
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 649 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY KINSEY, KIM, HILL-EVANS, MADDEN, R. MACKENZIE,
HOHENSTEIN, SANCHEZ, M. MACKENZIE, PARKER, FLEMING AND
HANBIDGE, MARCH 21, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 21, 2023

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) Each school
13 entity shall adopt a policy and procedure for notification, in a
14 timely manner, of all parents, guardians or custodial parents of
15 students in the school entity 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 may be notified
3 in person, by telephone, by email, by text message or by
4 certified mail. A school entity shall make a reasonable effort
5 to notify a parent, guardian or custodial parent in the
6 preferred manner indicated on the contact information of the
7 parent, guardian or custodial parent. The preferred method of
8 notification must be documented. In the event of a school or
9 districtwide emergency, the school entity may use alternative
10 methods to notify parents, guardians or custodial parents.

11 (c) Each school entity must maintain current contact
12 information for each parent, guardian or custodial parent. The
13 contact information must allow parents, guardians and custodial
14 parents to identify a preferred method of contact if parental
15 notification is required.

16 (d) Each school entity shall provide training regarding the
17 requirements of this section to all staff who come into contact
18 with children. The training shall include recognizing incidents
19 that trigger the notification requirement, the school entity's
20 policy and procedure for notification and the recordkeeping and
21 reporting requirements. Training required under this section may
22 be incorporated with other training and in-service activities of
23 the school entity.

24 (e) All incidents that are required to be reported under
25 section 1303-A(b) shall be subject to the requirements of this
26 section.

27 (f) The Secretary of Education may withhold State payments
28 to any school entity that fails to comply with this section.

29 (g) As used in this section, the term "parents, guardians or
30 custodial parents of students" shall mean parents, guardians or

1 custodial parents of students who are either perpetrators or
2 victims of incidents which:

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

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

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