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## FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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### SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE MEETING — AUGUST 29, 2024

**Meeting.** The School Safety Task Force established by [House File 2652](#) (School Safety Plans and Improvements Act), met for a regular meeting on August 29, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Public Safety's headquarters in Des Moines. The Agenda for the meeting is available at the Department's [website](#).

**Funding Considerations.** Kassandra Cline with the Department of Education (DOE) provided information to the Task Force on potential funding mechanisms that could be included in its recommendation to the Legislature. Additional safety and security measures could exceed the \$50,000 grant per school provided by HF 2652. Alternative funding options included the following:

- Operational function sharing incentives (Iowa Code section [257.11\(5\)](#))
- Existing Funds that could be repurposed
  - Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (Iowa Code section [298A.4](#))
  - Secure an Advanced Vision for Education Fund (Iowa Code chapter [423E](#))
  - Management Fund (Iowa Code sections [298A.3](#) and [298.4](#))
  - General Fund (Iowa Code section [298A.2](#))
- Local Levies
- Requests to School Budget Review Committee (Iowa Code section [257.30](#))

**Emergency Operations Plans.** The Task Force discussed a variety of changes or recommendations to Emergency Operations Plans (EOP), which are required for all nonpublic schools under Iowa Code section [280.30](#). Topics included:

- Requiring an EOP for all public and nonpublic school buildings.
- Transmitting active shooter alerts to employers of all individuals working within the school.
- Establishing procedures for reporting possible threats.
- Requiring school boards or governing authorities to consult with the DOE and local law enforcement agencies when developing their EOP.
- Requiring annual review of all EOPs.
- Establishing confidentiality expectations for EOPs.
- Requiring graded drills annually at each building where students are educated.

**Next Meeting.** The School Safety Task Force's next meeting is September 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Public Safety Headquarters in Des Moines. The Task Force will first complete unfinished agenda items from the August 29, 2024, meeting before moving on to new business.

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