



Governor Laura Kelly signed Senate Bill 128 into law on April 10, 2019 changing the number of safety drills PK-12 schools in Kansas must perform each year from sixteen to nine.

As schools across the state of Kansas know, Senate Bill 109 changed the landscape of how K-12 schools conducted school drills. When Senate Bill 109 passed in 2018, schools were required to change the number and type of drills conducted during the school year.

The change required schools to conduct nine crisis drills, four fire drills and three tornado drills during the school year, for a total of sixteen drills per school year. The change was positive in bringing about crisis drills to schools, however the total number of drills proved to be overwhelming for many school districts.

With that in mind, Senate Bill 128 was introduced to change the number of drills required for schools. The bill changes the total number of drills from sixteen to nine. Schools must conduct at least two tornado drills (one in September and one in March), three crisis drills and four fire drills per school year.

Crisis drills should reflect events that have a potential to occur in your school and can include, but are not limited to, things such as a water main break, earthquake, missing student, hazardous spills, intruders, active shooters or medical emergencies.

The new law went into effect on July 1, 2019. If you have any questions about this topic, please contact John Sprague, OSFM Prevention Education Consultant, at john.sprague@ks.gov or 785-289-6220.