



THE GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER  
CENTER FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

# CAPITOL COMMENTS

KEY MESSAGES REGARDING CURRENT  
EDUCATION POLICY ISSUES IN MICHIGAN

## KEY PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC ACT 12 OF 2014

In February 2014, the governor signed Public Act 12 of 2014 (“Act”). Effective July 1, 2014, the Act requires that “the chief administrative officer and the teachers of all schools... shall have a fire drill each month and ensure unrestricted emergency egress during school hours and when the school is open to the public. Each teacher in a school... shall comply with these requirements and keep a record of the drills.” A public school that operates any of grades kindergarten to 12 shall not conduct a drill at a time that would interfere with the conduct of a state-mandated assessment.

### SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS, EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS & REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

#### Public Act 12 requires the following:

**Fire Drills:** A minimum of five fire drills are required for each school year for a school that operates any of grades kindergarten to 12. Three of the fire drills shall be held by December 1 of the school year, and two shall be held during the remaining part of the school year with a reasonable amount of time between each drill.

**Tornado Drills:** A minimum of two tornado safety drills are required, with at least one of the tornado safety drills conducted during the month of March.

**Lock-Down Drills:** A minimum of three drills in which the occupants are restricted to the interior of the building and the building secured are required for each school year at a school that operates any of grades kindergarten to 12. At least one of these drills shall be conducted by December 1 of the school year, and at least one shall be conducted after January 1 of the school year, with a reasonable amount of time between each drill. These drills are required to include security measures appropriate to an emergency such as the release of a hazardous material or the presence of a potentially dangerous individual on or near the premises. At least one of these drills is required during a lunch or recess period, or at another time when a significant number of the students are gathered but not in the classroom. The Michigan State Police’s Emergency Management & Homeland Security division is required to develop a model to be used by a school in conducting these drills.

## Board Requirements:

1. For the Lock-Down Drills, the Board is required to seek input from the administration of the school and local public safety officials on the nature of these drills.
2. For all drills, the Board is required to ensure that documentation of a completed school safety drill is posted on the school's website within 30 school days after the drill is completed and that it is maintained on the website for at least three years. The documentation requirements for posting to the school's website shall include at least all of the following:
  - a. The name of the school.
  - b. The school year of the drill.
  - c. The date and time of the drill.
  - d. The type of drill completed.
  - e. The number of completed drills for that school year for each type of drill required under subsections (3) to (5).
  - f. The signature of the school principal or his or her designee acknowledging the completion of the drill.
  - g. The name of the individual in charge of conducting the drill, if other than the school principal.
3. Adopt and implement a cardiac emergency response plan for the school. The cardiac emergency response plan shall address and provide for at least all of the following:
  - a. Use and regular maintenance of automated external defibrillators, if available.
  - b. Activation of a cardiac emergency response team during an identified cardiac emergency.
  - c. A plan for effective and efficient communication throughout the school campus.
  - d. If the school includes grades nine to 12, a training plan for the use of an automated external defibrillator and in cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques.
  - e. Incorporation and integration of the local emergency response system and emergency response agencies with the school's plan.
  - f. An annual review and evaluation of the cardiac emergency response plan.

## Additional Reporting Requirements:

Not later than September 15 of each school year, the chief administrator of a school that operates any of grades kindergarten to 12, or his or her designee, shall provide a list of the scheduled drill days for the school buildings operated by the public school academy to the county emergency management coordinator appointed under section 9 of the emergency management act, 1976 PA 390, MCL 30.409. A scheduled drill that is not conducted on a scheduled drill day due to conditions not within the control of school authorities, such as severe storms, fires, epidemics, utility power unavailability, water or sewer failure, or health conditions as defined by the city, county, or state health authorities, will not result in a violation of this section as long as the school conducts the minimum number of drills as required and the school reschedules the drill to occur within 10 school days after the scheduled date of the canceled drill, and the chief administrator notifies the county emergency management coordinator of the rescheduled date for the drill. The county emergency management coordinator shall provide this information to the appropriate local emergency management coordinator appointed under that section, if any, and, consistent with applicable federal, state, and local emergency operations plans, to the department of state police district coordinator and the county sheriff for the county or the chief of police or fire chief for the municipality where the school is located, or the designee of the sheriff, chief of police, or fire chief. The information provided under this subsection is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.