



### **SB 1023 S/E plans; safe schools (Brophy McGee)**

- Requires, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, each school district to adopt a Safe Schools Plan (Plan) that addresses how the district will recognize, initially screen for and respond to emotional or behavioral distress in pupils, including indicators of possible substance abuse, violence, and youth suicide.
- Requires each Plan to do a minimum of the following:
  - Identify possible training opportunities for school staff in recognizing and screening for emotional or behavioral distress in students and referring to the appropriate entities
  - Include efforts to use the expertise of current school staff who have been trained in recognizing, screening, and referring students in distress
  - Describe how school staff should respond to suspicions, concerns or warning signs of emotional or behavioral distress in students
  - Identify and develop partnerships with community organizations and agencies to refer students to health, mental health, substance abuse and social support services
  - Develop at least one MOU between the school district and an appropriate entity in the community
  - Include protocols and procedures for communicating with parents and students
  - Describe how school staff should respond to a crisis situation in which a student is an imminent danger to self or others
  - Describe how the school district will provide support to students and staff after an incident of violence or youth suicide
- Directs each district to annually provide the adopted Plan to all employees
- Specifies a school district must notify and obtain consent from a parent before screening or referring a student according to the Plan adopted
- Allows a Plan to be a separate plan or a component of a broader plan or policy
- Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to:
  - Annually develop and post on the Arizona Department of Education's (ADE) website a model Safe Schools Plan along with relevant resources and information to support school districts in developing and implementing a Plan
  - Annually post on the ADE website a list of statewide resources, including community-based organizations, that provide support to youth who have been subjected to school-based discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying



Arizona School Boards Association

- Annually post a list of statewide resources for youth who have been affected by gangs, domestic violence, and psychological trauma caused by violence at home, school, and in the community