

District #111 mchs.net

Mission: Strengthen Mastery, Collaboration, High Expectations, and Success for All Students.

To: Board of Education

From: Dr. Robert Schiffbauer Date: December 17, 2025 Subject: Legal Update

Starting January 1, 2026:

HB 1787/PA 104-0198: requires Illinois school districts to provide specific training on school evacuation drills and law enforcement lockdown drills to any substitute teachers (this can be presented in packet form). Schools are also required to display maps showing all school exits in the classroom.

Election Day 2026:

As of right now, schools are allowed to be in attendance on Election Day 2026. ISBE has given guidance that this may change between now and the November election.

Starting with the 26-27 school year:

HB 3851/PA 104-0338: amends the School Code by broadening the definition of bullying to include sharing sexual images, beginning July 1, 2026. Starting with the 2026–2027 school year, it also expands the definition of cyberbullying to include posting or sharing someone's digital replica (a fake likeness of a person that may be made with technology like AI) online without permission if it causes harm similar to traditional bullying.

Starting with the 27-28 school year:

SB1560: Mental health screenings - Goes into effect 27-28 ONLY if the state provides the tool to all schools free of charge. For grades 3 & up. It is to be 'offered' to students, not mandated.

Starting in 2031:

Bus seat belts - Goes into effect in 2031 when Bluebird will start installing seat belts on all school buses as standard equipment. Law will only affect new bus purchases; not leases.