



CONNECTIONS: *agenda*

School Safety + Mental Health

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast is available | Nile

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Event Registration

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. **Optional Session: Overview of Act 55 Impacts to School Mental Health & School Safety and Security** | Zambezi

» **Heather Masshardt, director of policy services, PSBA**

Act 55 of 2022 revised several sections of the PA School Code, impacting grant funding for mental health and school safety and security, school safety training requirements, School Safety and Security Coordinator requirements and threat assessment training. Learn about the new provisions and actions your school entity should take for compliance.

9:00 a.m. Opening Remarks and Welcome | Zambezi and Orange

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

School Mental Health & Student Supports Track	Physical Safety and Security & Training Track
<p>Student Mental Health Assessments and Classroom Approaches Zambezi</p> <p>» Josh Knutson, CEO/co-founder, Rhithm, Inc.</p> <p>In this session, we will explore the legal implications, logistical considerations, and practical applicability of assessing student and teacher mental health and well-being in the classroom. Participants will explore a variety of methodologies with particular focus on legal and feasibility considerations. Participants will leave with a more nuanced understanding of mental health assessments as well as critical strategies they can apply in classrooms to increase their education ecosystem’s awareness of the lived experiences of students and teachers.</p>	<p>School Security Personnel – What You Should Know Orange</p> <p>» Stuart Knade, Esq., chief legal officer, PSBA</p> <p>What’s the difference between a school police officer, School Resource Officer and school security guard? What qualifications and training do they need, and what are the pros and cons of employing versus contracting for personnel? Learn about the differences and discuss considerations for how each type of school security personnel fit within your school’s overall school safety and student support programs.</p>



10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

School Mental Health & Student Supports Track	Physical Safety and Security & Training Track
<p>Warwick School District’s Journey: Creating a Trauma-Sensitive School Community Zambezi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » <i>Dr. April Hershey, superintendent</i> » <i>Dr. Melanie Calender, assistant superintendent</i> » <i>Dr. Kristy Szobocsan, high school principal</i> <p>Warwick School District’s approaches for social, emotional and academic development strategies and crisis response lessons to support school district students, staff and the greater school community.</p>	<p>School Safety Assessments Orange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » <i>Pennsylvania State Police Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team (RVAT)</i> <p>The State Police RVAT program was established to provide in-depth security vulnerability assessments, along with options for consideration to improve the security of public school buildings in the Commonwealth. The RVAT is comprised of State Troopers specifically trained on assessment procedures related to physical security, explosive effects on structural design, threat analysis, and practical target hardening techniques. This session will provide an overview of risk assessments and practical considerations for addressing school safety.</p>

11:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Break | Nile

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

<p>Safe2Say Something Program Updates Zambezi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » <i>Brittney Kline, program director, Safe2Say Something Program, PA Office of Attorney General</i> <p>Updates regarding the Safe2Say Something Program implementation and an overview of recent data will be provided by the Office of the Attorney General, as well as information on educational materials available for students and staff.</p>	<p>School Emergency Planning & Safety and Security Documentation Orange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » <i>Michael Goss, emergency management specialist, PEMA</i> » <i>Heather Masshardt, director of policy services, PSBA</i> <p>Emergency Preparedness Planning is a critical component of school safety and security. This session will provide an overview of the state-required process and PEMA’s role in assisting schools with emergency planning, as well as important strategies and training resources. Just like planning is a critical component of school safety, follow-up and documentation is equally important and often overlooked. This session will also focus on all of the documentation requirements related to school safety and security and recommended practices and considerations for records management.</p>
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12:15 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch | Nile



1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

<p>Restorative Practices – What Are They and How Do They Work? (Panel Discussion) Zambezi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">» <i>Jeanne Knouse, director of student services, State College Area SD</i>» <i>David Keller Trevaskis, Esq., Pennsylvania Bar Association</i>» <i>Will Smeltzer, director of professional development, PSBA</i> <p>What are restorative practices and how do they work in the school setting? This session will provide an overview of restorative practices and specific examples of approaches used in schools. Session panelists will discuss their experience with implementation and provide opportunity to address questions from attendees.</p>	<p>Training Standards for School Safety and Security & Threat Assessment Orange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">» <i>Heather Masshardt, director of policy services, PSBA</i> <p>The State School Safety and Security Committee approved new standards on September 28 for training required for every School Safety and Security Coordinator, as well as baseline standards for the school safety and security training required for all school staff in designated subject areas. This session will provide an overview of all of the new standards and criteria for school safety and security training, considerations for implementation, as well as an overview of threat assessment training and resources available to support schools in completing training requirements.</p>
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2:00 p.m.

Program Ends

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