Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Act

School Security Grant Outreach – Fact Sheet

June 6, 2019
Objective

• The following slides are intended to provide you with information on the School Security Grant that is a part of the Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Act.
Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Act

• The 2018 Securing Our Children’s Future bond referendum – Public Question #1 on the 2018 New Jersey general election ballot – was approved by voters on November 6.

• The referendum, which sought approval to issue $500 million in state bonds to expand county vocational-technical and county college career and technical education programs, enhance K-12 school security and repair contaminated school drinking water systems, passed with 52.2% of the total votes cast.

• Chapter 119, 4 - Allocations
  • 4a - $350,000,000, County vocational school district career and technical education grants and for school security project grants to schools
  • 4b - $50,000,000, County college and career and technical education grants
  • 4c - $100,000,000, School district water infrastructure improvement grants
School Security Grants

• P.L.2018, c.119, Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Act, provides $350 million in grants for eligible projects that expand vocational school career and technical education programs in county vocational school districts and enhance school security in all school districts.

• Funding for the installation of silent panic alarms to directly alert law enforcement during an emergency to comply with P.L. 2019, c33, known as “Alyssa’s Law,” is prioritized. School districts may request retroactive funding for “Alyssa’ Law” compliance, as well as additional grant funding for school security upgrades that will be awarded on a competitive basis, should funds remain.
Summary of “Alyssa’s Law”/A764

• “Alyssa’s Law”/A764 was recently signed by Governor Murphy and requires all New Jersey public schools to install silent panic alarms that will alert law enforcement during emergencies such as an active shooter.

• “Alyssa’s Law” defines a “panic alarm” as a silent security system signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a life-threatening or emergency situation requiring a response from law enforcement. The law states that each public elementary and secondary school building shall be equipped with at least one panic alarm that is directly linked to local law enforcement authorities. Further, the law requires that the panic alarm adhere to nationally recognized industry standards including the National Fire Protection Association and Underwriters Laboratories and is installed by a licensed alarm system installer.