



In 2019 the Illinois General Assembly passed IEA initiated [HB 1561](#) (Crespo-D & McCombie -R) This legislation is designed to help school districts prevent active shooter situations. Each school building should have a Threat Assessment Team in place. This team should consist of Police/Community Resource officer, Dean of Students (where available), counselor, teacher, administrator, student leader, parent, community representative and social worker. This team is responsible for creating the Threat Assessment System. The Threat Assessment System would be responsible for the following:

- Creation of a violence prevention program.
- Creating an effective, valued and trusted communication system. This includes making sure information is supplied to the community at large regarding trainings and in the event of a code red.
- Training for all stakeholders. This not only includes code red training, but preventative training as well. Such as, behavioral recognition, and de-escalation tactics.
- Developing lockdown protocols.

As we witness an alarming increase in mass shooter events around the country, it is very important that each school district has a Threat Assessment Team and plan in place. [HB 4994](#) requires that all school districts file their plans with Regional Offices of Education, as well as local law enforcement. Please check with your local school administration and make sure these plans are in place.