

Subject School safety
Authors Lawrence and others
Analyst Tim Strom, Cristina Parra
Date April 13, 2026

Overview

This bill requires the School Safety Center at the Department of Public Safety to develop a model school safety plan. Allows school districts to adopt evidence-based plans. Encourages schools to develop and implement anonymous reporting systems. Modifies disciplinary dismissals in preschool through grade 3. Provides additional ongoing state aid to school districts, charter schools, cooperative units, nonpublic schools, and Tribal contract schools.

Appropriates ongoing money for: safe schools aid to school districts, charter schools, cooperative units, nonpublic schools, and Tribal contract schools; and for transfer to the Department of Human Services for additional school-linked behavioral health grants. Appropriates one-time money for school facility safety grants and activities of the School Safety Center. Reopens eligibility for an existing school safety and cybersecurity program. Cancels \$50 million from the 2023 appropriation for proposed passenger rail service between Minneapolis and Duluth.

Summary

Section	Description
---------	-------------

1	School safety plans.
---	-----------------------------

Subd. 1. School Safety Center. Requires the School Safety Center at the Department of Public Safety to develop a model school safety plan, criteria to determine whether a school safety plan is evidence-based, and among other things, report on schools that have adopted an evidence-based school safety plan.

Subd. 2. Model plan. Requires the School Safety Center to maintain and make available to school boards an evidence-based model school safety plan to prevent human-caused safety incidents. Defines “evidence-based.”

Section	Description
---------	-------------

Subd. 3. Local school safety plan. Allows a school district or charter school to adopt an evidence-based school safety plan to prevent human-caused safety incidents that meets the minimum requirements of the model plan.

2 **Anonymous reporting system.**

Subd. 1. Definition; evidence-based. References the definition of “evidence-based” from section 1 of the bill.

Subd. 2. Local threat reporting system. Encourages a district or charter school to implement a local anonymous threat reporting system. Establishes requirements for a local anonymous threat reporting system. Requires a party providing a local anonymous reporting system to establish a website and a toll-free hotline. Requires a district or charter school that establishes a local threat reporting system to form a school-based team at each school site. Requires a district or charter school to report specified information to the department.

Subd. 3. Statewide system. Encourages a district or charter school that does not implement its own local anonymous reporting system to provide students, families, employees, and community members information about the Department of Public Safety’s anonymous threat reporting system and how to use it.

Subd. 4. Department of Education. Requires the Department of Education to make available to schools a list of third parties that provide anonymous reporting systems that meet statutory requirements. Requires the Department of Education to submit an annual report to the legislature starting in 2029 with information about the local anonymous reporting systems.

Subd. 5. Funding sources. Allows a district or charter school to accept funds for an anonymous reporting system from public and private sources. Requires the Department of Education to use existing resources to meet the requirements under this section.

3 **Disciplinary dismissals prohibited. [Full and equitable participation in early learning]**

Limits prohibition on dismissals in early learning to only children in preschool or prekindergarten programs. Modifies exception allowing dismissal by striking requirement that districts first attempt nonexclusionary discipline, and requiring a safety threat to the child or others rather than an ongoing serious safety threat to the child or others.

Section	Description
	Allows a district to dismiss a student in kindergarten through third grade for up to three school days with the approval of the district superintendent or person having administrative control of the charter school.
4	Allowed uses. [Student Support Personnel Aid] Authorizes a school receiving student support personnel aid to use the aid for any safe schools purpose authorized under the safe schools revenue program in section 126C.44, in addition to the existing uses under the student support personnel aid program.
5	Safe schools revenue. Adds safe schools aid to the existing safe schools levy and broadens the list of schools eligible for funding under the program. Sets the safe schools revenue amount at \$68 per pupil for school districts, charter schools, nonpublic schools, and Tribal contract schools (providing \$32 per pupil in aid for schools districts and \$68 per pupil in aid for charter schools, nonpublic schools, and Tribal contract schools). Sets the safe schools revenue amount for cooperative units at \$35 times each cooperative's member district's pupil units (providing \$20 in aid to intermediate school districts and \$35 per pupil in aid for all other cooperative units). Broadens the uses of safe schools revenue to include school-linked mental health services delivered by telehealth.
6	Building and cybersecurity grant program. The 2023 Legislature appropriated \$24.3 million for school building and cyber security grants to school districts and charter schools. Approximately \$10 million of the total grant funding has been allocated to date. Requires the Department of Education to reopen grant applications and authorizes grants to nonpublic schools and Tribal contract schools as well as school districts and charter schools.
7	School safety facility grants. Creates a school safety facility grant program. Makes school districts, charter schools, cooperative units, nonpublic schools, and Tribal contract schools eligible for grants of up to \$500,000 for school facility security improvements authorized under section 126C.44, subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clause (7). Requires the Department of Education to prioritize grants and award at least half of the grants to schools in Greater Minnesota.
8	Appropriation cancellation. Cancels \$50 million of the 2023 appropriation for the Minneapolis-Duluth Northern Lights Express intercity passenger rail project (prior to this cancellation, approximately \$116 million of the original appropriation remains unspent).

Section	Description
9	<p>Appropriations; school safety.</p> <p>Appropriates the following amounts for school safety purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ \$44.588 million for school safety aid in fiscal year 2027 (this is the 90% share of a \$50 million aid entitlement). Makes the appropriation part of the budget base for future years;▪ \$50 million for one-time school safety facility grants under section 7;▪ \$500,000 for transfer to the Department of Public Safety's School Safety Center to develop and distribute an evidence-based model school safety plan; and▪ \$2.5 million for transfer to the Department of Human Services for school linked behavioral health services under section 245.4901. This is an ongoing appropriation.
10	<p>Repealer.</p> <p>Repeals section 121A.425, subdivision 2 (outlines nonexclusionary disciplinary measures that districts must use before dismissing a child in preschool through grade 3).</p>



**MN HOUSE
RESEARCH**

Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn.gov/hrd | 651-296-6753 | Third Floor, Centennial Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155