



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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INTERIM COMMISSIONER LEWIS TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY ROUNDTABLE

(Frankfort, KY) – Interim Commissioner Wayne Lewis will share his thoughts on school safety in Kentucky during in a national roundtable discussion with representatives of the [Federal Commission on School Safety](#) tomorrow in Lexington.

The discussion is part of a three-part [listening session](#) scheduled at the [Council of State Governments'](#) headquarters building, 1776 Avenue of the States, in Lexington.

“There is no education issue more paramount than the safety of children in our schools,” Lewis said. “If our children do not feel safe, they cannot learn. As Interim Commissioner of Education, I will advocate for sensible, thorough, research-informed approaches to keeping children safe in Kentucky’s public schools. Discussions like this one are essential to identifying and sharing those approaches.”

During the first session beginning at 1 p.m. ET, Interim Commissioner Lewis, Governor Matt Bevin, Marshall Co. Sheriff Kevin Byars, U.S. District Attorney Russell Coleman representing Western Kentucky, and invited representatives from Wisconsin and Tennessee are scheduled to discuss physical security, information sharing among community partners and mental health services in schools. The group will share best practices and discuss remaining challenges to better inform the commission’s work.

The commission will hold a second roundtable discussion beginning at 2:15 pm. ET.

A public comment period is scheduled from 4-6 p.m. ET. Those who want to provide feedback must [register online for speaking slots](#). The session will be [live-streamed](#).

The listening session is an opportunity for members of the public, as well as state and local officials, to share with Deputy Secretary of Education Mitchell Zais and representatives from the commission their views on how schools, school districts, institutions of higher education, and local and state government agencies may improve school safety.

Members of the public with recommendations on how to improve school safety may submit them via a [special school safety email box](#).

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In March, in the wake of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, President Donald Trump established the Federal Commission on School Safety. The commission is charged with quickly providing meaningful and actionable recommendations and best practices to keep students safe at school. Over the coming months, the commission will continue to host formal meetings, field visits, and listening sessions.

Members of the media who would like to RSVP for the Listening Session should email press@ed.gov.

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