

Minnesota schools use their undesignated general fund moneys to provide student and staff safety and schools make building improvements through their building funds to create safer school facilities. In addition, a categorical funding formula called safe schools revenue provides additional money to improve student and staff safety through a local property tax levy available to school districts and the four intermediate school districts.

Safe Schools Revenue

The safe schools levy equals \$36 per pupil for each school district. A school district that is a member of an intermediate school district may also levy up to \$15 per pupil unit for safe schools activities at the intermediate school district and must transfer that portion of the levy proceeds to the intermediate school district.

Table 1
Safe Schools Revenue for Fiscal Year 2026

	School Districts	Intermediate School Districts	Total
Safe School Levy	\$30,200,000	\$4,300,000	\$35,500,000

Safe Schools Spending by Functional Category

School districts and intermediate school districts must reserve safe schools revenue and spend the funding only on the following services:

- police liaison services including school resources officers (SROs), school employees engaged in security, and contracted security services;
- school security including equipment, technology, and facility improvements;
- counseling, social work, and chemical dependency services provided by licensed professionals;
- drug abuse prevention programs (DARE), gang resistance education, and other crime prevention activities; and
- other student and staff safety measures.

Safe schools revenue is spent primarily on school resource officers (SROs) and other school safety personnel. Table 2 shows the spending by major functional area.

Table 2
Safe Schools Spending by Program Code by Function FY 25

Object Code Description	Secondary Counseling & Guidance	Elementary Counseling & Guidance	School Security	Drug Abuse Prevention	Other School Safety	Health Services	Psychological & Health Services	Social Work Services	Grand Total
Totals	4,090,570	230,179	31,087,621	216,266	3,126,865	768,090	691,259	2,261,584	42,472,434
School Resource Officer			15,318,253	60,229	788,361				16,166,844
Other Contracted Security Service			1,871,846	10,281	1,786,834				3,668,961
Non-Instructional Support			7,467,020						7,467,020
School Support Personnel	2,891,779	173,607	0	110,840	0	644,534	691,259	1,791,863	6,303,881
Communications, Equipment, Supplies	0	0	2,966,776	3	36,223	0	0	0	3,003,002
Building Acquisition or Construction			387,952						387,952
All other (benefits, etc.)	1,198,791	56,571	3,075,774	34,912	515,447	123,556	0	469,721	5,474,773

Other Revenue Safe Schools Revenue Over Time

In addition to the ongoing safe schools revenue that is provided through local property taxes, state aid has been provided to school districts through a variety of grants over the last eight years. Table 3 shows these amounts.

Table 3
Other Moneys Provided for Enhanced Student and Staff Safety

Program	Distribution?	To whom?	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26
Safe Schools Levy Authority	Formula /per pupil	Districts/ Intermediates	\$35,315,000	\$35,500,000	\$35,768,000	\$35,324,000	\$34,772,000	\$34,277,000	\$34,396,000	\$34,482,000
School Safety Facility Grants through MDE	Grants	School Districts	\$25,000,000							
School Safety Aid	Formula; based on pupils	Districts; Charters		\$30,000,000						
School Building and Cyber Security Grants	Grants (not yet awarded?)	Districts; Charters						\$24,332,000		
GIS Mapping of School Buildings	DPS Grants to providers	GIS providers including GeoComm						\$7,000,000		
School Safety: Emergency Entrance Device Grants	Grants (not yet awarded)	District; Charter; Cooperatives								\$1,000,000
MDE School Safety Agency Office (as line item)	Agency funding	MDE	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	--	--	--	--	--
School-linked Behavioral Health Grants (nee Mental Health Grants)	DHS Grants	Behavioral Health Providers	\$11,229,000	\$11,505,000	\$11,805,000	\$15,805,000	\$17,729,000	\$24,172,000	\$24,112,000	\$20,465,000
Intermediate School Dist. Behavioral Health Grants	MDE grants		\$2,450,000							
Full-Service Community Schools	MDE grants	Districts; charters; cooperatives; Tribal Contracts						\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$5,000,000
Student Support Personnel Aid	Formula; per pupil with minimums	Districts, charters, cooperatives						\$22,650,000	\$35,414,000	\$41,295,000
DPS Minnesota School Safety Center	Agency funding	DPS	\$405,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$400,000	\$490,000	\$490,000



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