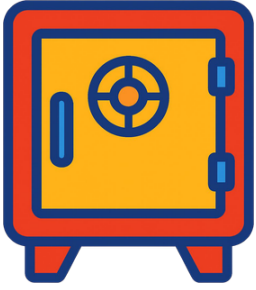


**Secure Storage Education:
How Schools Can Help
Protect Kids At Home
And In The Classroom**





Secure Firearm Storage

Saves Lives

Responsible gun ownership is not just a matter of individual safety—it is critical to public safety. Ensuring firearms are stored securely reduces theft and prevents tragedies like unintentional shootings, mass shootings, and suicides. In a time when school shootings are a daily reality, it is critical that we take secure storage seriously.

The Data

76% of school shooters receive their firearms from home or the home of a close relative.

In 2023, firearm suicides claimed the lives of 4,651 Texans, including 276 children and teens.

Firearms are used in 62% of suicides in Texas. (2023)

Guns are the leading cause of death for children and teens in Texas and in the U.S. (2023)

What Is the Law?

Thanks to the work of Texas Gun Sense and partners, Texas law requires school districts to share information about secure firearm storage to parents and guardians **at least 3 times per year**.

2023

House Bill 3 passed, requiring school districts to share information about secure firearm storage with parents and legal guardians.

2025

House Bill 121 passed, expanding HB 3 to require that school districts provide such information at least 3 times per year.



The Texas School Safety Center recommends districts provide information on secure firearm storage “at the beginning of the school year, before holidays and breaks, and at the end of the school year.”

Action Needed

There are no enforcement mechanisms or guidance for school districts on how to fulfill these requirements, resulting in inconsistent compliance by school districts across Texas.

You can help make Texas schools and homes safer by working with your local school district to make sure parents and legal guardians are receiving secure firearm information in a clear and timely manner.

“

We applaud the Texas Legislature for requiring public schools to distribute secure firearm storage information to families three times a year. But intent alone is not enough -- without dedicated implementation and evaluation, the policy cannot reach its full potential to help prevent tragedy,

”

– Abbey Clements, co-founder of Teachers Unify to End Gun Violence and Sandy Hook School teacher survivor.



How YOU Can Help

1

Find out how your school district has been sharing secure firearm storage consistent with Texas law.

2

Start a conversation with your school or district on how to distribute information in a far-reaching and clear manner. **Check out our email template to get started.**

3

Follow examples set by other school districts. There are a variety of ways school districts can communicate with parents and legal guardians—take home informational packets, social media posts, direct emailing—these are just a few ways school districts can share information.

School districts should share this life-saving information in whatever form best fits their community. However, best practices include a multi-faceted approach—one that uses several forms of communications.

Pro tip: language accessibility is critical to reaching all members of society. Make sure to consider sharing resources in both English and Spanish, and in any other relevant language.

Conclusion

Join us in helping schools make our communities safer by promoting responsible gun ownership. As parents and community members, your voice is critical in keeping our schools and homes safe from firearm tragedies. Together, we can protect our children and our future.



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