

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1498 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY KINSEY, MURT, DRISCOLL, BULLOCK, THOMAS, WHEATLEY,
McNEILL, V. BROWN, SCHWEYER, W. KELLER, MILLARD, D. COSTA,
HILL-EVANS, ROEBUCK, DeLUCA, ROTHMAN AND MILNE, JUNE 5, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 5, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," in safe schools, providing for
6 parental notification of certain incidents.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
10 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a
11 section to read:

12 Section 1314-A. Parental Notification.--(a) All school
13 entities shall adopt a policy and procedure for notification, in
14 a timely manner, of all parents, guardians or custodial parents
15 of students who:

16 (1) Are involved in incidents which are required to be
17 reported in the school safety report submitted to the Department
18 of Education.

19 (2) Incur other serious injuries on school property, on the

1 school bus or at a school activity.

2 (b) Parents, guardians or custodial parents of students
3 include, for purposes of this section, parents, guardians or
4 custodial parents of students that are either perpetrators or
5 victims of incidents which:

6 (1) Are required to be reported in the school safety report
7 submitted to the Department of Education.

8 (2) Result in any other injuries occurring on school
9 property, the school bus or at a school activity.

10 (c) Parents, guardians or custodial parents may be notified
11 in person, by telephone, by e-mail, by text message or by
12 certified mail. School entities shall make a reasonable effort
13 to notify a parent, guardian or custodial parent in the
14 preferred manner indicated on the contact information of the
15 parent, guardian or custodial parent. The preferred method of
16 notification must be documented. In the event of a school or
17 districtwide emergency, the school entity may use alternative
18 methods to notify parents, guardians or custodial parents.

19 (d) A school entity must maintain current contact
20 information for each parent, guardian or custodial parent. The
21 contact information must allow parents, guardians and custodial
22 parents to identify a preferred method of contact in the event
23 that parental notification is required.

24 (e) Each school entity shall provide training regarding the
25 requirements of this section to all staff who come into contact
26 with children. The training shall include recognizing incidents
27 that trigger the notification requirement, the school entity's
28 policy and procedure for notification and the record-keeping and
29 reporting requirements. Training required under this section may
30 be incorporated with other training and in-service activities of

1 the school entity.

2 (f) All incidents that are required to be reported under
3 section 1303-A(b) shall be subject to the requirements of this
4 section.

5 (g) The Secretary of Education may withhold State payments
6 to the school district that fails to comply with this section.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.