Kentucky's Safety Educator Standards for Preparation and Certification

PREAMBLE
School safety is essential to an effective school as it promotes higher achievement for students and a more productive teaching and learning atmosphere. School safety is everyone’s job – students, teachers, administrators, parents, and community members, but having a properly trained safety educator facilitates the maintenance of safe schools.

SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARD I
Creates conditions that promote and maintain a positive, safe, and healthy school culture, climate, and environment

The safety educator facilitates and coordinates efforts to provide a safe, healthy, and nurturing school climate to promote student learning.

SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARD II
Fosters positive individual development

The safety educator fosters positive individual development of students that contributes to a positive, safe, and healthy school culture, climate, and environment.

SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARD III
Utilizes safe school assessment data
The safety educator utilizes data from a variety of sources to promote school safety.

SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARD IV
Coordinates crisis/emergency procedures and communication

The safety educator demonstrates the knowledge and skills to prevent crises and to appropriately implement crisis intervention and post-intervention plans under extremely stressful circumstances.

SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARD V
Possesses knowledge of policies and legal issues related to school safety

The safety educator demonstrates knowledge of current legal issues and professional responsibilities essential for safe schools.

The standards and indicators can be found at: http://www.kyepsb.net/agendas/Nov2003/SafetyStandards.doc

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Kentucky School Safety Educator Endorsement
Promoting Safe Schools Across the Commonwealth
Kentucky School Safety Educator Endorsement

What is it?

The Kentucky School Safety Educator Endorsement is designed to prepare certified P-12 educators and school administrators to promote and maintain a positive, safe, and healthy school culture, which is conducive to high academic achievement. School safety continues to be an issue of paramount importance.

The school year of 1997-98 proved to communities across the country from Oregon to Kentucky that violence at school can cause loss of students’ lives and it can happen anywhere and at anytime. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that regarding non-fatal crimes, students were victims of 1.9 million crimes while they were in school in the year 2000.

For students to fulfill their academic potential in school, schools must be safe and secure places for all students, teachers, and staff members. For school climate to be conducive to high academic performance the educational leaders need to be prepared to handle any crisis which may arise.

Murray State University in cooperation with the Kentucky Center for School Safety is offering a twelve-hour School Safety Educator Endorsement.

Specialization in the Masters or Rank I Endorsement

The twelve-hour endorsement can be a specialization in a Masters program or in a Rank I program at Murray State University. This endorsement is based on the Kentucky School Safety Educators Standards.*

MSU Courses

Required courses (12 hours):

ADM 677 CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS

School safety, culture and climate are fundamental to a highly successful school. A safe school environment promotes higher achievement and a more productive teaching and learning atmosphere. The content of this course provides educators with the skills and information to analyze safety data, plan for both school safety interventions and procedures and to manage crises in an educational setting. Students enrolled in the course must maintain a portfolio of course assignments.

ADM 675 INTRODUCTION TO ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION SETTINGS

Kentucky school districts are required to provide alternative education settings for students removed from the traditional school setting, yet many teachers and administrators have little, if any, experience in this area, complicating the development of effective programs and practice in alternative settings. This course, a state-wide, on-line curriculum delivered by the Education Professional Standards Board through the Kentucky Virtual University, serves as an overview to effective teaching and administrative practice in the alternative education settings. Students course assignments and documentation of field experiences for evaluation for university credit.

ADM 678 SCHOOL SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Course develops competencies in the assessment of threats to student and faculty safety. Students will utilize research-based resources to assess individual threats due to violence, as well as environmental scans of threats due to poorly planned or maintained facilities. Field experience required.

ADM 679 CURRENT TOPICS IN SCHOOL SAFETY*

*Taken as final course in the endorsement

Course develops depth of understanding of safety-related issues that impact safety in schools. This is the capstone course for the School Safety Endorsement. Field experience required. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

*Standards are located on the back of the brochure.