

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – TOPIC SUMMARY**Topic:** Update—Task Force on School Safety Priorities**Date:** 1-21-2016**Staff/Office:****Action Requested:** **Informational Only** **Adoption** **Adoption/Consent Agenda**

The Oregon Task Force on School Safety (OTFSS) was established in 2014 with House Bill 4087. It was established as a 14 member-working group with representatives from the legislature, the governor's office, as well as the education and public safety communities to examine steps to improve safety and security at schools across the state. This legislation was inspired by the active shooter incident at Clackamas Town Center on December 11, 2012.

The OTFSS began meeting in August of 2014. Over the past year, the Task Force heard from a variety of sources on all aspects of school safety. With all of that information, the Task Force identified several critical areas for improving safety in Oregon Schools:

- Establish and fund a statewide tip line
- Establish and fund a statewide threat assessment system
- Fund and develop a statewide school floorplan database
- Establish standardized terminology

The Task Force aims to support all Oregon schools by continuing to identify available resources, systems and tools to empower schools to strengthen their emergency plans and implement an early detection threat assessment system. We believe that the combination of these two measures, combined with a statewide tip line, will significantly help to provide safer environments in which our children can learn and succeed.

Oregon must prioritize funding to help make these school safety recommendations a reality. While this plan addresses K-12 schools, we recognize that there is a need for more work to be done to enhance safety in our higher education institutions. School safety is continuing to evolve, and as it does, it will be important to refine our efforts and identify areas of improvement. For that reason the Task Force will recommend to the 2016 Oregon Legislature that its research continue beyond the Task Force's currently scheduled sunset in 2017.