



SCHOOL SAFETY: What Can Students Do?

Stopping school violence begins with just one person who wants to make a difference, but moves toward everyone working together. It is students who have the most riding on reducing violence in schools...they are living with it every day....

Bureau of Justice Statistics still show that:

- 43% fear harassment in the bathroom at school.
- 100,000 students carry a gun to school.
- 282,000 students are physically attacked in secondary schools each month.
- Playground statistic – Every 7 minutes a child is bullied.
Adult intervention – 4%, Peer intervention – 11%, No intervention – 85%

Top 10 Kentucky Center for School Safety Recommendations for Students:

1. Refuse to participate in or tolerate bullying or violent behaviors. Make it clear you do not appreciate or approve of these behaviors.
2. Refuse to bring a weapon to school, refuse to carry a weapon for another, and refuse to keep silent about those who carry weapons.
3. Report suspicious or worrisome behavior or talk by other students to a teacher or counselor at your school. You may save someone's life, and it might be your own.
4. Learn how to manage your own anger effectively. Find out ways to settle arguments by talking it out, or walking away rather than fighting. Start or join a peer mediation program where trained students help classmates find ways to settle arguments.
5. Set up a teen court where youths serve as judge, prosecutor, jury, and defense counsel. Courts can hear cases, make findings, and impose sentences, or they may establish sentences in cases where teens plead guilty.
6. Get involved in your community as a volunteer: mentor a new student, tutor a younger student, plant flowers in your community park. Helping others helps you by giving you a better place to live and focusing outside your own needs and wants.
7. Start a school crime watch. Consider including a student patrol that helps keep an eye on corridors, parking lots, and provides a way for students to report concerns anonymously.
8. Ask each student activity or club to adopt an anti-violence theme or policy.
9. Welcome new students and help them feel at home in your school. Introduce them to other students. Get to know at least one student unfamiliar to you each week.
10. Join the KCSS “Safe Schools Begin with Me!” Pledge Against School Violence campaign, which brings awareness to the entire community that safe schools exist in safe communities.

To learn more about how you can help Kentucky schools be safer places in which to learn and work, contact the Kentucky Center for School Safety toll free or visit our website today.



www.kysafeschools.org
tollfree 877.805.4277