WELCOME TO NCSL EDUCATION TRACK
NCSL EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE OFFICERS

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- Early Learning, School Climate and Early Learning Team:
  - Ashley Wallace, Team Leader
  - Jorge Casares
  - Adrienne Fischer

- K-12 Team:
  - Dan Thatcher, Team Leader
  - Colleen Brooks
  - Ashley Idrees
NCSL EDUCATION STAFF

- Higher Education, Future of Work and Learning:
  - Sunny Deye, Team Leader
  - Ben Boggs
  - Andrew Smalley
  - Marilyn Villalobos

- Staff Coordinator: Emily Ronco
- Education Group Director: Michelle Exstrom
LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STAFF NETWORK: 2019 RECOGNITION AWARD
2019 LESN STAFF AWARD WINNER

Ben Leishman, Fiscal Analyst, Utah Legislature
A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO SCHOOL SAFETY

MICHELLE EXSTROM
EDUCATION GROUP DIRECTOR
INCIDENTS OF SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

• **23 school shootings** on school grounds resulting in injury or death in 2018
• **22 school shootings** on school grounds resulting in injury or death so far in 2019
• **School violence increased by 113 percent** between the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years
• Most recent mass shooting at STEM School in Highlands Ranch, CO, just miles from Columbine
Prevention, Response and Recovery
STATE POLICY ACTION: PREVENTION

• Threat assessment teams and procedures – U.S. Secret Service
• Infrastructure and technology
  • RAND found that entry control equipment, communication and alert technology, and anonymous tip lines as potentially having a positive impact on school safety – no impact of metal detectors and video and contribute to negative climate
• Coordination of mental and behavioral health services
• Positive school environment
• Holistic Approach
• **Active shooter drills and response plans**
  - At least 42 states require safety drills
  - At least 43 states require schools to develop school safety plans, most with law enforcement participation

• **Security personnel – school resource officers**
  - The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) -- informal counselor, educator and law enforcement officer with rigorous training; suggests minimum staffing ratios

• **Coordinated first responder efforts**
STATE POLICY ACTION: STATUTES ADDRESS FIREARMS IN SCHOOLS

- 19 states allow anyone to carry with permission from school authority
- 4 states allow any concealed carry licensure holder
- 3 states allow any concealed carry license holder WITH permission from school authority
- 6 states allow school employees rather than security with training and permission
- 21 states allow school security to carry
- 1 state prohibits only students
- 44 states allow law enforcement
STATE POLICY ACTION: RECOVERY

- Coordinated behavioral and mental health services
- Alternative school sites until repairs completed
- Healing community
- Dealing with public interest
FEDERAL ACTION

- Focused on **supporting state and district efforts** to implement context-specific approaches to school safety.
- President Donald Trump formed a [Federal Commission on School Safety](#) - policy recommendations to prevent school violence.
  - Chair, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVose, with representatives from the departments of Health and Human Services, Homeland Security and Justice.
  - Studied a range of topics (facility security, mental health services, coordination with law enforcement, threat assessment, school-based violence prevention strategies and positive behavior interventions. [The commission’s final report](#) was released Dec. 18.
- Congress enacted the [STOP School Violence Act](#), grant funding for school safety to be administered by the DOJ.
- Other federal agency resources: [United States Secret Service](#), [Department of Education](#) and [Department of Homeland Security](#)
State Legislative Stories
NCSL School Safety Website:  
www.ncsl.org/research/education/school-safety.aspx

School Safety Advisory Group:  
12 legislators convening Fall 2019
For Additional Information:

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