



Education Fi



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January 2019

WSSCA Newsletter

The "news you can use" periodical for Wisconsin's school safety and security professionals

## 51 Years of...

# Building Safe and Secure Schools

human action • technology • infrastructure

Yes, 2018 went by in a flash. People tell me that the seeming swiftness of each year's passing is really just a function of age because each successive year is truly just a smaller fraction of one's age. As 2018 saw me getting my Medicare card, I can't dispute the basic logic of that position, but what *actually* made this year go by so rapidly in my experience was, in large part, to the work that WSSCA and all of us did to address School Security in response to the \$100 million Wisconsin School Safety Grant initiative.

This past year WSSCA fielded more questions, conducted more professional development, and engaged in more networking with industry, educational institutions, and government offices than I could have possibly anticipated. I believe all of that, along with the fantastic work you, the members, are doing to improve school

### Executive Committee

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safety and security at the local level, has made WSSCA a stronger and increasingly relevant organization.

WSSCA has a, “seat at the table,” now with the Department of Justice’s Office of School Safety during essential planning meetings that are held periodically. We have received inquiries and requests for information and support not just from Wisconsin, but from other states, and believe it or not, from other countries. *(Note to my friend Pete P. – When you spoke to me of “WSSCA International” little did I know it would be a reality!)*

As we dive headlong into the new year, I am hopeful that all the phenomenal work that all of you, whatever your role in school safety and security may be, will not only continue, but will grow. The concepts, projects, and operations that were started or enhanced this past year have become a juggernaut that must keep rolling forward with the strength and determination that was boosted and inspired by the School Safety Grant.

Thank you for all of your hard work in 2018, and all the best to you in 2019.

Ed

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***Have you Registered?***

***WSSCA's Annual Safety Conference and Expo***

***March 6 & 7, 2019***  
***(Wednesday & Thursday)***

Jeremiah  
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Muskego -  
Norway

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*Wisconsin School Safety Coordinators  
Association Presents...*

## Building Safe and Secure Schools

human action • technology • infrastructure



2019 School Safety and Security Conference  
March 6 & 7  
Kalahari Resort | Wisconsin Dells

Dave  
Young  
Brookfield

Bill  
Freeman  
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Rosplach  
Muskego

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Dorff  
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Assistant  
Executive  
Director  
Stacy  
Washington  
Green Bay

Preliminary Schedule



## 2019 WSSCA Board Elections

You have an opportunity to participate in our 2019 WSSCA Board Election. The election will be done online soon. Please watch for an email where you'll have the opportunity to cast your votes.



If you are interested in serving as an officer of the organization please contact Ed Dorff by **Tuesday, January 8**.

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## School and the Fire Code

*Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services PowerPoint*

When WSSCA Assessors conduct an audit of schools, our focus is primarily security for students, staff, and visitors. Our assessment tool – our protocol – does have some safety items that we address, but only at a minimum.

An area of focus for school safety coordinators, buildings and grounds supervisors, and school administrators that has to be given constant attention is adherence to the best practices for preventing and responding to fires in schools. It is true that the last time a person died in a school fire was 1958 in the horrible St. Mary of the Angels fire in Chicago. Nevertheless, fire safety is nothing to ignore. According to NFPA statistics, in 2011-2015, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 4,980 structure fires in educational properties each year. Approximately 70% of the fires were in PreK-12 schools.



I invite you to take a few minutes and review the excellent PowerPoint that DSPS put together. Do any of the photos look like something you may have

seen in your school buildings? I know that our Assessment Teams certainly have seen most of the “bad examples” shown in this presentation.

Click [here](#) for the PowerPoint:

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## Highlights from the final report of the Federal Commission on School Safety



(Links go to Campus Safety Online Magazine. December 19, 2018 [Robin Hattersley-Gray](#))

Don't have time to read the 180-page Federal Commission on School Safety final report? Here's what's important for school security professionals to know:

Last month the U.S. Department of Education published the final report of the Federal Commission on School Safety in which it outlined best practices relating to a wide variety of school security topics, including mental health, active shooter response, training, building hardening and more.

The most controversial part is the announcement that the Trump administration is planning to rescind Obama era guidance on student discipline, which aimed to prevent minority and disabled children from being treated unfairly. According to the report, critics of the guidance claim it had a strong, negative impact on school discipline and safety.

The highlights of the full report can be found by clicking [here](#).

The full report can be found by clicking [here](#).

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## Job Opportunity

Occasionally I get inquiries about job openings. I usually direct those straight to WECAN as Districts haven't contacted me about openings. However, I did get a request from Middleton-Cross Plains to let WSSCA members know that they are looking for a *Facilities Services Manager*.

For more information, go to [WECAN](#).

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## Additional Training

Please monitor the [Office of School Safety training website](#) for additional training courses, including Adolescent Mental Health, Threat Assessment Teams, and the Intersection of FERPA, School Safety, and Liability.

### School Safety Certification Course Schedule

Modules	Course Titles	Dates	Location
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5 & 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemical Hygiene, Record Keeping, Safety Committee and Accident Investigation</li> <li>• Emergency Response Table Top and Exercise Practicum</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Register Now</a></p>	March 6 & 7, 2019	Wisconsin Dells, WI
1 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal Protective Equipment, Powered Industrial Equipment and Hazard Communication</li> <li>• Emergency and Crisis Management for Schools</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Register Now</a></p>	April 30, 2019	Madison, WI
2 & 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machine Guarding, Lockout/Tagout, Electrical Safety and Confined Spaces</li> <li>• National Incident Management System (NIMS) for School Officials</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Register Now</a></p>	October 22, 2019	Madison, WI
3 & 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asbestos Hazard, Lead and Radon, Hazardous Waste, Safe Drinking Water and Indoor Air Quality</li> <li>• Emergency and Crisis Management for Schools</li> </ul>	February 2020	Wisconsin Dells, WI
4 & 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground Maintenance and Supervision, Bloodborne Pathogens, Ergonomics and Safety codes regarding drills, fire extinguisher and evacuations</li> <li>• School Post Incident Recovery and Planning</li> </ul>	April 2020	Madison, WI

### Quotes of the Month

“Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in theyear.” - Ralph Waldo Emerson

“New Year—a new chapter, new verse, or just the same old story? Ultimately, we write it. The choice is ours.” - Alex Morritt

### Borrowed Humor

My New Year's resolutions are:

1. Stop making lists.
- B. Be more consistent.
7. Learn to count.



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