



## DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

---

12/23/2019

To: Sen. Martin M. Looney, Senate President Pro Tempore  
Sen. Bob Duff, Senate Majority Leader  
Sen. Leonard Fasano, Senate Republican Leader  
Rep. Joe Aresimowicz, Speaker of the House  
Rep. Matthew Ritter, House Majority Leader  
Rep. Themis Klarides, House Republican Leader  
Sen. Dennis Bradley, Chair, Public Safety and Security Committee  
Sen. Tony Hwang, Ranking Member, Public Safety and Security Committee  
Rep. Alphonse Paolillo, Vice-Chair, Public Safety and Security Committee  
Rep. J.P. Sredzinski, Ranking Member, Public Safety and Security Committee  
Sen. Douglas McCrory, Chair, Education Committee  
Sen. Eric Berthel, Ranking Member, Education Committee  
Rep. Robert Sanchez, Chair, Education Committee  
Rep. Kathleen McCarty, Ranking Member, Education Committee  
James C. Rovella, Commissioner, Emergency Services and Public Protection  
Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Commissioner, Education  
School Building Projects Advisory Council

From: Kosta Diamantis, Director Office of School Construction Grants and Review

Re: School Safety Infrastructure Council

The Office of School Construction Grants and Review applies the School Safety Infrastructure Criteria, created by the School Safety Infrastructure Council pursuant to CGS Sec. 10-292r, by reviewing if local education agencies (LEAs) have considered the Criteria in their school construction projects supported by the state's School Construction Grant program. The Criteria can be found on the Office's website at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DAS/Office-of-School-Construction-Grants/Task-188---Required-Forms-Regarding-Plan-Review-and-Approval/FORM-SCG-7000-SSIC-Report-Nov-19-2015.pdf>. The Office does these reviews as part of its diligent work in ensuring quality, cost-effective school construction to support good learning environments in the state, and the Office did not find a need to recommend that the Criteria be revised in 2019.

That said, I am recommending that the School Safety Infrastructure Council reconvene in early 2020 to consider, based on the expertise of its members, whether updates to the Criteria are advisable. In order to do so, I am asking that the appointing authorities for the Council ensure that any appointments that they are empowered to make to it are current. Any new appointment letters may be sent to the Office of School Construction Grants and Review at 450 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, 06106.

Like you, the Office of School Construction Grants and Review considers the safety of children in our state's schools to be of the highest importance. Thank you for your continuing commitment to ensuring that our state's schools are adequate, safe, healthy and nurturing places for Connecticut's children.



## DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

---

Sec. 10-292r. School Safety Infrastructure Council. School safety infrastructure criteria. (a) There is established a School Safety Infrastructure Council. The council shall consist of: (1) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the commissioner's designee; (2) the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the commissioner's designee; (3) the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee; (4) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall be a person with expertise in building security, preferably school building security; (5) one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be a licensed professional engineer who is a structural engineer; (6) one appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be a public school administrator certified by the State Board of Education; (7) one appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a firefighter, emergency medical technician or a paramedic; (8) one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a school resource officer; (9) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a public school teacher certified by the State Board of Education; and (10) two appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a licensed building official and one of whom shall be a licensed architect. The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall serve as the chairperson of the council. The administrative staff of the Department of Administrative Services shall serve as staff for the council and assist with all ministerial duties.

(b) The School Safety Infrastructure Council shall develop school safety infrastructure criteria for school building projects awarded grants pursuant to this chapter and the school security infrastructure competitive grant program, pursuant to section 84 of public act 13-3\*. Such school safety infrastructure criteria shall conform to industry standards for school building safety infrastructure and shall address areas including, but not be limited to, (1) entryways to school buildings and classrooms, such as, reinforcement of entryways, ballistic glass, solid core doors, double door access, computer-controlled electronic locks, remote locks on all entrance and exits and buzzer systems, (2) the use of cameras throughout the school building and at all entrances and exits, including the use of closed-circuit television monitoring, (3) penetration resistant vestibules, and (4) other security infrastructure improvements and devices as they become industry standards. The council shall meet at least annually to review and update, if necessary, the school safety infrastructure criteria and make such criteria available to local and regional boards of education.

(c) Not later than January 1, 2014, and annually thereafter, the School Safety Infrastructure Council shall submit the school safety infrastructure criteria to the Commissioners of Emergency Services and Public Protection and Education, the School Building Projects Advisory Council, established pursuant to section 10-292q, and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

---

cc: Senate Clerk  
House Clerk  
Office of Legislative Research  
State Librarian