

With respect to funding, the Panel recommends that:

- The business community should collaborate to develop a large-scale adopt-a-school program;
- The philanthropic community—segments of which already are coordinating efforts to fund district priorities—should provide funding for school safety projects;
- LAUSD and its public partners should pursue federal and state grants to support school safety efforts;
- LAUSD should pursue supplemental state funding to enhance school safety;
- LAUSD should pursue an allocation of already-approved state bonds for capital improvements to enhance school safety;
- LAUSD should advocate to include school safety provisions in a potential 2020 state school bond measure;
- LAUSD should include key Panel recommendations on school safety in its planning for a local parcel tax or other locally-approved funding.

Select Findings

Many school attackers struggle with stressors to their mental or emotional health—stemming from peer victimization, personal loss, and trauma—and cope with these stressors through violence.

Easy access to guns, especially in the home, gives school attackers the capacity to commit lethal violence.

In many cases, a third-party knew about a school attacker’s plan to some degree, yet felt discouraged from reporting the threat to adults who could investigate.

On-campus security procedures can contribute to school safety, but can also detract from school climate.

School infrastructure and design can prepare schools and protect students in an emergency.

Even when students are safe at school, they encounter threats in surrounding neighborhoods, especially on their way to and from school.

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**BLUE RIBBON PANEL
ON SCHOOL SAFETY**



**RECOMMENDATIONS,
FUNDING AND
FINDINGS: OVERVIEW**



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In the weeks following the February 14, 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer assembled a Blue Ribbon Panel on School Safety. This Panel was charged with examining, evaluating, and recommending ways to enhance the significant efforts by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to keep students safe from violence, particularly gun violence. **The full report is here: www.lacityattorney.org/schoolsafety**

This Report has 33 recommendations to improve the safety of students at LAUSD. Below are 10 of the Panel's most significant recommendations:

1. Establish a new LAUSD School Safety Director. LAUSD should create the high-level position of School Safety Director to oversee the development, integration, implementation, and evaluation of the various District initiatives related to school safety.

2. Expedite compliance with minimum District safe infrastructure guidelines. The District should expeditiously ensure that all schools—not just newly constructed or remodeled schools—meet the following key LAUSD design guidelines related to school safety:

- A single point of entry for every campus;
- Interior-locking devices in all classrooms;
- A working two-way intercom and public announcement system in every classroom.

3. Stress safe gun storage by parents. LAUSD should require parents to attest that any firearms at home are safely stored. In addition, the District, local law enforcement agencies, health agencies, and nonprofits like Women against Gun Violence and Moms Demand Action should collaborate to inform adults of their duty to safely store firearms, including relaying this responsibility in the Student Handbook.

4. Dramatically expand school-based mental health resources. LAUSD should increase the number of Psychiatric Social Workers assigned to schools, with the ultimate goal of maintaining a full-time PSW on staff at every school.

5. Ensure an adult connection for every student. LAUSD should take measures to ensure that every student has a meaningful connection with an adult on campus.

6. Create a unified law enforcement approach to neighborhood school safety. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD), other local police agencies and prosecutors should collaborate to share data about neighborhood crime around school sites to identify particularly at-risk schools and develop joint law enforcement strategies.

7. Update and consolidate systems for reporting threats of violence. LASPD and LAUSD should consolidate their threat reporting efforts in one campaign with multiple mechanisms for reporting and monitoring threats.

8. Build comprehensive safe passage to school program. LAUSD and stakeholders throughout the Los Angeles community should collaborate to dramatically enhance safe passages programs and bring these programs to scale throughout the District.

9. Develop age-appropriate active gunfire response trainings for students. LASPD should work with LAUSD to develop age-appropriate, trauma-informed active gunfire response trainings or discussions for students.

10. Increase cross-jurisdictional mental health collaboration. LAUSD and stakeholders throughout Los Angeles should expand on existing partnerships to provide mental health services for students—for example, by advocating together for increased state funding and streamlining municipal grant applications.