

MARYLAND CENTER for SCHOOL SAFETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Maryland Center for School Safety Leads Statewide School-Based Incident Tabletop Exercise to Enhance Emergency Preparedness

Baltimore, MD – On May 10th, 2024, the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS) spearheaded an in-depth tabletop exercise (TTX) to test emergency preparedness and response capabilities across the state. The TTX, facilitated by MCSS, simulated an active assailant event to test the coordination and effectiveness of response efforts. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) engaged in dynamic discussions and scenario-based simulations designed to identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities for improvement in emergency response protocols.

“The statewide TTX marks a significant milestone as the first school-based event of its kind conducted across Maryland. Testing emergency plans is vital to preparing for emergencies,” said Kate Bryan, Executive Director of the MCSS. “Through this event, each LEA had the unique opportunity to uncover specialized needs, resource gaps, and areas for improvement within their emergency preparedness plans. This exercise has allowed us to gain valuable insight into how we can better support each LEA from a statewide level, ensuring a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to school safety. We deeply appreciate the participation, expertise, and collaboration of our local partners who serve our public schools and communities.”

About the Maryland Center for School Safety:

The MCSS team promotes collaboration among students, parents, educators, mental health practitioners, law enforcement, and crime prevention practitioners to focus on Maryland students' physical and emotional well-being. As the state's leading authority on school safety, MCSS is dedicated to enhancing school safety through prevention, intervention, and crisis preparedness efforts to create inclusive, safe, and supportive learning environments free from fear, harm, adversity, trauma, and unnecessary hardship.

For more information about MCSS and its initiatives, please visit our [website](#).

