



## Minnesota School Safety Center Overview

### Legislative Background

In May 2013, the Minnesota Legislature re-established the MnSSC (Minnesota Laws 2013, [Chapter 86](#), article 1, section 12).

The session law re-establishing the MnSSC directs it to coordinate significantly with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). The MnSSC staff maintains a collaborative working relationship with MDE through the School Safety Technical Assistance Center and the school climate, restorative justice program.

### School Safety Center Vision

All Minnesota K-12 schools will have a safe school environment.

### School Safety Center Mission

The mission of the Minnesota School Safety Center is to serve as a resource to schools, law enforcement, emergency responders and community partners by providing information, guidance, training and technical assistance for all-hazard safety planning. The MnSSC coordinates its prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery activities with federal, tribal, state and local partners.

### Governance Structure of the Minnesota School Safety Center

The Department of Public Safety Homeland Security and Emergency Management division (DPS/HSEM) is the state coordinating agency for all-hazards emergency preparedness and is home to the MnSSC. HSEM provides leadership and administrative support to the MnSSC. The MnSSC operates in HSEM's Preparedness Branch.

### Staffing — Organizational Structure

The MnSSC is staffed with three full-time staff that includes a school safety center director and two school safety specialists. These positions enhance the integrated school safety program by providing technical expertise, leadership and coordination to state and local emergency management, law enforcement and school district officials. The team develops training and guidance materials; analyzes surveys and data; and makes presentations to key school and emergency response audiences.

### Budget Overview

The on-going MnSSC appropriation of \$405,000 supports three full-time employees and their related expenses.

### Program Deliverables

The center has developed training and guidance material for outreach activity as listed below:

- Multi-hazard emergency planning for schools
- Threat assessment in schools
- Tabletop exercise development
- Active shooter/intruder response
- Bomb threats in schools
- Basic school resource officer training
- Advanced school resource officer course
- Crisis communications training
- Facility self-assessment training
- De-escalation strategies for school professionals
- Access and visitor entry procedures
- Classroom safety and security strategies
- Strategies for enhancing emergency drills

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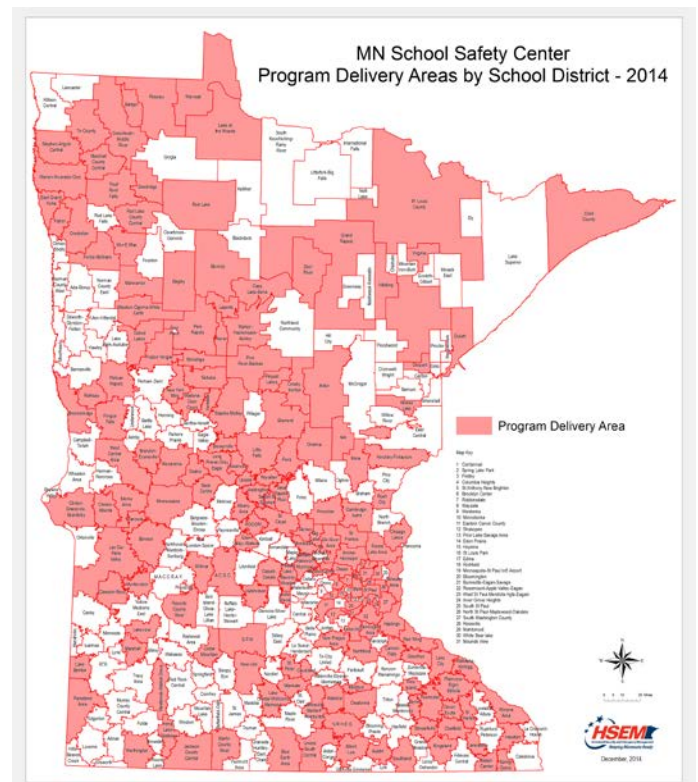
### Key Work Activities

- Developing a state response plan for a major school disaster or emergency
- Establishing a state agency school emergency support and recovery team
- Updating the Comprehensive School Safety Guide to include the most current emergency procedures guidance, training, and toolkits
- Establishing partnerships with school districts, law enforcement agencies and emergency management officials
- Identifying best practices and lessons learned in school safety
- Collaborating in school emergency plan reviews
- Updating the Safe School Self-Assessment Checklist
- Updating MnSSC training curriculum
- Conducting training needs assessments
- Coordinating required trainings

- 2 visitor and entry procedures workshops
- A school specific Facility Assessment Tool and train-the-trainer assessment courses, including 15 school facility assessments
- Presentations to educational groups and at state conferences, reaching more than 1,200 school and emergency response officials
- 6,624 hours of instruction across Minnesota reaching 434 jurisdictions

### 2014 Impact Areas

The map below represents the areas of the state where the MnSSC provided services to school districts in 2014. More than 50 percent of the state's districts had direct contact with the MnSSC.



### 2014 Results Achieved

The MnSSC uses a standardized planning, training and facility assessment approach to improve school safety and strengthen relationships between schools and their local emergency responders. The center worked collaboratively with the nine regionally based school service cooperatives that were established in 1976 by [Minn. Stat., § 123A.21](#).

MnSSC developed and delivered

- 3 school resource officer training courses
- 2 school multi-hazard emergency planning courses
- 3 threat assessment courses
- 1 bomb threat response course