

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 365, *approved January 10, 2022*
Assembly, No. 5727 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning school security drills and supplementing
2 chapter 41 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.
3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:
6
7 1. a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
8 contrary, a school district shall ensure that a school security drill
9 that occurs when students are present:
10 (1) ¹is conducted only after advance written notice has been
11 provided to staff and the parents and guardians of enrolled students
12 in the district that such a drill has been scheduled;
13 (2) ¹includes clear ¹, developmentally and age-appropriate¹
14 messaging to students and staff ¹at the conclusion of the drill¹ that
15 the event is a drill and that no current danger exists;
16 ¹**[(3)] (2)**¹ does not expose students to content or imaging that is
17 not developmentally or age-appropriate;
18 ¹**[(4)] (3)**¹ is paired with trauma-informed approaches to address
19 any student inquiries or concerns which may arise as a result of a
20 school security drill;
21 ¹**[(5)] (4)**¹ does not include the use of fake blood, real or prop
22 firearms, or the simulations of gun shots, explosions, or other
23 sounds or visuals that may induce panic or a traumatic response
24 from a student or school district employee;
25 ¹**[(6)] (5)**¹ does not require a student to role play as a victim, but
26 may include first aid training in which students participate;
27 ¹**[(7)]** does not include the presence of emergency personnel who
28 are not typically present at the school during school hours; and
29 (8) ¹**(6)**¹ is accessible to students with disabilities and mental
30 health conditions, and provides all necessary accommodations for
31 these students.
32 b. ¹A school district shall provide written notification to the
33 parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the district following
34 completion of a school security drill, which notice shall be provided

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
¹Assembly AJU committee amendments adopted December 13, 2021.

1 to the parent or guardian by no later than the end of the school day
2 on which the school security drill is conducted.

3 c.¹ A school district may permit emergency personnel access to
4 the buildings and grounds of its schools for school security drills
5 that are scheduled outside of school hours and during such times as
6 students are not present.

7 ¹**[c.] d.**¹ A school district shall review and update its school
8 security drill procedures ¹**[every three years]**¹ using a process that
9 ¹coincides with the review of the school safety and security plan
10 developed pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:16-5.1 and¹ collects input from
11 emergency personnel, parents and guardians of students enrolled in
12 the district, teachers and staff employed in the district, mental
13 health professionals, and student government representatives from
14 multiple grade levels.

15 ¹**[d.] e.**¹ A school district shall annually track data on ¹**[the**
16 efficacy and the effects of the school security drills, including]¹
17 such measures and information as are required by the Commissioner
18 of Education, and shall report the data to the commissioner.

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20 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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23 _____
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25 Ensures student well-being during school security drills.