

DJUSD Safety Task Force Report

May 17, 2018

Overview

This is the report of the DJUSD Safety Task Force authorized by a vote of the Board of Education. The report contains information about safety challenges and solutions, a process of public engagement, review of school and crime data and staff recommendations for improving safety in DJUSD. The report is being provided as part of a presentation to the Board of Education on May 17, 2018. The DJUSD thanks all stakeholders who participated in the Safety Task Force and took time to share their views and ideas on this important topic.

Background

In response to shared community and staff concerns related to school and student safety, the Board of Education, on March 1 authorized the Superintendent to create a Safety Task Force. On March 15, Superintendent John Bowes announced the creation of a DJUSD Safety Task Force with the charge to solicit community input and expertise for improving the safety of DJUSD campuses in the wake of continued gun violence on school campuses throughout the nation.

The Safety Task Force convened four times in April. Meetings were open to the public and were advertised within the DJUSD schools and throughout the Davis community. A total of 38 community members, parents, teachers, school staff, city officials and district staff attended at least one of the first three meetings of the Task Force. On April 25 at DJUSD Parent Engagement Night, school community members were invited to attend the final Safety Task Force event and provide feedback on priorities generated by the work of the Safety Task Force over the course of the month. This report contains feedback from more than 90 individuals who participated in this process.

Safety Task Force Meetings

Task Force Meeting Structure

Safety Task Force meetings followed a standard agenda format, but varied in theme. Meeting themes included: 1) Safety and Facilities (April 4), 2) DJUSD Safety Procedures and Policies (April 11), and 3) Safety Personnel (April 18). Meetings commenced with Director of Student Support Services, Laura Juanitas, providing an overview of current district conditions related to the meeting theme. Participants were invited to ask questions of district staff and of one another. Participants then broke into smaller subtopic workgroups. For example during our meeting focused on Safety and Facilities, subtopics included: 1) access control, 2) fencing/perimeter control, wayfinding, 3) parking/drop-off, and 4) surveillance, intrusion detection. Members of the workgroups brainstormed challenges and potential solutions to those challenges. Each workgroup then engaged with members of the other workgroups to cross-pollinate discussions

and add more depth to findings. The outcome of this process was the development of a wide breadth of challenges and potential solutions that had been discussed by all participants in the meeting.

As a final task at each Task Force meeting, members identified and prioritized their top six solutions to safety-related challenges. Below is a comprehensive table with safety solution priorities from all Safety Task Force meetings, grouped in descending order:

Potential Safety Solutions	# of Votes
Institute an Active Threat/ Shooter Drill	8
Increase the numbers of campus supervisors on campuses	8
Joint training for key drills with Davis Fire Department, Davis Police Department, teachers, school staff and district staff	8
Ensure all staff wear their identification badge	7
Utilize a text app or service to ensure staff have all available information during a drill or emergency	6
Train staff how to redirect visitors/volunteers who have not checked in back to the office	6
Increase the number of School Resource Officers (SRO), who are sworn police officers, on DJUSD campuses	6
Implement key card access to all classrooms and campus buildings with the capacity to automatically lock or unlock all doors remotely	5
Reduce points of access on campus	5
Install video surveillance on campuses	5
Ensure substitutes and itinerant staff know the emergency procedures and are familiar enough with the site to fulfill their duties	4
Ensure all doors on campus remain locked during the school day - ideally with a keyless entry system	4
Ensure all visitors/volunteers on campus check in and receive a visitor/volunteer badge	3
Improve wayfinding to the office from multiple entry points at each school site	3
Install panic buttons for staff to contact administration and/or law enforcement	3
Install perimeter fencing around the entirety of all DJUSD campuses to restrict access to campus	3
Install strategic perimeter fencing at campuses where there is a need to restrict access to or cross-traffic through campus	3
Create designated drop off areas that are not on city streets	1
Install metal detectors at all entry points to campus - for high school and junior highs	1

Relocate City bike paths running through school campus	1
Create designated drop-off areas that will accommodate traffic, bike, and pedestrian volume	0
Increase school counselors(for students to help with problems between students, bullying, mental health, drugs and alcohol - know and support kids)	0
Increase safety related training for all staff	0
Increase District Safety Coordinator staffing	0
Train parent volunteers in safety and supervision procedures	0
Fingerprint/background check all volunteers	0

Parent Engagement Night Community Feedback

On April 25, 2018, district staff provided training and discussion opportunities to community members on social and emotional safety related topics during the Parent Engagement Night program. District staff presented the DJUSD Safety Task Force solutions to safety-related challenges and asked participants to rank their top six priorities. Approximately 45 community members identified priorities, which are listed below in descending order:

Potential Safety Solutions	# of Votes
Increase school counselors (for students to help w/ problems between students, bullying, mental health, drugs and alcohol - know and support kids)	33
Joint Training for key drills with DFD, DPD, Teachers, school staff and district staff	21
Install video surveillance of campuses	18
Ensure substitutes and itinerant staff know the emergency procedures and are familiar enough with the site to fulfill the duties	17
Increase the numbers of campus supervisors on campuses	16
Increase safety related training for all staff	16
Implement key card access to all classrooms and campus buildings with the capacity to automatically lock all doors remotely	15
Increase the number of School Resource Officers (SRO), who are sworn police officers, on DJUSD campuses	13
Bullying prevention and education (write-in)	13
Reduce points of access on campus	11
Utilize a text app or service to ensure staff have all available information during a drill or emergency	10
Ensure all visitors/volunteers on campus check in and receive a visitor/volunteer badge	10

Install strategic perimeter fencing at campuses where there is a need to restrict access to or cross traffic through campus	10
Institute an Active Threat Drill	9
Install panic buttons for staff to contact administration and/or law enforcement	9
Increase District Safety Coordinator staffing	9
Fingerprint/background checks for all volunteers	7
Ensure all staff wear their identification badge	5
Create designated drop off areas that will accommodate traffic, bike, pedestrian volume	4
Relocate city bike paths running through school campus	4
Train parent volunteers to monitor campuses	4
Install perimeter fencing around the entirety of all DJUSD campuses to restrict access to campus	3
Ensure all doors on campus remain locked during the school day - ideally w/ keyless entry	3
Train staff how to redirect visitors/volunteers who have not checked in back to the office	2
Install metal detectors at all entry points to campus - for high school and junior highs	2
Improve wayfinding to the office from multiple entry points	1
Create designated drop off areas that are not on city streets	0

Administrative Leadership Team

On May 8, 2018, district staff presented the DJUSD Safety Task Force solutions to safety-related challenges to the DJUSD Administrative Leadership Team and asked participants to rank their top six priorities. Approximately 45 individuals identified priorities, which are listed below in descending order:

Potential Safety Solutions	# of Votes
Increase school counselors (for students to help w/ problems between students, bullying, mental health, drugs and alcohol - know and support kids)	24
Utilize a text app or service to ensure staff have all available information during a drill or emergency	22
Bullying prevention and education	16
Ensure all staff wear their identification badge	13
Install video surveillance on campuses	13
Install strategic perimeter fencing at campuses where there is a need to restrict access to or cross traffic through campus	13

Increase the numbers of campus supervisors on campuses	11
Reduce points of access on campus	11
Fingerprint/background checks for all volunteers	7
Ensure all visitors/volunteers on campus check in and receive a visitor/volunteer badge	6
Increase safety related training for all staff	6
Preventing/Responding to verbal/social aggression (teaching students to work with others in an inclusive way) (write-in)	6
Improve wayfinding to the office from multiple entry points	5
Install panic buttons for staff to contact administration and/or law enforcement	5
Joint Training for key drills with DFD, DPD, Teachers, school staff and district staff	4
Relocate city bike paths running through school campus	4
Ensure substitutes and itinerant staff know the emergency procedures and are familiar enough with the site to fulfill the duties	3
Implement key card access to all classrooms and campus buildings with the capacity to automatically lock all doors remotely	3
Institute an Active Threat Drill	1
Train staff how to redirect visitors/volunteers who have not checked in back to the office	1
Create designated drop off areas that will accommodate traffic, bike, pedestrian volume	1
Install perimeter fencing around the entirety of all DJUSD campuses to restrict access to campus	1
Ensure all doors on campus remain locked during the school day - ideally w/ keyless entry	1
Create designated drop off areas that are not on city streets	0
Install metal detectors at all entry points to campus - for high school and junior highs	0
Increase the number of School Resource Officers (SRO), who are sworn police officers, on DJUSD campuses	0
Increase District Safety Coordinator staffing	0
Train parent volunteers to monitor campuses	0

Review of Relevant Data

Discipline Statistics

As part of this research for this report, staff reviewed 2016-17 DJUSD and regional discipline data for more context on student and staff physical safety. Suspensions for violent activity, which did and did not result in injury, are the most applicable data sets to assess the conditions of safety on our campuses.

2016-17 Suspensions - Violence (with and without injury)

	Cumulative Enrollment	Total Suspensions	Suspension as a result of Violence at School with or without injury	Percent of Total Suspensions
DJUSD	8,904	402*	1:40	5%
Yolo County Schools	31,317	3,061	1:18	10%
California	6,405,496	46,538	1:28	6%

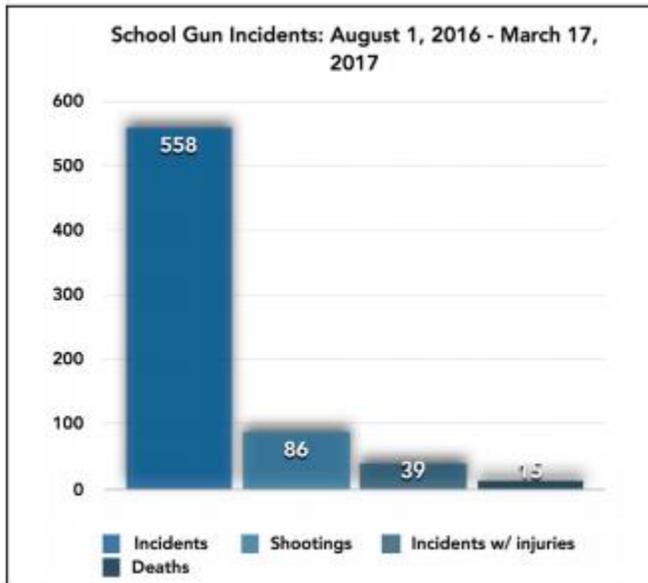
* Which occurred because of 179 incidents

School Shooting Statistics

There are limited sources for accessing statistics on gun violence at school. No public agency (State or Federal) currently have public information available. Data available are generally compiled by research groups and have different definitions and parameters for their specific reports. Included below are statistics from the [Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, Gun Violence in Schools Report August 2016 - March 2017](#). It is important to note that the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence are affiliated nonprofit organizations that advocate for gun control and against gun violence.

A recent Brady Center report captures the following data between August 2016-March 2017

1. 'incidents' which include (but are not limited to) homicides; suicides; robberies; threats of a firearm or in the presence of a firearm; and shots fired in the vicinity of schools/universities
2. 'shootings' where a firearm was discharged on school property
3. 'incidents' with injuries" these events are a subset of the 'incident' category, but involve a reported injury
4. 'deaths' which are also a subset of the 'incident' and 'shootings' categories and involved the death of a student or staff member. These incidents took place at K-12 education centers and colleges/universities, including the schools' parking lots, athletic facilities, dormitories and campus housing, school buses, and bus stops.



The chart to the right summarizes incidents of guns at school (both TK-12 and college/university) from August 21016 to March 2017. According to the data, thirteen separate incidents of gun violence at schools resulted in fifteen deaths, and there were an additional 39 incidents that resulted in an injury.

Out of 86 school shootings, 30 took place at high schools, and 16 occurred at middle or elementary schools. Seven incidents took place on school buses or at bus stops. The remaining 33 occurred on or near college campuses (including academic buildings, athletic facilities, dormitories, and other campus housing).

There are nearly 100,000 schools currently in the United States, approximately 75 million students currently enrolled in TK-12 programs and approximately 16 million students enrolled in colleges in the United States. While the statistics suggest that threat of gun violence to students and schools is extremely rare, the presence or threat of a gun at a school, bus stop, football game, or school parking lot remains a very real concern for students, educators, and families.

City of Davis Crime Statistics

The chart below shows crime statistics for 2016-2017 for the city of Davis, in which approximately 68,000 people resident. Crime of all sorts is lower than the surrounding region and state averages.

Year	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault-Aggr	Assault-Sim	Burglary	Larc/Theft	Stolen Veh	Arson
2016	0	26	31	50	169	267	1297	110	7
2017	1	18	35	43	147	272	1231	126	8

*<https://dpd.crimegraphics.com>

UC Davis Crime Statistics

Approximately 35,000 students attend UC Davis.

UC Davis Clery Act Statistics for 2014, 2015 & 2016

The following statistics, provided in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, are for your information. These statistics are compiled annually by the University of California, Davis.

Grand Total			
(All locations)			
Criminal Offenses	2014	2015	2016
Murder/Non-negligent manslaughter	0	0	0
Negligent manslaughter	0	0	0
Sex offense - Rape	16	28	10
Sex offense - Fondling	6	20	7
Sex offense - Incest	0	0	0
Sex offense - Statutory Rape	1	1	2
Robbery	3	4	4
Aggravated assault	7	22	4
Burglary	66	54	66
Motor vehicle theft	13	9	21
Arson	2	7	2
Domestic Violence	10	15	22
Dating Violence	6	5	5
Stalking	13	22	12
Other Arrests & Disciplinary Actions			
Weapons Arrests	5	8	7
Drug Arrests	20	38	27
Liquor Arrests	47	62	36
Weapons Disciplinary Actions	1	0	0
Drug Disciplinary Actions	27	23	1
Liquor Disciplinary Actions	7	15	18

Staff Recommendations and Proposed Actions

After careful review of relevant information, crime statistics, discipline data and community feedback from Safety Task Force meetings, staff recommends the following:

Continued Action on Items Currently Underway

Through the Safety Task Force process, district staff continually received and acted upon suggestions in real time. As a result, the following are action items currently underway in order to improve safety on DJUSD campuses as soon as possible:

1. Staff have explored and will select an app that will allow DJUSD staff to receive emergency communications on their cell phones in addition to existing email methods.
2. Staff will strengthen the coordination of joint emergency drills with Davis Police and Fire Departments.
3. Staff will continue the Lock Blok pilots at various school sites and determine their effectiveness.
4. Staff will work to ensure that all staff wear their Identification Badges.
5. Staff will Integrate Safety Task Force recommendations and suggestions regarding facility safety into the Facilities Master Plan.

6. Staff will continue to connect with national experts on school safety research to understand more deeply the causes and types of school violence that may affect our students in order to better inform our ongoing safety-related work.
7. Staff will continue to improve Wayfinding on all campuses.
8. Select district and site staff will participate in Active Threat/Shooter training in order to create a district model.

Recommended High Priority Action Items

1. Explore the policy of keeping classroom doors locked at all times.
2. If Lock Blok pilot proves successful, proceed with installation of Lock Bloks at all school sites.
3. Train substitutes and itinerant staff know the emergency procedures so they are familiar enough with the site to fulfill emergency duties.
4. Train visitors/volunteers on campus to check in and receive a visitor/volunteer badge.
5. Train staff how to redirect visitors/volunteers who have not checked in back to the office and/or not wearing a visitor/volunteer badge.

Recommended Items to Further Explore

1. Increase school counselors (to help with problems between students, bullying, mental health, drugs and alcohol, etc.)
2. Increase safety-related training for all staff
3. Continued improvement of bullying prevention and education programs
4. Increase the numbers of campus supervisors on campuses
5. Increase the number of School Resource Officers (SRO), who are sworn police officers, on DJUSD campuses

Facilities Related Considerations

1. Reduce points of access on campus
2. Implement key card access to all classrooms and campus buildings with the capacity to automatically lock or unlock all doors remotely
3. Install strategic perimeter fencing at campuses where there is a need to restrict access to or cross traffic through campus
4. Install video surveillance of campuses