

# 10 Questions for District and School Leaders to Ask Themselves

## Listening & Trust

1. Do our students and staff believe their safety concerns are taken seriously?
2. What formal and informal channels exist for students to report safety concerns? Are they working equitably for all groups?
3. How quickly and transparently do we respond when students and staff raise a safety concern?
4. Are adult perceptions of safety aligned with what students are actually experiencing?

## School Spaces & Exposure

5. Do we understand which spaces in our schools students feel least safe in and why?
6. Have we conducted walk-throughs with students to see these spaces through their eyes? Have we ever ridden the bus ourselves?
7. What kinds of unsafe situations do students see that adults might not be aware of?

## Preparedness & Communication

8. Do students feel meaningfully prepared for both security threats and natural disasters?
9. Are safety instructions being communicated in ways that students and staff actually understand, remember, and trust?
10. How do we know whether our safety efforts are making students feel more secure and less anxious?

# 10 Questions for District and School Leaders to Ask Students and Staff

## Listening & Trust

1. When you raise a safety concern, what happens next?  
Do you feel listened to?
2. What would help you feel more confident that adults take your concerns seriously?
3. What do students and staff observe about safety during the school day that leaders may not be aware of?

## School Spaces & Exposure

4. Where in our school do you feel most safe? Why?
5. Where do you feel least safe? What makes those spaces feel that way?
6. What changes could make those areas feel safer?
7. What kinds of things make you worry about safety at school?

## Preparedness & Communication

8. Do you feel prepared to stay safe during a security threat? During a natural disaster?
9. What ways does the school communicate about safety that work well for you—and what ways do not?
10. If you could tell the school board one thing about safety at your school, what would it be?