

Date: June 13, 2016
To: District Administrators
From: Mike Thompson, PhD, Deputy State Superintendent
Subject: Student Safety Incident Tracking Pilot Program for School Districts

I recently provided you a summary of selected key education-related bills that were enacted into law in the 2015-16 session. Among those enacted bills was **2015 ACT 228**, creating a student safety incident tracking pilot program for school districts.

<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2015/related/acts/228>

Below is detailed information about this new pilot program.

Under WI Act 228, DPI is directed to develop a one-year pilot tracking program to operate in **three** school districts during the 2016-17 school year. The three school districts must include:

- a school district with fewer than 3,000 pupils;
- a school district with 3,000 to 6,999 pupils; and
- a school district with 7,000 pupils or more.

DPI will establish the procedures by which a school district may apply to participate in the pilot program. School district participation is **voluntary**.

This Act requires a school district participating in the pilot program to comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements regarding particular incidents. Under Act 228, participating school district must maintain a record of the following events that occur on property owned or leased by the school district, on transportation provided by the school, or at a school district sanctioned event:

- A crime.
- A violation of state or federal criminal law that results in a referral for a proceeding under subch. V of Ch. 938, Stats. (Juvenile proceeding).
- A violation of an ordinance enacted by a city, village, town, or county.
- An incidence of either: (1) harassment that involves a pupil; or (2) bullying that involves a pupil.

The record keeping requirement also apply to incidents that are reported anonymously to the school district.

The records maintained by the school district must include details related to each incident, to the extent known by the school district, including: (a) the time, date, location, and nature of the incident; (b) the age and identity of each individual involved in the incident; (c) any referrals to or involvement of other state or local agencies; and (d) the result of any proceeding related to the incident. However, prior to releasing a record (or portion of a record) maintained by the school district,

the participating school district must omit or redact all personally identifiable information from a record or portion of a record.

School District Reporting Requirements

The Act requires a participating school district to submit the following two reports to DPI that include aggregate data derived from the maintained incident records:

- By **January 31, 2017**, a report of incidents occurring during the six-month period from July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.
- **By July 31, 2017**, a report of incidents occurring during the year from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

The reports to DPI **may not** include the identity of any individual involved in an incident included in the school district's records.

Department Reporting Requirements to the Legislature

The Department will provide the following two reports to the Legislature regarding the aggregate incident data DPI receives from participating school districts:

- By February 15, 2017, a report of the aggregate data compiled from the first reports submitted by participating school districts.
- By August 15, 2017, a report of the aggregate data compiled from the second reports submitted by participating school districts.

If your school district is interested in participating in this student safety incident tracking pilot program, please contact me directly, by **June 30, 2016**, at: 608-266-3584 or by email, at Michael.Thompson@dpi.wi.gov.

Link to text of Act 228: <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2015/related/acts/228>

Additional information pertaining to Act 228 (introduced as SB 492):
<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2015/proposals/sb492>

Information regarding the school safety incident tracking pilot program will soon be available on the Student Services, Prevention and Wellness Team website, at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/safe-schools>

If you have further questions please contact me.