

County Sets Up Task Force To Study School Safety

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St. Charles County, Missouri - The County Council passed an emergency ordinance Monday night establishing a task force to study and make recommendations to improve safety procedures at public and private schools and colleges in St. Charles County.

“We need to hear from the schools and law enforcement and everyone involved,” said County Executive Steve Ehlmann. “If we talk about this, and everyone shares their ideas, I think it could lead to some new procedures. We’re not saying we’ll solve the problem. We’re just saying we need to talk about it.”

In the ordinance establishing the task force, it says “recent events have re-emphasized the importance of preparation, including ensuring that schools, the mental health community and law enforcement have training and procedures to enhance readiness for, and response to, threatening situations which may arise within St. Charles County . . .”

The task force will have 14 members appointed by the County Executive, with the consent of the County Council. At least five members will represent the schools and five will represent municipal and county law enforcement. One member shall represent the mental health treatment community and one member will come from the developmental disabilities service community. Two members will be from the County Council.

The task force will offer preliminary findings by Feb. 1, 2013, and submit a final report by June 1, 2013.

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