

## **R277. Education, Administration.**

### **R277-714. Unsafe School Choice Option.**

#### **R277-714-1. Authority, Purpose, and Oversight Category.**

(1) This rule is authorized by:

(a) Utah Constitution [Article X, Section 3](#), which vests general control and supervision over public education in the Board; and

(b) Subsection [53E-3-401](#)(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute the Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law.

(2) The purpose of this rule is to provide:

(a) a definition of persistently dangerous school as required by 20 U.S.C. 7912; and

(b) a process for complying with federal law when a school within the LEA is designated as persistently dangerous.

(3) This rule is categorized as Category 2 as described in Rule R277-111.

#### **R277-714-2. Definitions.**

(1) "Persistently dangerous school" means a school where at least 3% of students for three consecutive school years have been suspended or expelled for:

(a) a reported violent criminal offense that took place:

(i) on school property; or

(ii) at a school sponsored activity; or

(b) a federal gun free school violation as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7961.

(2) "Violent criminal offense" means any of the following if the crime has been reported to law enforcement and a charge has been filed:

(a) actual or attempted criminal homicide as defined in Section [76-5-201](#);

(b) rape as defined in Sections [76-5-402](#) through [76-5-402.3](#);

(c) aggravated sexual assault as defined in Section [76-5-405](#);

(d) forceable sexual abuse as defined in Section [76-5-404](#);

(e) aggravated sexual abuse of a child as defined in Section [76-5-404.1](#);

(f) aggravated assault as defined in Section [76-5-103](#); or

(g) robbery as defined in Section [76-6-301](#).

**R277-714-3. LEA Notification to Parents -- Transfer.**

(1) If an LEA has a school designated by the Superintendent as persistently dangerous, the LEA or school shall provide to the Superintendent:

- (a) a copy of the school and LEA's safety plan;
- (b) a document outlining the local efforts to address school safety concerns; and
- (c) relevant school safety data requested by the Superintendent.

(2) An LEA shall provide the designated school's information described in Subsection (1) within 30 days of receiving notice that the school has been designated as persistently dangerous.

(3) If an LEA has a school that is designated persistently dangerous, the LEA shall provide written notice to parents within 15 days of the school's notice that the school is persistently dangerous:

- (a) that the school has been designated as persistently dangerous, including the criteria that caused the school to be designated as persistently dangerous;
- (b) that a parent may transfer the parent's student to a safer school within the LEA if the parent chooses; and
- (c) the timeline and deadline for transfer of the parent's student, which may not exceed 30 days after a parent's receipt of notice of a school's designation.

**R277-714-4. Action Plan Content and Implementation.**

(1) An LEA with a school that has been designated as persistently dangerous shall create an action plan and submit the plan to the Superintendent as specified by the Superintendent.

- (2) At minimum, the LEA's action plan shall include how the LEA will:
- (a) provide additional personnel and staff to supervise students;
  - (b) provide conflict resolution training and additional discipline training for staff of the school designated as persistently dangerous;
  - (c) collaborate with the applicable local law enforcement agency; and
  - (d) implement additional security measures for the school.

(3) An LEA with a school designated as persistently dangerous that fails to comply with any portion of this Rule R277-714 may be subject to a corrective action plan as described in Rule R277-114.

**KEY: school choice; persistently dangerous school**

**Date of Last Change: May 8, 2025**

**Notice of Continuation: March 14, 2025**

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401](#)(4)**