

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE LAPORTE COUNTY
SCHOOL SAFETY COMMISSION

ORDINANCE #2013- 06

WHEREAS, Indiana Code Sections 36-1-3-1 et seq. permit any county in the State of Indiana to exercise any power or to perform any function necessary to the public interest in the context of its county or internal affairs, which is not prohibited by the Constitution of the United States or of the State of Indiana, or denied or pre-empted by any other law, or is not expressly granted by any other law to another governmental entity;

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of La Porte County, Indiana (“Commissioners”) is the County Legislative body and is by law authorized to adopt ordinances for the performance of functions in the County of La Porte, Indiana;

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of La Porte County, Indiana deem it to be reasonable, appropriate, and in the best interests for the health safety and general welfare of the public to establish a County School Safety Commission, pursuant to Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10, comprised of representatives from the school, judiciary, law enforcement, and community agencies to perform a cumulative analysis of the school safety need for LaPorte County.

WHEREAS, such establishment of a County School Safety Commission is necessary to seek grants through the Indiana school safety fund, pursuant to Indiana Code 10-21-1-2, to establish programs under which a school corporation or charter school may employ school resource officers; conduct a threat assessment of its building(s); and/or purchase equipment and technology restrict access to school property or expedite notification of first responders.

THUS, The LaPorte County School Safety Commission is hereby authorized to establish its membership, convene; perform a cumulative analysis of school safety needs within the county; and conduct and make necessary recommendations based upon their analysis, in accordance with Indiana Code 5-2-10.1 et. seq. and Indiana Code 10-21-1 et. seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of La Porte County, State of Indiana, as follows:

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

To establish in LaPorte County a County School Safety Commission to promote school safety.

SECTION 2: SECURED SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM; DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISSIONS

A. DEFINITIONS

1. **“Commission”** refers to a county school safety commission as established under Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10 (Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-0.3).
2. **“Fund”** refers to the Indiana safe schools fund as established under Indiana Code 5-2-10.1 and Ind. Code 10-21-1. (Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-1).
3. **“Institute”** refers to the Indiana criminal justice institute established under Indiana Code 5-2-6. (Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-1.5).
4. **“Safety plan”** refers to any school safety plan required by the Indiana state board of education. (Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-1.7).
5. **“ADM”** refers to the average daily membership determined pursuant to Indiana Code 20-43-4-2.
6. **“Commission”** refers to the County School Safety Commission as established by this Ordinance and pursuant to Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10.
7. **“School Safety Specialist”** shall be designated by each school corporation in accordance with each school corporation’s policy.
8. **“County”** refers to LaPorte County, Indiana.
9. **“School Safe Haven Program”** refers a school program established and operated by a school where the school must be open to students of the school before and after normal operating hours and where the program operates with a plan to reduce alcohol, tobacco or drug abuse; reduce violent behavior; or promote educational progress. (Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-8).

B. GENERAL SCOPE AND INTENT: By the establishment of a County School Safety Commission, County shall have access to grants from the Indiana safe schools fund, established pursuant to Indiana Code 10-21-1-2, and with the intent to provide grants to establish programs under which a school corporation or charter school may employ

school resource officers, conduct a threat assessment of its building(s); and/or purchase equipment and technology restrict access to school property or expedite notification of first responders. (Indiana Code 10-21-1-2, (a) - b)).

SECTION 3: COUNTY SCHOOL SAFETY COMMISSION; MEMBERS; DUTIES

A. COUNTY SCHOOL SAFETY COMMISSION: MEMBERS.

In accordance with Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10, there is established the County School Safety Commission which shall consist of the following individuals or their designees:

1. The school safety specialist for each school corporation located in whole or in part of the county;
2. The judge of the court having juvenile jurisdiction in the County or the judge's designee;
3. The sheriff of the County or the sheriff's designee;
4. The chief officer of every other law enforcement agency in the County or the chief officer's designee;
5. A representative of the juvenile probation system, appointed by the judge described under subdivision (2);
6. Representatives of community agencies that work with children within the county;
7. A representative of the Indiana state police district that serves the County;
8. A representative of the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Indiana who specializes in the prosecution of juveniles;
9. Other appropriate individuals selected by the Commission. (Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10 Version a)

B. COUNTY SCHOOL SAFETY COMMISSION: MEMBERS POWERS AND DUTIES.

In accordance with Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10, upon establishment the County School Safety Commission:

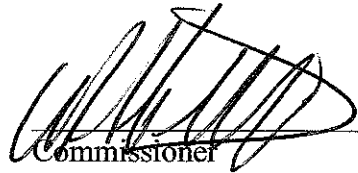
1. The school safety specialist of the school corporation having the largest ADM shall convene the initial meeting;

COUNTY SCHOOL SAFETY COMMISSION: MEMBERS POWERS AND DUTIES (Continued)

2. Hereinafter; the commission shall:
 - a. Annually elect a chairperson;
 - b. Perform a cumulative analysis of school safety needs within the County;
 - c. Coordinate and make recommendations for the following:
 - i. Prevention of juvenile offenses and improving the reporting of juvenile offenses within the schools;
 - ii. Proposals for identifying and assessing children who are at high risk of becoming juvenile offenders;
 - iii. Methods to meet the educational needs of children who have been detained as juvenile offenders;
 - iv. Methods to improve communications among agencies that work with children;
 - v. Methods to improve security and emergency preparedness;
 - vi. Additional equipment or personnel that are necessary to carry out safety plans; and,
 - vii. Any other time the Commission considers necessary to improve school safety within the school corporations within the Commission's jurisdiction;
 - d. Provide assistance to the school safety specialists on the commission in developing and requesting grants for safety plans;
 - e. Provide assistance to the school safety specialists on the Commission and the participating school corporations in developing and requesting grants for school safe haven programs under 5-2-10.1-7, if such program is recommended by the Commission; and/or
 - f. Assist each participating school corporation in carrying out the school corporation's safety plans.

3. The affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members of the Commission are required for the Commission to take action on a measure, pursuant to Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10(f).
4. A Commission shall receive the school safety plans described in Indiana Code 20-26-18.2-2(c) for the school corporations located in the county; the Commission may share the school safety plans with law enforcement agencies,¹ pursuant to Indiana Code 5-2-10.1-10(g).


Passed and Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of LaPorte, State of Indiana, on the 7th day of August, 2013.



Commissioner

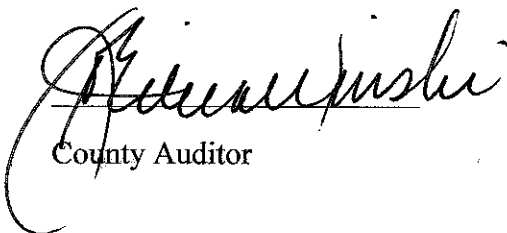


Commissioner



Commissioner

Attest:



County Auditor

¹ This final clause is not included in 5-2-10.1-10, Version b; it may be excluded as a duty for the Commission.