



School Safety Commissioner's Rules Update

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★ *Shaping the future-one heart, one mind at a time.* ★

Rule 103.1215-Purpose & Scope

- This section establishes minimum safety standards for instructional facilities owned, operated, or leased by school systems. Intended to consolidate school safety requirements and improve the accessibility, consistency, and clarity of the administrative code.
- 19 TAC, §103.1215 incorporates directives in House Bill 33, 89th Regular Legislative Session, expanding existing requirements to include newly constructed, acquired, and substantially renovated facilities. Beginning August 1, 2026, school systems must certify in Sentinel that mandatory security reviews of newly constructed, acquired, and substantially renovated facilities are conducted.

The Core Exterior Door Rule

The everyday standard

- All exterior doors must be CLOSED, LATCHED, AND LOCKED.
- Exception: a door may be unlocked when it is actively monitored or is within a qualifying exterior secured area.
- Ventilation exception requires written EOP designation, explicit Safety & Security Committee authorization with a quorum, specified time periods, and active monitoring or an exterior secured area



**Ventilation
Exception**

Primary Entrance & Visitor Control

- Without a secure vestibule, the primary entrance must meet all exterior-door standards.
- Provide a means to visually identify a person seeking entry when the entrance is closed/locked.
- Provide a physical barrier preventing unassisted visitor access.
- Provide a visitor check-in and check-out location.

1 An adult can visibly review visitors before entrance.	2 The adult can take immediate action to close and/or lock the door.	3 The adult's other duties allow sufficient attention to monitoring.	4 Simply having staff nearby is <u>not enough</u> unless these conditions are met.
			
✓ MEETS REQUIREMENT	✓ MEETS REQUIREMENT	✓ MEETS REQUIREMENT	✗ DOES NOT MEET REQUIREMENT

Exterior Secured Area

- Fully enclosed by a qualifying fence and/or wall.
- Generally, at least 6 feet high with anti-scaling design features, or at least 8 feet high.
- Must be well maintained.
- Gates must be locked, provide emergency egress, and prevent exterior opening without a key/combo.
- ***A perimeter fence by itself does NOT constitute an exterior secured area.***





Door Construction & Hardware

1 Resist Intruder Entry

The door, frame, and all components must be constructed and installed to resist intruder entry.



2 Vulnerable Glass Must Be Resistant

Glass in or near the door must be resistant to easy breakage that would permit entry, unless the door is inside an exterior secured area.



3 Automatically Close and Lock

The door must automatically fully close and engage the locking hardware after each entry or egress.



4 Emergency Egress Remains Available

The door must remain locked from the outside while allowing immediate and safe egress from the inside.



5 Re-Entry Locks Use a Limited Key/Code

Re-entry locks must support a single or small set of master keys, codes, or fobs for approved staff.



Door Numbering & Site Plans

1 Interior and Exterior Identification

Each exterior door location must have alpha-numeric identification on **both** the exterior and interior. Characters must be at least 4 inches high.



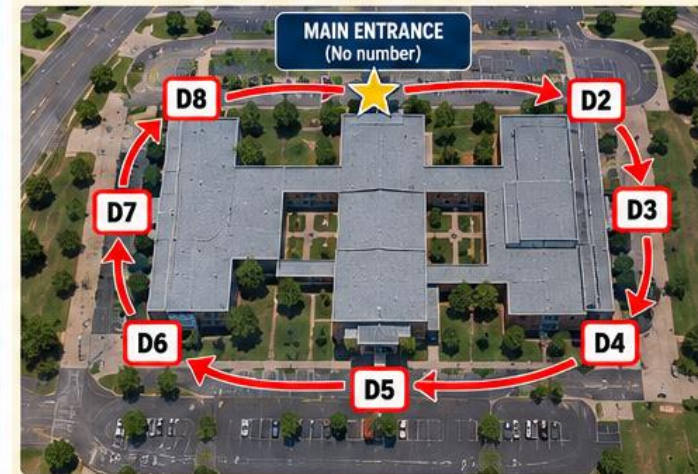
2 Primary Entrance Exception

The primary entrance is first in the sequence and is the only exterior door location not required to be numbered.



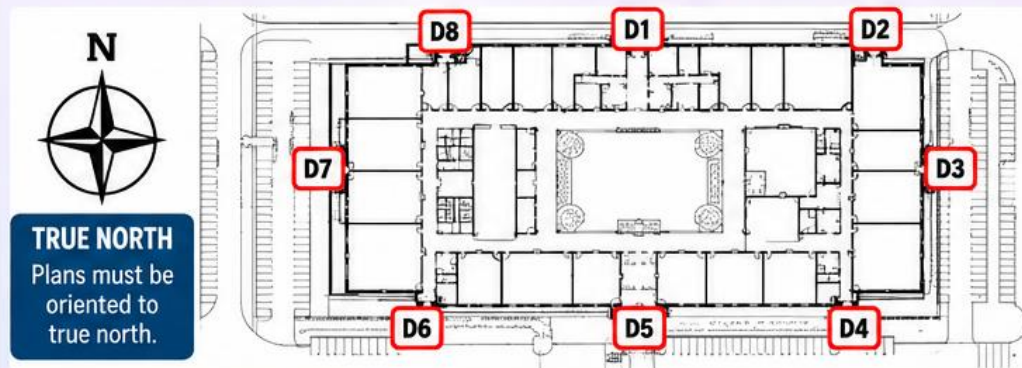
3 Sequential Numbering (Clockwise)

After the primary entrance, number exterior doors clockwise around the building. Numbering must also meet accessibility requirements.



4 Maintain Accurate Site Plans

Keep accurate exterior and interior door site plans oriented to true north. Plans must show the location and numbering of all exterior doors.



5 Keep Plans Accessible

Maintain printed copies in the campus main office and provide electronic copies to required emergency-response entities.



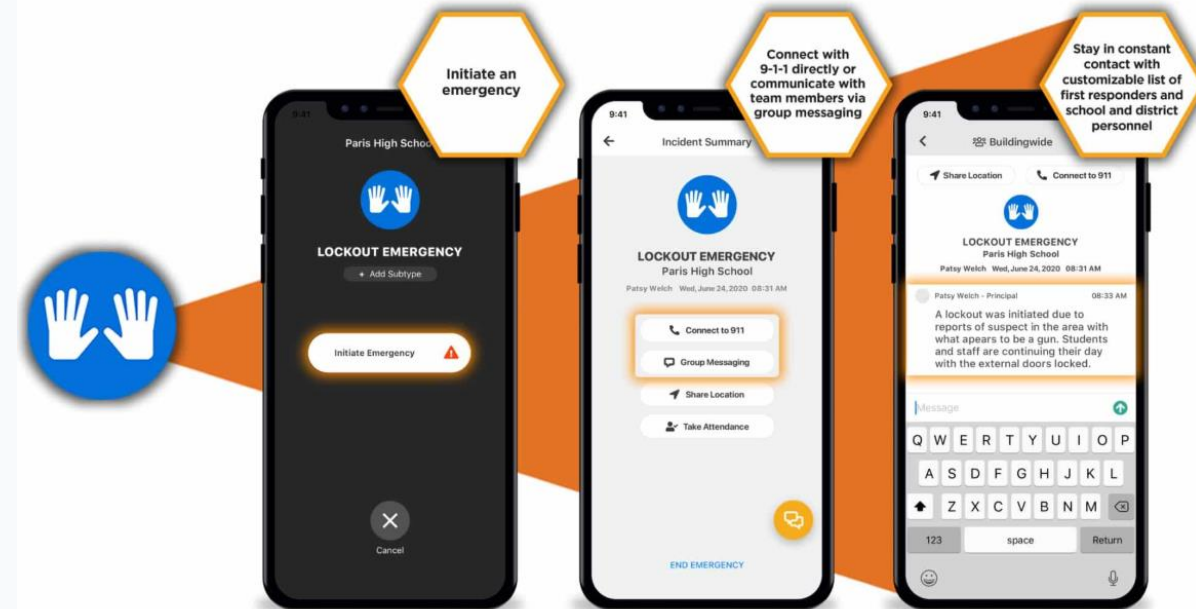
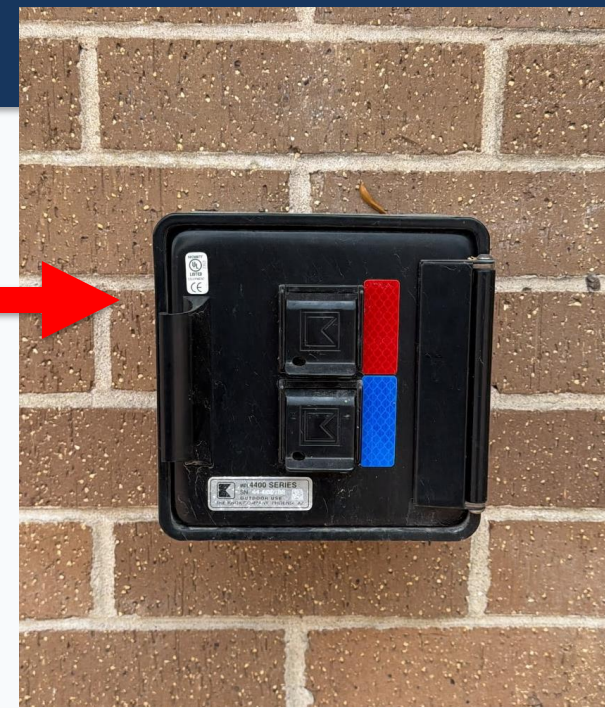
Windows & Roof Access

- Exterior-entry classrooms need a way to visually identify persons seeking entry unless inside an exterior secured area.
- Vulnerable windows adjacent to exterior doors and qualifying ground-level windows must resist easy breakage/entry.
- Openable ground-level windows require functional inside locks.
- Qualifying windows must be closed and locked when staff are not present.
- Roof access doors remain closed, latched, and locked when not actively in use.



Emergency Access & Communications

- Provide exterior secure master-key box(es) for responders OR provide local law enforcement master-key access.
- Responder two-way radios must function in most portions of buildings.
- Panic/duress/equivalent alerts must be available to campus staff, including temporary/substitute staff.
- Alerts must identify origin location and make required emergency notifications.
- Covered district 9-1-1 calls automatically trigger the alert; remotely lockable exterior doors must lock when the alert triggers.



Weekly Access-Control Inspection

- At least weekly, during school hours, inspect ALL exterior doors.
- Certify doors are closed, latched, locked, and cannot be opened from outside without a key as required.
- Report findings to the Safety & Security Committee.
- Report findings to the principal/campus leader for awareness and corrective action.
- Retain results for the safety and security audit.

CAMPUS LIST	FINDINGS/FLAGS	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS																						
24% (12 of 50 visited) Campus Visits Breakdown <table><tr><td>Elementary School</td><td>7 of 32</td></tr><tr><td>Jr High/Middle School</td><td>3 of 10</td></tr><tr><td>High School</td><td>2 of 8</td></tr></table>	Elementary School	7 of 32	Jr High/Middle School	3 of 10	High School	2 of 8	2 (Excludes Any Flags) Findings Breakdown <table><tr><td>Intruder Detection Audit</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Exterior Door Audit</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Weekly Door Log Audit</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Classroom Door Audit*</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>* Not a finding</td><td></td></tr></table>	Intruder Detection Audit	1	Exterior Door Audit	0	Weekly Door Log Audit	1	Classroom Door Audit*	2	* Not a finding		1 (Outstanding CAs) Corrective Actions Breakdown <table><tr><td>Total CAs Required</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Total CAs Submitted</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Total CAs Approved</td><td>1</td></tr></table>	Total CAs Required	2	Total CAs Submitted	1	Total CAs Approved	1
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Safety During Extracurricular Activities-Effective 9/23/26

- School systems must develop a site-specific written security and medical plan for events hosting more than 250 attendees;
- School systems must provide at least one uniformed peace officer for every 1,000 attendees at events exceeding 1,000 attendees; and
- School systems must ensure emergency equipment (e.g., AEDs) is available and maintained, designate an on-site incident commander, coordinate injury-response plans with first responders, and maintain communication methods for immediate emergency contact.



SCHOOL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Questions?
Comments?

Thank You