



Offered by City Councilor Annessa Essaibi-George

CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO ANALYZE  
THE SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES  
TAKEN TO PROTECT SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS  
FROM THREATENING SITUATIONS

- WHEREAS,** All students deserve a safe learning environment, where they can thrive academically and without fear; and
- WHEREAS,** A safe learning environment includes safety at bus stops and on playgrounds, as well as in lunchrooms, bathrooms, hallways, classrooms, school entries, and active routes to and from school; and
- WHEREAS,** Parents trust that the school district is thoroughly prepared to prevent and protect their child in and around schools from threatening situations, such as incidents of violence, natural disasters, medical emergencies and other possible safety threats; and
- WHEREAS,** According to the US Naval Postgraduate School's K-12 school shooting data, in 2018 there were 94 school gun violence incidents in the United States — a record high since 1970; and
- WHEREAS,** All schools should have equal access to opportunities to improve safety practices and infrastructure, such as appropriate door locks, monitored entryways, school-wide active shooter trainings, and preventative measures against violent attacks; and
- WHEREAS,** The danger of violence and crime involving conflicts, death, pain and trauma directly affects those in the neighborhood, but it also impacts the ability for children to feel safe on their way to and from schools; and
- WHEREAS,** Physical, verbal and cyber bullying has a negative effect on the social environment of schools and threatens the ability of a student to feel of safe and can adversely impact their ability to learn; and
- WHEREAS,** In addition to violent related incidents, the symptoms of the opioid crisis continues to be an added concern with the increase of active drug use in the communities, especially the influx of needles in or around school environments; and
- WHEREAS,** Principals, administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, nurses, librarians, and other school staff have shown over and over again their instinct to shield and protect students in threatening situations, and their actions should be recognized while at the same time doubling down on the work needed to ensure safe working environments, **THEREFORE BE IT,**
- ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to analyze the prevention strategies and address situations that threaten school safety, such as incidents of violence, natural disasters, and medical emergencies.

Filed On: January 14, 2020