

IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD POLICY MANUAL
POLICY GROUP 1 – GOVERNANCE
FACILITIES SAFETY

PG-1.405

Sec. 1. SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDIT

a) *Audit Requirements*

At least once every three years, IDEA Public Schools (“IDEA”) shall conduct a safety and security audit of IDEA facilities that includes a security review as described by Texas Education Code § 37.1087 and Section 2 of this policy for each school facility. IDEA, or a person included in the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) registry engaged by the school to conduct a safety and security audit, shall follow safety audit and security audit procedures developed by the TxSSC in coordination with the Commissioner of Education.

The safety and security audit must certify that IDEA used funds provided through the school safety allotment only for purposes provided by Texas Education Code § 42.168.

The results of the safety and security audit shall be reported to the Board and, in the manner required by the TxSSC, to the TxSSC. IDEA must maintain a copy of the report signed by the Board and Superintendent.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.108(b), (b-1), (c).

b) *Disclosure and Confidentiality*

Except as provided under Texas Education Code § 37.108(c-2), any document or information collected, developed, or produced during a safety and security audit is not subject to disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.108(c-1).*

c) *Annual Certification*

IDEA shall annually certify compliance with 19 Texas Administrative Code § 61.1031(c) and (d) as part of ongoing security audits under Texas Education Code § 37.108(b). The certification shall be maintained locally and provided to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) upon request.

19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(j).

Sec. 2. SECURITY REVIEW

If IDEA constructs, acquires, renovates, or improves a school facility, IDEA shall, as soon as practicable, conduct a security review of the facility to:

1. Determine whether the facility meets school safety and security requirements as described by commissioner rule; and
2. Identify security vulnerabilities at the facility in the event of an active shooter incident and describe strategies to mitigate each vulnerability identified.

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Tex. Educ. Code §§ 12.104(b)(3)(V), 37.1087.

Sec. 3. ACCESS CONTROL AUDITS

The Superintendent, or designee(s), shall conduct at least weekly inspections during school hours of all exterior doors of all instructional facilities to certify that all doors are, by default, set to a closed, latched, and locked status and cannot be opened from the outside without a key. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(1)(A).*

The Superintendent, or designee, shall report the findings of weekly inspections to:

1. The school safety and security committee formed pursuant to Texas Education Code § 37.109; and
2. The principal or leader of the instructional facility to ensure awareness of any deficiencies identified and who must take action to reduce the likelihood of similar deficiencies in the future.

19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(1)(B), (C).

The Superintendent, or designee, shall ensure the results are kept for review as part of the safety and security audit as required by Texas Education Code § 37.108. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(1)(B).*

Nothing in IDEA's access control procedures will be interpreted as discouraging parents, once properly verified as authorized campus visitors, from visiting campuses they are authorized to visit. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(1)(D).*

Sec. 4. FACILITIES STANDARDS COMPLIANCE

IDEA shall ensure that each IDEA facility complies with each school facilities standard, including performance standards and operational requirements, related to safety and security adopted under Texas Education Code § 7.061, or provided by other law or administrative rule. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.351(a).*

a) *Good Cause Exception*

If IDEA is unable to bring a school facility into compliance with a school facilities standard related to safety and security, IDEA may claim a good cause exception from the requirement to comply with that standard, including for a reason related to:

1. The age, physical design, or location of the noncompliant facility;

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2. The projected remaining use or functional life of the noncompliant facility;
3. Availability of funding; or
4. Supply chain obstacles.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.353(a).

If IDEA claims a good cause exception, IDEA shall develop an alternative performance standard with which it is able to comply. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.353(b).*

b) *Expiration and Renewal*

A good cause exception claimed by IDEA expires on the fifth anniversary of the date on which the exception is claimed. On the expiration of the exception, IDEA must reevaluate whether IDEA is able to comply with each school facility standard related to safety and security, and if not, renew:

1. The claim for an exception; and
2. The alternative performance standard developed.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.353(c).

c) *Documentation*

IDEA shall develop and maintain documentation of implementation of and compliance with school safety and security facilities standards for each IDEA facility, including a good cause exception claimed under Texas Education Code § 37.353, and shall, if requested by the Texas Education Agency, provide that documentation to the Agency in the manner prescribed by the Agency. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.351(b).*

d) *Confidentiality*

Any document or information collected, identified, developed, or produced relating to a safety or security requirement for facilities is confidential under Texas Government Code §§ 418.177 and 418.181, and not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Texas Government Code. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.355.*

Sec. 5. MAINTENANCE CHECKS

IDEA shall perform at least twice-yearly maintenance checks as described by 19 Texas Administrative Code § 61.1031(d)(3). *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(3)(A).* At a minimum, maintenance checks shall ensure the following:

1. Instructional facility exterior doors function properly;

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2. The locking mechanism for any ground-level windows that can be opened function properly;
3. Any perimeter barriers and related gates function properly;
4. All panic alert or similar emergency notification systems in classrooms and campus central offices function properly;
5. All school telephone systems and communications infrastructure provide accurate location information when a 9-1-1 call is made in accordance with state and federal laws and rules and when an alert is triggered in accordance with this section;
6. All exterior master key boxes function properly and the keys they contain function properly;
7. Law enforcement and emergency responder two-way radios operate effectively within each instructional facility; and
8. Two-way radios used by school system peace officers, school resource officers, or school marshals properly communicate with local law enforcement and emergency response services.

19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(3)(A).

A staff member who becomes aware of a facility component functionality deficiency that would be identified during the twice-yearly maintenance review must immediately report the deficiency to the Facilities Manager, regardless of the status of the twice-yearly maintenance review. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(3)(A).*

IDEA shall promptly remedy any deficiencies discovered as a consequence of regular maintenance checks or staff reports. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 61.1031(d)(3)(C).*

Sec. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

IDEA shall formally implement administrative procedures as reasonably necessary to properly administer this policy and to adhere to applicable law and rule. In doing so, IDEA shall not adopt, and are prohibited from adopting, an administrative procedure that conflicts with applicable law or this policy. Accordingly, IDEA shall confer with the Board or legal counsel before deviating from the requirements set forth in this policy. In the event that a deviation from this policy becomes necessary, IDEA shall either recommend an amendment to this policy or the Board's approval of a specific deviation, including the purpose, scope and duration of the requested deviation.

Sec.7. DATE ADOPTED AND EFFECTIVE

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As set forth in the pertinent minutes to the meeting of the Board, the Board adopted this policy on August 18, 2026, and it became effective on August 18, 2026. This policy shall be retained until superseded, expired, or discontinued and for five (5) years thereafter in accordance with state law.

Sec. 8. CERTIFICATION

The Undersigned, being the Secretary of the Corporation, hereby certifies that the foregoing represents a true copy of the Board Policy relating to Facilities Safety, as originally adopted by the Board on August 18, 2026, and as subsequently amended by the Board on August 18, 2026 which Policy, as amended, is in full force and effect and has not been revoked or amended.

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eduardo Rivera".

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Ed Rivera, Secretary

8/19/2026

Date Certified

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