



BoardCast Series: Safe & Sound— Governance & School Safety

Board Reflection Resource

Episode 1 Companion: *School Safety in Iowa – A Leadership Responsibility*

This tool is designed to help school boards reflect on their oversight role in school safety and ensure alignment with their district leadership team. Use these questions to guide discussion at a work session, policy committee meeting, or board retreat.

Key Governance Questions

Use these to assess your board's role in school safety oversight:

1. **What policies does our board have in place related to school safety, emergency planning, and student mental health?** Are they current? When were they last reviewed?
2. **Who is the point person for school safety issues in our district?**
3. **How does our board ensure there is a comprehensive and updated school safety plan in place?** Are we informed about regular drills and plan revisions? Do we receive an annual safety report or update? Does our district have reunification plans in place for each attendance center?
4. **What training or professional development has our board received related to school safety, governance boundaries, or crisis communication?** Is more needed?
5. **What information do we receive from administration regarding school climate, behavioral incidents, or threat assessments?** Do we use data to monitor trends or concerns?
6. **How does the board collaborate with the superintendent and community partners to support a culture of safety and trust?** Is safety included in our strategic priorities or vision?
7. **What state and national level resources does our district use to inform our school safety practices?**

Next Steps

- Schedule time to review your district's current safety plan and board policies.
- Identify if additional board training or policy review is needed.
- Consider including school safety as a regular update or discussion item on your board calendar.