

**Pennsylvania Department of Education
Office for Safe Schools**

**Report to the State Board of Education's
School and University Safety Committee**

November 9, 2022

Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with Law Enforcement Agency

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 10, a school entity must:

- Biennially execute and file with the Department of Education (“Department”) an MOU(s) with each local police department with jurisdiction over property of the school entity;
- Consult and consider the model MOU the Board developed. If a school entity executes an MOU that is substantively different from the model MOU the Board developed, the school must submit a statement of reasons for the differences as part of its filing with the Department

The Department’s Office for Safe Schools (“Office”) monitors and provides feedback to the Board on the filings to inform the Board’s statutorily required biennial review of the model MOU.

Current Status

As of November 2022, 99.8% of school entities (779) have their signed MOUs on file with the Department. Only two school entities have not submitted an MOU for the current reporting period. The Office has been in regular contact with the school entities and is actively working to finalize the submission.

Highlights and Considerations

- The model MOU is widely used, and the Office has not received any identified concerns regarding the document or submission process since the Office’s last report to the School and University Safety Committee in 2020.
- The Office engaged stakeholders in the field through the State System of Support and a data pilot group to solicit feedback regarding the current MOU. The feedback has been very positive and the groups recommended no major changes to date.
- The submission of Safe School annual reports, including the MOU submission, has migrated to the Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal (“FRCPP”). Correspondence from the Office is ongoing to all school entities to alert contacts for the need to submit their MOUs for the next two-year period and to provide updates regarding the new platform.

- Recommendation - MOU's are submitted biennially, the current model MOU has a date section on the front page. The Office would recommend including an additional field labeled "Two Year period (ex. – 21/22 & 22/23)"
 - The recommendation would assist school entities in maintaining compliance with the submission and create consistency with reporting mechanisms within the FRCPP for monitoring purposes.