

RESOLUTION OF THE GADSDEN CITY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Whereas, an entity designated as Etowah County School Safety Task Force has been created; and

Whereas, the Task Force has been comprised of Sheriff Todd Entrekin, District Attorney, Jimmie Harp, Presiding Circuit Judge Allen Millican, Gadsden School Board Superintendent, Dr. Ed Miller, Etowah County School Board Superintendent, Alan Cosby, Attalla School Board Superintendent, David Bowman, and Etowah County Board Member, Tim Langdale; and

Whereas, the Etowah County School Safety Task Force has met on several occasions for the purpose of discussing and making a recommendation as to the status of the safety of schools located within Etowah County, and the measures needed to be taken to further secure said schools; and

Whereas, the Etowah County School Safety Task Force has issued a formal report and said report has been forwarded to all Boards of Education in Etowah County, as well as having been disseminated widely throughout Etowah County,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Gadsden City Board of Education does hereby adopt the report and findings of the Gadsden City School Safety Task Force as follows:

1. We have made a finding that according to Section 16-1-44(a)(3), Code of Alabama, 1975 the various local school boards located within Etowah County are responsible for implementing a "school safety plan." We find that each board has said plan in place and has internally reviewed them. We direct the Sheriff of Etowah County to examine each plan to ensure their adequacy and that each comply with Section 16-1-44, Code of Alabama, 1975.
2. We find that each school located within Etowah County should be equipped with appropriate video and audio surveillance equipment, as well as adequate communication capabilities to ensure immediate access to first responders.
3. We find that each school located within Etowah County should be supplied with a School Resource Officer who is APOST certified, adequately trained and equipped to ensure the safety of the students in Etowah County.
4. We direct the Sheriff of Etowah County to visit each school campus within Etowah County and conduct an assessment as to the physical needs to adequately secure each school.
5. We recommend each school board, the Etowah County Commission and the various municipal governments to immediately open a dialogue regarding funding.
6. This task force specially finds that the safety of our students, faculty, and staff are of the highest priority. We recommend that the school boards and the appropriate governing bodies make every possible effort to secure funding for the safety of the schools located within this county.

DATED this the 12th day of February, 2013.