

THE SCHOOL LETTER CAMPAIGN FOR SECURE GUN STORAGE

Provide this template resolution to school board members along with your request for a secure storage notification resolution on secure firearm storage.

TEMPLATE

School Board Secure Storage Notification Resolution

WHEREAS, evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective strategy to keep schools and students safe;

WHEREAS, an estimated 4.6 million American children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm;

WHEREAS, every day on average, eight children are unintentionally shot with an unlocked firearm;

WHEREAS, over the past decade, youth firearm suicide rates increased by 57% and in 75% of youth firearm suicides for which the gun storage method could be identified, the gun was stored loaded and unlocked;

WHEREAS, 76 percent of school shooters under the age of 18 obtained their guns from their own home, or the home of a close relative;

WHEREAS, firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States;

WHEREAS, research shows that if just 20% of gun-owning parents locked all household firearms, up to 32% of youth firearm suicides and unintentional firearm fatalities could be prevented;

WHEREAS, across the country, lawmakers, community members, and local leaders are working together to implement public awareness campaigns, such as the End Family Fire program, which is endorsed by [NAMES] and which promotes secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks of unsecured guns;

WHEREAS, school districts across the country have begun to proactively send materials home to parents and guardians informing them of applicable firearm storage laws and firearm secure storage best practices;

WHEREAS, keeping students, teachers, and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each of our school sites, including administrators, parents/guardians, and community members;

WHEREAS, [If applicable: INSERT DETAILS ABOUT RELEVANT STATE LAW(S)]

Ex. state law prohibits any person from leaving a loaded, unsecured firearm in a setting where a minor is present

WHEREAS, in order to avert firearm-related injuries and deaths and increase school safety, we must act now and implement preventative measures.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board directs the Superintendent and staff to provide information to student parents and guardians about the importance of secure firearm storage and risks of unsecured guns [If applicable: and legal obligations regarding the secure storage of firearms and protection of minors] by creating an appropriate notification and distributing it annually; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Board and the Superintendent will continue to work with school staff, community members, local law enforcement agencies, health agencies, and non-profits to collaborate and increase efforts to inform student families of their obligations regarding secure storage of firearms in their homes.

