To the Administrator Addressed

DATE: November 3

This grant program will calculate formula allocations based on a per-pupil amount per LEA. Grant funds will be distributed by per-pupil counts that were derived from age 3-21 student enrollment as reported in the October 2021 PEIMS submission. There will be a $200,000 grant allocation for smaller and rural LEAs, even if using the per-pupil methodology they would receive less than the $200,000 minimum grant award.

Public school districts and charter schools with a reported enrollment of at least one student from the October 2021 PEIMS fall snapshot submission will be eligible for funding. New charter schools that opened in the 2022-2023 school year, prior to October 27, 2022, will be eligible for the minimum grant award amount. Any new charter school opening after October 27, 2022 (the date of announcement from Office of the Governor) will be ineligible for funding throughout the life of the grant. Private schools are not eligible recipients for funding.

The grant will allow spending on a variety of security-related items identified by the needs of each LEA. The grant will allow for various costs associated with school safety and security; however, the grant will come with a requirement that money must first be spent on items necessary to comply with the rule. Once the standards of the rule are met, remaining funds can be spent on other eligible security-related costs as defined in the grant program allowable costs [LINK].

For more information, LEAs should review the allocation funding, allowable costs, and grant links listed below.
- ‹ School Safety Formula Grant Allocation Funding
  - o [Allocation by LEA](#)
  - o [Allocation by ESC](#)
- ‹ [School Safety Formula Grant Allowable Costs](#)
- ‹ The grant application will be available on the [TEA Grant Opportunities page](#).
- ‹ See the [School Safety Related Grant Programs webpage here](#).

<u>2022-2024 Silent Panic Alert Technology Grant</u>
TEA released a formula grant program on October 28, 2022, to provide grant funds to LEAs to purchase silent panic alert technologies for campuses as a measure of school safety. Silent panic alert technology is generally defined as a silent system signal generated by the activation of a device, either manually or through software applications, intended to signal a life-threatening or emergency situation (such as an active shooter, intruder, or other emergency situation) requiring a response from law enforcement and/or other first responders.

The grant funds support an alarm system as described in the proposed School Safety Standards Rule. The rule describes this as part of a school system communications infrastructure, which shall include a panic alert button, duress, or equivalent alarm system, via standalone hardware or integrated into other telecommunications devices, that includes the following functionality:
- A. an alert capable of being triggered manually by campus staff;

B. an alert is triggered automatically in the event a district employee calls 911 from any location within the school system;
C. with any alert generated, the location of where the alert originated shall be included;
D. the alert notifies a set of designated school administrators as needed to provide confirmation of response, and if confirmed, notice is issued to law enforcement and emergency responder agencies of an emergency situation requiring a law enforcement and/or emergency response, and a notice can simultaneously be issued to all school staff of the need to follow appropriate emergency procedures; and
E. for any exterior doors that features electronic locking mechanisms that allow for remote locking, the alert system will trigger those doors to automatically lock and to automatically notify relevant campus staff of any door where the lock cannot engage.

For more information, LEAs should review the allocation funding and grant links listed below.
‹ Grant allocations are posted on the Grant Entitlements webpage.
‹ The grant application is available on the TEA Grant Opportunities page.
  o NOTE: You must be an authorized eGrants system user to access the application.
‹ See the School Safety Related Grant Programs webpage here.

Additional Information on School Safety:
School safety resources are posted at the School Safety Resource Page.

If you have any questions, please contact safeschools@tea.texas.gov.