to pose a threat of violence or serious harm to self or others and
7 any exhibited issues or concerns can be resolved easily.
- 8 b. Moderate risk. – A threat in which the person or situation does not
9 appear to pose a threat of violence or serious harm to self or others, at
10 this time, but exhibits behaviors that indicate a continuing intent and
11 potential for future violence or serious harm to self or others or
12 exhibits other concerning behavior that requires intervention.
- 13 c. High risk. – A threat in which the person or situation appears to pose
14 a threat of violence or serious harm to self or others, exhibiting
15 behaviors that indicate both a continuing intent to harm and efforts to
16 acquire the capacity to carry out the plan, and may also exhibit other
17 concerning behavior that requires intervention.
- 18 d. Imminent risk. – A threat in which the person or situation appears to
19 pose a clear and immediate threat of serious violence toward others
20 that requires containment and action to protect identified or
21 identifiable target or targets and may also exhibit other concerning
22 behavior that requires intervention.
- 23 (3) Identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior
24 should be reported.
- 25 (4) Implement policies adopted by the governing body of the public school unit
26 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.
- 27 (5) Utilize anonymous reporting applications for students to receive information
28 about school safety concerns requiring investigation.
- 29 (e) Upon a preliminary determination that an individual poses a high risk or imminent
30 risk threat of violence or physical harm to self or others, a threat assessment team shall
31 immediately report its determination to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, who
32 shall respond as follows:
- 33 (1) The superintendent or designee shall immediately attempt to notify the
34 student's parent or legal guardian. The superintendent may delegate the
35 responsibility for notification to the principal of the school and may require
36 notice be made to the principal directly.
- 37 (2) In the case of an imminent risk threat determined to be an emergency under
38 the standards established by the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act
39 in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(I), the superintendent or designee shall provide
40 notice to individuals who are the subject of the threat and, if a student is the
41 subject of a threat, the superintendent or designee shall provide notice to the
42 student's parent or legal guardian. All notices shall be in accordance with the
43 Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g. The
44 superintendent may delegate the responsibility for notification to the principal
45 of the school and may require notice be made to the principal directly.
- 46 (3) In the case of an imminent risk threat, the superintendent or designee shall
47 immediately notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency. In the case
48 of a high risk threat, the superintendent or designee shall notify the appropriate
49 local law enforcement agency when recommended by the threat assessment
50 team.

- 1 (4) The superintendent or designee shall refer the matter to the appropriate mental
2 health resources when recommended by the threat assessment team.
3 (5) The superintendent or designee shall comply with the requirements of Article
4 27 of this Chapter for any student discipline actions.

5 Nothing in this subsection shall preclude public school personnel from acting immediately to
6 address an imminent risk threat.

7 (f) Each threat assessment team established pursuant to this section shall report
8 quantitative data on its activities to the Center for Safer Schools according to guidance developed
9 by the Center. Such data shall include, as a minimum, the following:

- 10 (1) Number of threat assessments conducted annually and demographic
11 information on subjects of those assessments.
12 (2) Number of threat assessments that resulted in a determination that the
13 individual being assessed was a high-risk or imminent-risk threat and
14 demographic information on those individuals.
15 (3) Types of actions taken in response to a determination that the individual being
16 assessed was a high-risk or imminent-risk threat.
17 (4) Results of actions taken in response to determination that the individual being
18 assessed was a high risk or imminent risk threat.

19 (g) Upon a preliminary determination by the threat assessment team that an individual
20 poses an imminent risk threat, a threat assessment team may obtain the following:

- 21 (1) Health records. – Notwithstanding G.S. 8-53 or any other provision of law, a
22 health care provider may disclose protected health information related to an
23 imminent risk threat to the health or safety of school staff or students to a
24 member of a threat assessment team who is a school nurse, school
25 psychologist, or other licensed health or licensed mental health professional.
26 The member of the threat assessment team who receives the health records
27 shall provide an explanation of the health records when sharing those records
28 with the remainder of the threat assessment team.
29 (2) Criminal records. – A threat assessment team may obtain criminal history as
30 provided in G.S. 143B-931A. For a threat assessment of a student with
31 juvenile records, the threat assessment team shall have access to written
32 notifications received pursuant to G.S. 7B-3101 and information gained from
33 examination of juvenile records in accordance with G.S. 7B-3100, held
34 pursuant to G.S. 115C-404. Records held pursuant to G.S. 115C-404 shall be
35 returned to the principal following review by the threat assessment team.

36 Any information shared among members of the threat assessment team pursuant to this
37 subsection shall remain confidential, shall not be a public record subject to Chapter 132 of the
38 General Statutes, and shall only be released in connection with an emergency under the standards
39 established by the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(I)."

40 **SECTION 3.(b)** Article 13 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by
41 adding a new section to read:

42 "§ 143B-931A. Criminal records checks for threat assessment teams.

43 The Department of Public Safety may provide a criminal record check to the members of a
44 threat assessment team established by the governing body of a public school unit, as defined in
45 G.S. 115C-5(11), pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.76 for the purpose of administering criminal justice
46 in assessing or intervening when a preliminary determination has been made that an individual
47 poses an imminent risk threat to school safety. No member of a threat assessment team shall
48 redisclose any criminal history record information obtained pursuant to this section or otherwise
49 use any record of an individual beyond the purpose that such disclosure was made to the threat
50 assessment team."

51 **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

1 "(64) Peer-to-peer student support programs. – Local boards of education shall
2 require peer-to-peer student support programs be established at all schools
3 with grades six and higher and are encouraged to implement peer-to-peer
4 student support programs as appropriate in other grades."

5 **SECTION 3.(d)** G.S. 115C-316.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 "(c) School counselors, as part of the direct services provided in subsection (a) of this
7 section, shall coordinate and provide training for students in peer-to-peer student support
8 programs that address areas such as conflict resolution, general health and wellness, and
9 mentoring. The Center for Safer Schools will support school counselors in the administration and
10 delivery of peer-to-peer student support programs."

11 **SECTION 3.(e)** This section is effective when it becomes law. All public school
12 units, as defined in G.S. 115C-5(11), as enacted by subsection (a) of Section 1 of this act, shall
13 establish threat assessment teams as required by G.S. 115C-105.60, as enacted by this act, no
14 later than March 1, 2020. The remainder of this section applies beginning with the 2019-2020
15 school year.

17 **PART IV. COUNTY LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS STATE OF** 18 **EMERGENCY PLAN**

19 **SECTION 4.(a)** G.S. 115C-47(40) reads as rewritten:

20 "(40) Adopt School Risk Management Plans. – Each local board of education shall,
21 in coordination with local law enforcement and emergency management
22 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents
23 of school violence for each school in its jurisdiction. As part of the SRMPs,
24 each county local board of education, following consultation with any other
25 public school units within the county, shall adopt a state of emergency plan
26 for the public school units of the county. In constructing and maintaining these
27 plans, local boards of education and local school administrative units shall
28 utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)
29 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not a public
30 record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not
31 be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

32 **SECTION 4.(b)** Article 8C of Chapter 115 of the General Statutes is amended by
33 adding a new section to read:

34 **§ 115C-105.50. State of emergency plans.**

35 (a) For purposes of this section, the term "countywide state of emergency" means a state
36 of emergency with a defined area covering the entirety of the jurisdiction of a county declared
37 by any of the following:

- 38 (1) The President of the United States, under the Stafford Act (P.L. 93-288).
- 39 (2) The General Assembly, under G.S. 166A-19.20.
- 40 (3) The Governor, under G.S. 166A-19.20.
- 41 (4) The governing body of a county, under G.S. 166A-19.22.

42 (b) In the event of a countywide state of emergency, the county board of education shall
43 implement the state of emergency plan developed pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). All public
44 school units located within that county shall comply with the plan developed by the county board
45 of education."

46 **SECTION 4.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning
47 with the 2019-2020 school year. County boards of education shall adopt the state of emergency
48 plan required under this section by October 1, 2019.

50 **PART V. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINED/TRAINING** 51 **STANDARDS/REPORTS**

1 **SECTION 5.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new section to read:

3 **"§ 115C-105.70. School resource officer.**

4 (a) A school resource officer is any law enforcement officer assigned to one or more
5 public schools, at least 20 hours per week, to assist with school security, safety, emergency
6 preparedness, emergency response, or any other responsibility assigned by the school or law
7 enforcement agency.

8 (b) All school resource officers must comply with any continuing education training
9 requirements, as established by subsection (c) of this section. A law enforcement officer who did
10 not serve as a school resource officer during the 2019-2020 school year shall also complete the
11 initial training as established by subsection (c) of this section.

12 (c) The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission
13 and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission, in collaboration
14 with the Center for Safer Schools, shall establish initial training and continuing education
15 standards for school resource officers. These standards shall, at a minimum, include training on
16 the following topics: mental health, students with disabilities, and crisis intervention and
17 de-escalation."

18 **SECTION 5.(b)** G.S. 17C-6(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

19 "(19) Establish initial training and continuing education training standards for
20 school resource officers, as set forth in G.S. 115C-105.70."

21 **SECTION 5.(c)** G.S. 17E-4(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

22 "(17) Establish initial training and continuing education training standards for
23 school resource officers, as set forth in G.S. 115C-105.70."

24 **SECTION 5.(d)** The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training
25 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards
26 Commission, in collaboration with the Center for Safer Schools, shall establish initial training
27 standards for school resource officers no later than January 15, 2020.

28 **SECTION 5.(e)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
29 adding a new section to read:

30 **"§ 115C-105.71. School resource officer reports.**

31 (a) Each public school unit shall report by September 15, 2019, and annually thereafter,
32 in writing to the Center for Safer Schools the number of school resource officers and the
33 placement of each school resource officer in the public school unit. This report shall include the
34 source of funding and method of employment for each school resource officer position.

35 (b) The Center for Safer Schools shall report by November 15, 2019, and annually
36 thereafter, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee an executive summary and
37 the disaggregated data for each public school unit regarding the information reported by public
38 school units pursuant to subsection (a) of this section."

39 **SECTION 5.(f)** Subsection (a) of this section is effective when it becomes law and
40 applies to school resource officers employed beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. The
41 remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law.

42
43 **PART VI. SCHOOL BUILDING VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT**

44 **SECTION 6.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
45 adding a new section to read:

46 **"§ 115C-105.52A. Facility vulnerability assessments.**

47 (a) At least once annually, each governing body of a public school unit shall require each
48 school under its control to complete a facility vulnerability assessment for each school building.

49 (b) The Center for Safer Schools, in collaboration with the Department of Public
50 Instruction, Division of School Operations, shall develop a facility vulnerability assessment tool.

1 This tool shall be used by public school units when completing a facility vulnerability
2 assessment."

3 **SECTION 6.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.49A(b), as amended by Section 1(d) of this act,
4 reads as rewritten:

5 "(b) In constructing the SRRMS, the Division of Emergency Management and the Center
6 for Safer Schools shall leverage the existing enterprise risk management database, the School
7 Risk Management Planning tool managed by the Division. The Division shall also leverage the
8 public school unit and participating nonpublic school schematic diagrams of school facilities.
9 Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any anonymous tip lines established
10 pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.51 and any 911-initiated panic alarm systems authorized as part of a
11 SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any
12 facility vulnerability assessments as part of an SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.52A. The
13 Division and the Center for Safer Schools shall collaborate with the Department of Public
14 Instruction and the North Carolina 911 Board in the design, implementation, and maintenance of
15 the SRRMS."

16 **SECTION 6.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law. The Center for Safer
17 Schools and the Department of Public Instruction shall develop the facility vulnerability
18 assessment tool by January 15, 2020. Each governing body of a public school unit shall require
19 each school under its control to complete a facility vulnerability assessment for each school
20 building before the end of the 2019-2020 school year and annually thereafter.

21
22 **PART VII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

23 **SECTION 7.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
24 law.