



Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

Select Virginia Legislation with Safety Implications for K-12 Schools *July 2026*

A vital role of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Division of Public Safety Training and the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (PST-VCSCS) is to stay abreast of past, current, and potential future legislation impacting school safety in the Commonwealth. It is important to note that this is not an exhaustive list of all legislation related to K-12 public schools in Virginia; it is a summary of key legal components referenced in DCJS/PST-VCSCS training and resources. All Virginia legislation can be found online at:

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/>. Additional information related to the Virginia Administrative Code may be found at: <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/>.

(Highlighted items indicate legislation effective July 1, 2026.)

Number	Code Section(s)	Description
1	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 9.1-184	Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety • Created in 2000 • Duties: 1. Provide antibullying and aberrant behavior training 2. Serve as a resource and referral center for Virginia school divisions 3. Maintain and disseminate information on effective school safety initiatives 4. Develop a case management tool for the collection and reporting of data by threat assessment teams 5. Collect, analyze, and disseminate various Virginia school safety data 6. Encourage the development of partnerships 7. Provide technical assistance to Virginia school divisions in the development and implementation of initiatives promoting school safety 8. Develop an MOU between the Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Superintendent of Public Instruction 9. Provide training for and certification of school security officers 10. Develop, in conjunction with the Department of State Police, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and the Department of Education, a model critical incident response training program 11. Provide schools with a model policy for the establishment of threat assessment teams

		12. Develop a model MOU for local school boards and local law enforcement agencies regarding the use of school resource officers 13. Designate an employee of VCSCS as the school personnel safety official for the Commonwealth
2	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-208.01 § 22.1-276.01 § 22.1-291.4 § 22.1-279.6 Chapter 246 (New)	Bullying Prevention • Character education required • Definition, bullying • Bullying and abusive work environments are prohibited • Parent notification required when a student is involved in an alleged incident of bullying Cyberbullying • Student discipline and codes of conduct; prevention of and response to cyberbullying; policies and procedures required Bullying Crisis Tip Line • (HB0957) *Department of Education must direct school boards to encourage schools to promote or utilize the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline to address student bullying and cyberbullying when appropriate
3	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-277 § 22.1-79.3:1	Cell Phone Use and Possession by Students • Applies to public elementary and secondary schools; student discipline; bell-to-bell student cell phone and smart device possession and use policies; development and implementation. • Requires school boards to develop, and each public elementary and secondary school to implement, age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate policies relating to the possession and use of cell phones by students on school property during regular school hours. • Requires policies to (i) restrict, to the fullest extent possible, student cell phone possession and use in the classroom during regular school hours; (ii) aim to reduce or prevent any distraction in or disruption to the learning environment, including bullying or harassment, that could be caused or facilitated by student cell phone possession and use on school property during regular school hours; (iii) ensure that implementation and enforcement of the policy is the responsibility of the administration, that the policy minimizes, to the extent possible, any conflict with the instructional responsibilities of teachers or any disruption to instructional time, and does not involve any school resource officer; (iv) include exceptions to such policies permitting any student, pursuant to an Individualized Education Plan or Section 504 Plan or if otherwise deemed appropriate by the school board, to possess and use a cell phone on school property, including in the classroom, during regular school hours to monitor or address a health

		concern; and (v) expressly prohibit any student from being suspended or expelled as a consequence of any violation of such policies. Clarifies that (a) no violation of any such student cell phone possession and use policy shall alone constitute sufficient cause for a student's suspension or expulsion from attendance at school and (b) any such violation that involves, coincides with, or results in an instance of disruptive behavior, as that term is defined in applicable law, shall be addressed in accordance with the regulations on codes of student conduct adopted by each school board pursuant to applicable law.
4	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-279.8 § 2.2-3705.2 § 22.1-271.9 § 22.1-137.4 § 22.1-274.7	Crisis Management and Emergency Plans and Planning School safety audits and school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans are required. <i>“School crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan’ means the essential procedures, operations, and assignments required to prevent, manage, and respond to a critical event or emergency, including natural disasters involving fire, flood, tornadoes, or other severe weather; loss or disruption of power, water, communications, or shelter; bus or other accidents; medical emergencies, including cardiac arrest and other life-threatening medical emergencies; student or staff member deaths; explosions; bomb threats; gun, knife or other weapons threats; spills or exposures to hazardous substances; the presence of unauthorized persons or trespassers; the loss, disappearance or kidnapping of a student; hostage situations; violence on school property or at school activities; incidents involving acts of terrorism; and other incidents posing a serious threat of harm to students, personnel, or facilities.”</i> Certain first responders, agencies, and groups to be included in the development and annual review of crisis plans is required. Crisis plan certification by August 31 is required each year. <i>“The plan shall include a provision that the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund shall be contacted immediately to deploy assistance in the event of an emergency as defined in the emergency response plan when there are victims as defined in § 19.2-11.01.”</i> - The <i>“local school board shall retain authority to withhold or limit the release of any security plans, walk-through checklists, floor plans, and specific vulnerability assessment components.”</i> Cardiac Response Plan and drill are required. Updates for students with mobility impairments are required for school building evacuation plans. Individualized Education Plan and 504 Plan language are required with VDOE guidance for crisis plan supports for students with disabilities and mobility impairments.

	§ 22.1-274.8 § 15.2-1808.1 (NEW)	• Bleeding Control Programs and Kits are required by each public elementary and secondary school, supported by policies developed by the School Board, and are to be included in division and emergency plans. • (SB87) Working automated external defibrillators (AEDs) are required at sporting events and facilities.
5	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 9.1-184 § 22.1-279.8	Critical Incident Response • Provision of model curriculum by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety in cooperation with others • Provision in the event that victims arise from an emergency
6	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 16.1-247.1	Custodial Interrogation of a Child • Prior parental notification and contact required
7	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 16.1-301	Disclosure of Juvenile Records to School Principals • Provides that a juvenile, the parent, guardian, or other custodian of the juvenile, and counsel for the juvenile may inspect a law-enforcement record
8	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 18.2-415	Disorderly Conduct • “The provisions of this section shall not apply to any elementary or secondary school student if the disorderly conduct occurred on the property of any elementary or secondary school, on a school bus as defined in § 46.2-100, or at any activity conducted or sponsored by any elementary or secondary school.”
9	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-184 § 22.1-137.2 <i>Virginia Administrative Code</i> 8VAC20-132-240 <i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-137 <i>Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC)</i> Chapter 403-405	Drills, Required • Bus evacuation drills • Lock-down drills, required • Lock-down drills, parent notification • Lock-down drills, exemptions • Virginia Administrative Code lockdown drill requirements • Fire drills, required • Statewide Fire Prevention Code

	<i>Virginia Administrative Code</i> 8VAC20-132-240 <i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-137.1 § 22.1-271.9	• Virginia Administrative Code Fire Drill Requirements • Tornado drills, required • Cardiac Response Plan and drill, required
10	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 18.2-371.2:1 § 22.1-206.01 § 22.1-274.4:1 § 4.1-1105.1 § 4.1-1109 § 4.1-1110 Chapter 434 § 22.1-272.1:1 §§ 18.2-246.8, 18.2-371.2, 22.1-79.5, 22.1-206, 22.1-279.6, 58.1-1021.01, 58.1-1021.02, 58.1-1021.04:1, 58.1-1021.04:5, 58.1-1021.06 through 58.1-1021.09, 59.1-293.10, 59.1-293.11, 59.1-293.12, 59.1-293.13, and 59.1-293.14	Drugs and Tobacco • Tobacco or hemp product possession for persons under 21 is prohibited, may be deemed contraband, and seized by law enforcement • Opioid education and awareness prevention: curriculum, instruction, and policies, required • Opioid antagonist procurement, placement, maintenance, and administration; staff and faculty training; policies and requirements • Marijuana, possession and consumption: possession of marijuana or marijuana products is unlawful in certain cases; venue; exceptions; penalties; treatment and education programs and services • Consuming or possessing marijuana or marijuana products in or on public school grounds; penalty • Possessing or consuming marijuana or marijuana products while operating a school bus; penalty • Opioids; Virginia Department of Education to develop education materials concerning risks • Overdoses, parental notification of school-connected overdose • Virginia Department of Education; development of guidelines on school-connected overdose policies • Tobacco and hemp products, underage sale, purchase, and possession; prohibiting purchase or possession of retail tobacco products and hemp products intended for smoking by a person under 21 years of age or sale of retail tobacco products and hemp products intended for smoking to persons under 21 years of age; civil penalties
11	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-279.8	Emergency Manager • Requirement of Designee in each public-school division (D)

12	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-279.8	Environmental Hazards, Crisis Plan Requirements School safety audits and school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans required. A. For the purposes of this section, unless the context requires otherwise: "School crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan" means the essential procedures, operations, and assignments required to prevent, manage, and respond to a critical event or emergency, including natural disasters involving fire, flood, tornadoes, or other severe weather; loss or disruption of power, water, communications or shelter; bus or other accidents; medical emergencies, including cardiac arrest and other life-threatening medical emergencies; student or staff member deaths; explosions; bomb threats; gun, knife or other weapons threats; spills or exposures to hazardous substances; the presence of unauthorized persons or trespassers; the loss, disappearance or kidnapping of a student; hostage situations; violence on school property or at school activities; incidents involving acts of terrorism; and other incidents posing a serious threat of harm to students, personnel, or facilities."
	<i>Code of Federal Regulations</i> 40 CFR Part 763, Subpart E (AHERA)	Environmental Requirements, Asbestos
	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-138.2	Environmental Requirements, Carbon Monoxide Detectors • Required, certain public school buildings
	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-141.3 § 22.1-135.1	Environmental Requirements, HVAC Environmental Requirements, Lead
	<i>Code of Federal Regulations</i> 16 CFR § 1303.2 40 CFR Part 745 40 CFR § 745.227	Environmental Requirements, Lead in Paint
	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-138 (C) § 22.1-138 (B)	Environmental Requirements, Legionnaires Disease Environmental Requirements, Radon

13	Code of Virginia §§ 22.1-207, 22.1-253.13:1, and 22.1-279.9	Hazing Requires the Department of Education to develop and add hazing instruction and resources to the Standards of Learning. Local school boards must offer “<i>a physical education class that includes research-based hazing prevention instruction...unless such hazing prevention instruction is provided as part of a separate health education class offered to students in grade nine or 10.</i>”
14	Code of Virginia § 2.2-3705.2 § 16.1-301 § 19.2-389.1 § 22.1-272.1	Information Sharing Exclusions and Allowances - Exclusions from mandatory disclosure provisions: “4. Information concerning security plans and specific assessment components of school safety audits, as provided in § 22.1-279.8.” “13. Records received by the Department of Criminal Justice Services pursuant to §§ 9.1-184, 22.1-79.4, and 22.1-279.8 or for purposes of evaluating threat assessment teams established by a public institution of higher education pursuant to § 23.1-805 or by a private nonprofit institution of higher education, to the extent such records reveal security plans, walk-through checklists, or vulnerability and threat assessment components.” - Confidentiality of juvenile law-enforcement records; disclosures to school principal and others - Dissemination of juvenile record information - Responsibility to contact the parent of student at imminent risk of suicide; notice to be given to social services if parental abuse or neglect is suspected
15	Code of Virginia § 9.1-207	Inspections Required Annual inspections of public schools are mandated and conducted by the local fire marshal. In areas that do not have local enforcement of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC), the State Fire Marshal will conduct the inspection.
16	Code of Virginia § 22.1-280.2:3	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Required Required by the school board in each school division in which the local law-enforcement agency employs school resource officers
17	Code of Virginia § 16.1-346.1	Notifications, Allowable and Required (SB171) *Disclosures to Schools Regarding Discharge Plans from Inpatient Treatment Facility for Minor Elementary or Secondary Students <i>B. In the event that the facility to which a minor elementary or secondary school student is admitted to inpatient treatment determines that such minor student requires additional educational services upon discharge from the facility, the parents of such student may opt in to the disclosure, prior to or at the time of such minor student's discharge from the facility, of such determination by the</i>

		facility to a mental health professional employed in such minor student's school or, if applicable, by the school division in which the student is enrolled. • C. In the event that the facility to which a minor elementary or secondary school student is admitted to inpatient treatment determines, based on communications from such minor student to a mental health service provider at such facility, that the student poses a specific and immediate threat to cause serious bodily injury or death to an identified or readily identifiable person or persons at the time of the student's discharge from the facility, the facility shall disclose, prior to or at the time of discharge in accordance with the requirements set forth in subsection B of § 54.1-2400.1, such determination to a mental health professional employed in such minor student's school or, if applicable, by the school division in which the student is enrolled. • D. No facility shall withhold the discharge of a minor elementary or secondary student from the facility solely for the purpose of making a disclosure described in subsection B or C. Threat of Harm Posed, Reported to Superintendent, Parent Notified, and information provided D. Upon a preliminary determination that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others, a threat assessment team shall immediately report its determination to the division superintendent or his designee. The division superintendent or his designee shall immediately attempt to notify the student's parent or legal guardian. The division superintendent or his designee shall provide, either in such initial attempt to notify the student's parent or legal guardian or through a separate communication to the student's parent or legal guardian made as soon as practicable thereafter, materials on recognition of and strategies for responding to behavior indicating that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others that shall include information on the legal requirements set forth in § 18.2-56.2 relating to the safe storage of firearms in the presence of minors and that may include guidance on best practices and strategies for limiting a student's access to lethal means, including firearms and medications. Such materials shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of the criteria set forth in the guidelines required by subsection G. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude school division personnel from acting immediately to address an imminent threat. • (HB201/SB109) *Parental Notification on Lethal Means Access Requires each local school board to develop and implement a policy to require the notification of the parent of each student enrolled in the school division, to be sent by email and, if applicable, SMS text message within 30 calendar days succeeding the first day of each school year, of (i) the importance of securely storing any prescription drug, as defined in § 54.1-3401, present in the household and (ii) the parent's responsibility, in accordance with § 18.2-56.2, to safely store
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[§ 22.1-79.4 \(D\)](#)

[§ 22.1-272.1:1](#)

	§ 22.1-272.1	any firearm present in the household. Such parental notification shall include information on (a) relevant state laws and regulations relating to safe firearm storage and child access to firearms and (b) firearm-related accidents, injuries, and deaths, including the role of firearms in suicides, including youth suicides, tips and resources for seeking help for a child that may be a danger to himself or others, and current statistics published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or an equivalent nationally recognized entity or organization on youth firearm fatality rates. Each school board shall make such parental notification available in multiple languages on its website. Threat Assessment/Firearms/Medication Storage Notification Requires the division superintendent or his designee to provide the student's parent or legal guardian materials on recognition of and strategies for responding to behavior indicating that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others. Materials shall include information on the legal requirements for the safe storage of firearms and guidance on best practices for limiting a student's access to lethal means, including firearms and medications. Requires VDOE, DBHDS, and VDH to develop the guidelines. Overdose Notification Requires VDOE to establish and maintain guidelines for school-connected student overdose response and parental notification policies. Requires division superintendents (or their designee) to notify the parents of each student in the division of any suspected school-connected overdose within 24 hours of learning of the suspected overdose. Suicide/Safe Storage of Firearms Notification Adds a requirement that any person licensed as administrative or instructional personnel who believes a student is at imminent risk of suicide would provide suicide prevention materials and information relating to the safe storage of firearms in the presence of minors and limit a student's access to lethal means, including firearms and medications. Requires VDOE, DBHDS, and VDH to develop guidelines around parental contact.
18	§ 22.1-79.4:1 (NEW CODE)	(HB592) Panic Alarms, Wearable (Alyssa's Law) Permits school boards to provide teachers with wearable panic alarm systems in the classroom to more quickly alert law enforcement during emergencies.
19	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-279.3:2	Protective Orders Public elementary and secondary school students; protective orders; notification

20	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 8.01-47 § 19.2-83.1 § 22.1-279.3:1 § 22.1-279.3:3 § 22.1-279.8	Reporting Requirements and Exemptions, Incident • Immunity of persons investigating or reporting certain incidents at schools • Report of arrest of school employees and adult students for certain offenses • Report of conviction of school employees for certain offenses • Reports of certain acts to school authorities; reports of certain acts by school authorities to parents; reports of certain acts by school authorities to law enforcement • Alternative school discipline process for certain incidents • Provision for notification of DCJS and the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund in the event of an emergency when there are victims • Click to Report a Critical Incident or Emergency
21	§ 22.1-279.6:1 (NEW CODE)	(HB298) *Evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices. • Defines "Aggravating circumstances" • Defines "Evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice" • No public elementary or secondary school student shall be suspended, expelled, or excluded from attendance at school unless the school first considers at least one evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice, except in certain cases • Evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices to be added to Student Behavior and Administrative Response (SBAR) survey to annually collect and analyze data • VDOE shall adopt and make available guidelines and support materials for considering, monitoring, and evaluating evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices, including professional development and technical assistance.
22	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 22.1-140 § 22.1-279.8	School Building and Floor Plans • Plans for buildings to be approved by division superintendent • From the Annual School Safety Audit (see also #18 below): <i>"Each local school board shall require all schools under its supervisory control to annually conduct school safety audits, as defined in this section, consistent with such list and in collaboration with the chief law-enforcement officer of the locality or his designee. As part of each such audit, the school board shall create a detailed and accurate floor plan for each public school building in the local school division or shall certify that the existing floor plan for each such school is sufficiently detailed and accurate."</i>

23	Code of Virginia § 9.1-101 § 9.1-102 § 9.1-110 § 9.1-114.1 § 22.1-279.10	School Resource Officers (SROs) • Definition, school resource officer • DCJS, “under the direction of the Board, which shall be the policy-making body for carrying out the duties and powers hereunder, shall have the power and duty to...54. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for certification and recertification of law-enforcement officers serving as school resource officers.” • School Resource Officer Grants Program and Fund • Compliance with minimum training standards by school resource officers • School resource officers; data
24	Code of Virginia § 22.1-279.8	School Safety Audit • Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, in consultation with the Department of Education, determines components of the School Safety Audit. <i>“Such items shall include (i) those incidents reported to school authorities pursuant to § 22.1-279.3:1 and shall include; (ii) a school inspection walk-through using a standardized checklist provided by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, which shall incorporate crime prevention through environmental design principles; and (iii) specific technology systems, including physical security technologies, emergency telecommunication systems, and associated technology including equipment and software.”</i> • “The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety shall prescribe a standardized report format for school safety audits, additional reporting criteria, and procedures for report submission, which may include instructions for electronic submission.” • “Each local school board shall require all schools under its supervisory control to annually conduct school safety audits, as defined in this section, consistent with such list and in collaboration with the chief law-enforcement officer of the locality or his designee. As part of each such audit, the school board shall create a detailed and accurate floor plan for each public school building in the local school division or shall certify that the existing floor plan for each such school is sufficiently detailed and accurate.” • “The results of such school safety audits shall be made public within 90 days of completion pursuant to this subsection. The local school board shall retain authority to withhold or limit the release of any security plans, walk-through checklists, floor plans, and specific vulnerability assessment components as provided in subdivision 4 of § 2.2-3705.2. The completed walk-through checklist shall be made available to the chief law-enforcement officer of the locality or his designee. Each school shall maintain a copy of the school safety audit, which may exclude such security plans, walk-through checklists, and

		<i>vulnerability assessment components, within the office of the school principal and shall make a copy of such report available for review upon written request.”</i> • <i>“Each school shall submit a copy of its school safety audit to the relevant school division superintendent. The division superintendent shall collate and submit all such school safety audits, in the prescribed format and manner of submission, to the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety and shall make available to the chief law-enforcement officer of the locality the results of such audits for his review and recommendations.”</i> • <i>“C. The division superintendent shall establish a school safety audit committee to include, if available, representatives of parents, teachers, local law enforcement, emergency services agencies, local community services boards, and judicial and public safety personnel. The school safety audit committee shall review the completed school safety audits and submit any plans, as needed, for improving school safety to the division superintendent for submission to the local school board.”</i> • Annual designation of an employee in the local school division as the division safety official is required annually. • Added a component to the annual school safety audit to include a review of the school's comprehensive plan for closures of public health emergencies. • The division superintendent or his designee and the school safety audit committee may meet annually on the grounds of any public school in the local school division with the chief law-enforcement officer of the locality or a designee from the local law-enforcement agency to discuss the school safety audit completed for such school.
25	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 9.1-101 § 9.1-102 (42)	School Security Officers (SSOs) • Definition, school security officer • DCJS, “under the direction of the Board, which shall be the policy-making body for carrying out the duties and powers hereunder, shall have the power and duty to...42. Establish, in consultation with the Department of Education and the Virginia State Crime Commission, compulsory minimum standards for employment and job-entry and in-service training curricula and certification requirements for school security officers, including school security officers described in clause (b) of § 22.1-280.2:1, which training and certification shall be administered by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) pursuant to § 9.1-184.” • Powers and duties of the Board and the Department. • 42. Establish, in consultation with the Department of Education and the Virginia State Crime Commission, compulsory minimum standards for employment and job-entry and in-service training curricula and certification requirements for school security officers,

		including school security officers described in clause (b) of § 22.1-280.2:1, which training and certification shall be administered by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) pursuant to § 9.1-184. Such training standards shall be specific to the role and responsibility of school security officers and shall include (i) relevant state and federal laws; (ii) school and personal liability issues; (iii) security awareness in the school environment; (iv) mediation and conflict resolution, including de-escalation techniques such as a physical alternative to restraint; (v) disaster and emergency response; (vi) awareness of systemic and individual racism, cultural diversity, and implicit bias; (vii) working with students with disabilities, mental health needs, substance use disorders, and past traumatic experiences; and (viii) student behavioral dynamics, including child and adolescent development and brain research. The Department shall establish an advisory committee consisting of local school board representatives, principals, superintendents, and school security personnel to assist in the development of the standards and certification requirements in this subdivision. The Department shall require any school security officer who carries a firearm in the performance of his duties to provide proof that he has completed a training course provided by a federal, state, or local law-enforcement agency that includes training in active shooter emergency critical incident preparedness and response, emergency evacuation procedure, and behavioral threat assessment.
	§ 22.1-280.2:1 Virginia Administrative Code 6VAC 20-240	• Employment of school security officers; (SB529) Provides a technical language amendment regarding SSO training requirements on critical incident response management and behavioral threat assessment. • Regulations Relating to School Security Officers • Section 10: Definitions • Section 20: Initial certification and training requirements for school security officers • Section 30: Department certification procedures • Section 40: School security officer standards of conduct • Section 50: Recertification of school security officers • Section 60: Decertification and appeal procedure • Section 70: Instructor application • Section 80: Renewal instructor application • Section 90: School security officer instructor standards of conduct • Section 100: School security officer instructor administrative requirements

		• Section 110: Approval authority • Section 120: Hearing process
26	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 16.1-246 § 16.1-247	Taking a Child into Custody • When and how a child may be taken into immediate custody • Duties of person taking child into custody
27	<i>Code of Virginia</i> § 9.1-184 § 22.1-79.4	Threat Assessment • Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, in consultation with the Virginia Department of Education, is required to provide schools with a model policy for the establishment of threat assessment teams, including procedures for the assessment of and intervention with students whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of school staff or students. • Threat Assessment Teams and Oversight Committee Requirements ▪ <i>“D. Upon a preliminary determination that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others, a threat assessment team shall immediately report its determination to the division superintendent or his designee. The division superintendent or his designee shall immediately attempt to notify the student's parent or legal guardian. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude school division personnel from acting immediately to address an imminent threat.”</i> ▪ <i>“E. Each threat assessment team established pursuant to this section shall collect and report to the Center quantitative data on its activities using the case management tool developed by the Center.”</i> ▪ <i>“Each team shall (i) provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school, or self; (ii) identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported; and (iii) implement policies adopted by the local school board pursuant to subsection A.”</i> • Threat Assessment Team Membership, SRO required if employed and serving in the school division • Threat Assessment training required for new and existing team members • Threat Assessment/Firearms/Medication Storage Notification: Requires the division superintendent or his designee to provide to notify the student's parent or legal guardian materials on recognition of and strategies for responding to behavior indicating that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others. Materials shall include information on the legal requirements for the safe storage of firearms and guidance on best practices for limiting a

	§ 18.2-83 § 18.2-60 § 23.1-805	student's access to lethal means, including firearms and medications. Requires VDOE, DBHDS, and VDH to develop the guidelines Threats to Bomb, Damage, or Discharge a Firearm Provides that any person (i) who makes and communicates to another by any means any threat to bomb, burn, destroy, discharge a firearm within or at, or in any manner damage any place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation, or (ii) who communicates to another, by any means, information, knowing the same to be false, as to the existence of any peril of bombing, burning, destruction, discharging of a firearm within or at, or damage to any such place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation, is guilty of a Class 5 felony; however if such person is under 18 years of age, he is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Under current law, any person 15 years of age or older (a) who makes and communicates to another by any means any threat to bomb, burn, destroy, or in any manner damage any place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation or (b) who communicates to another, by any means, information, knowing the same to be false, as to the existence of any peril of bombing, burning, destruction, or damage to any such place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation, is guilty of a Class 5 felony. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference. Threats of Death or Bodily Injury Clarifies that for crimes involving communicating in writing a threat to kill or do bodily injury, regardless of whether the person who is the object of such threat actually receives such threat, an electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message includes an email, a text message, or a message or post on any social media platform. The bill also clarifies that any person who communicates an oral threat of discharging a firearm within or on school property, at any school-sponsored event, or on a school bus, and the threat would place the person who is the object of the threat, or is included in the threat, in reasonable apprehension of death or bodily harm, is guilty of a Class 6 felony. (HB1071) *School and higher ed threat assessment teams must receive training on the use of emergency substantial risk orders (red flag laws) as part of their existing annual training.
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28	Code of Virginia § 9.1-184 § 22.1-79.4 § 22.1-137.3 § 22.1-253.13:1 § 22.1-279.8 § 22.1-280.2:3 § 22.1-298.6 § 22.1-70.2	Training, Requirements and Provision of • The Center shall: ▪ “1. Provide training for Virginia public school personnel in school safety, on evidence-based antibullying tactics based on the definition of bullying in § 22.1-276.01, and in the effective identification of students who may be at risk for violent behavior and in need of special services or assistance;” ▪ “9. Provide training for and certification of school security officers, as defined in § 9.1-101 and consistent with § 9.1-110.” ▪ “10. Develop, in conjunction with the Department of State Police, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and the Department of Education, a model critical incident response training program for public school personnel and others providing services to schools that shall also be made available to private schools in the Commonwealth.” • Threat Assessment training is required for new and existing team members • School safety procedures; emergency situations; annual training required • Students, situational safety awareness training required (15) • At least one school administrator must complete, either in-person or online, school safety training for public school personnel conducted by the VCSCS (E) • Designated law enforcement officer is required to receive, in-person or online, the school safety training for public school personnel • Mental health awareness training required; (HB38) *Requires training for teachers to help identify students experiencing mental health challenges. See also Sections 10 and 12 above • (HB171) *Requires updates to Internet Safety Education, including online scams, misinformation, and content generated by artificial intelligence.
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**Supporting training and/or resources pending from the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety and/or the Virginia Department of Education.*