

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

EO 18-03

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL SAFETY COMMISSION

WHEREAS: The Governor has long held school safety as a priority, and he led a national study on school safety in 2012; and

WHEREAS: Recent events involving violence at schools around the country make it necessary for the issue of school safety to be addressed in a comprehensive manner in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Crime and violence remain issues in schools nationwide; and

WHEREAS: It is a matter of state importance to provide best practices regarding school safety to our local school districts; and

WHEREAS: Arkansans with backgrounds in education, mental health, and law enforcement possess the necessary expertise to propose and develop workable solutions to the issue of school safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order the following:

- (1) There is hereby created the Arkansas School Safety Commission (the “Commission”), which shall advise the Governor and the Department of Education on school safety across Arkansas.
- (2) The Commission shall be composed of members appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The chair of the committee shall be designated by the Governor. The Commission shall be composed of:
 - a) A representative of the Office of the Arkansas Attorney General;
 - b) The Director of the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, or his or her designee;
 - c) A Public School Superintendent;
 - d) A Public School Teacher;
 - e) A Public School Counselor;
 - f) The Director of the Arkansas Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation within the Arkansas Department of Education;
 - g) An advisor on school security from the Arkansas Department of Education;
 - h) A County Sheriff;
 - i) A former Federal law enforcement officer;
 - j) A Mental Health professional;
 - k) The Director of the Criminal Justice Institute;
 - l) The Director of the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy or his or her designee; and
 - m) Additional citizens, as the Governor deems necessary, to represent the different geographic regions of Arkansas.
- (3) The members of the Commission shall have the following duties:
 - a) To advise the Governor and the Department of Education on school safety across Arkansas;

- b) Study and analyze the safety of K-12 schools throughout the state taking into consideration the physical and mental health of students;
- c) To study the architecture and construction of school buildings as it relates to the safety of students and staff in those buildings, including prevention and response to active shooter threats;
- d) Make recommendations to the Governor and the Department of Education on improvements or changes needed to increase school safety;
- e) Consider any and all issues associated with school safety and should undertake school visits, visits with school resource officers, building principals, counselors, superintendents, and others to have a comprehensive view of this topic;
- f) Consider assigning subcommittees with directions to consider several topics and report back to the full commission with recommendations to be considered;
- g) The initial report and recommendation will be due to the Governor on July 1, 2018, with subsequent reports being submitted by the Chair of the Commission; and
- h) The final report of the Commission's findings and recommendations shall be submitted to the Governor no later than November 30, 2018, at which time the work of the Commission will conclude.

(4) Upon request, the Department of Education may provide staff and other personnel to support the work of the Commission.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed the 1st day of March, in the year of our Lord 2018.


Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:


Mark Martin, Secretary Of State