



BY ALEXANDRIA CITY HIGH SCHOOL



Jackson Dundon, Jamar Cannon

TOPIC

Student Safety and Security At ACHS

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

A recurring issue that we have noticed in school is the weariness of student safety. During the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year, ACPS recorded 167 total safety incidents, which is a 40% decrease from the previous 2024-2025 school year. According to recent safety reports, ACPS has implemented hall sweeps, security measure controls with newly introduced Minga ID's to control student movement around the school, ongoing use of metal detectors and a staggered dismissal schedule to prevent large group altercations. However, We believe that our implementation of more safe places around the city will be a key pillar to students feeling safe will increase.

RESULT

Statistically, from an article written by the University of Georgia states that students born into poverty are more likely to have bad behavior in school and physical altercations. To reduce this statistic, we plan on providing lower income communities in Alexandria awareness of safe places where students can go to relieve their personal struggles and anger. To ensure student behavioral and altercation issues will decrease

SIGNIFICANCE

Our CYCP report is important because we are directly addressing the issue of students feeling unsafe in schools. In order to do this we plan on implementing more safe places around Alexandria and partner with our fellow classmates to ensure we advocate for less fortunate communities in Alexandria and try to in order to continue the decrease in school altercations at ACHS.

CYCP GOAL AND STRATEGIC AREA

implementing more safe places around Alexandria In order to ensure a decrease in physical altercations in ACPS, we plan on having social workers go to less fortunate communities in Alexandria where statistics of fighting in school is higher to advocate for safe places where students can go to relieve their personal struggles and anger.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

During the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year, ACPS recorded 167 total safety incidents, which is a 40% decrease from the previous 2024-2025 school year. According to recent safety reports, ACPS has implemented hall sweeps, security measure controls with newly introduced Minga ID's to control student movement around the school, ongoing use of metal detectors and a staggered dismissal schedule to prevent large group altercations.

Incident Type Semester Comparison					
Incident Category	SY23-24 (\$2)	SY24-25 (\$1)	SY24-25 (\$2)	SY25-26 (\$1)	Change from Previous Report
Fights/Assaults	69	82	83	42	-41
EMS Assistance (Non-Fight/Assault Related)	66	51	66	43	-23
Weapons	4	7	8	5	-3
Controlled Substance	12	3	5	9	+4
Threats (Verbal/Cyber/Social Media)	16	22	9	6	-3
Missing Student Reports	19	21	15	11	-4
Suspicious Activity	9	5	5	3	-2
Alarms	7	8	5	0	-5
Sexual Assault/Sexual Misconduct	4	5	1	0	-1
Theft	5	4	2	1	-1
Prohibited Items/Materials	11	8	12	4	-8
Other	73	63	51	43	-8

IMPLEMENTATION

Partners have put efforts to implementing safer spaces in ACHS. For example the high school has implemented Metal detectors hall sweeps, Minga ID's, staggered dismissal

PARTNERSHIPS



ALEXANDRIA CITY
HIGH SCHOOL



PERFORMANCE EFFORT

ACPS implementations

- Metal detectors
- hall sweeps
- Minga ID's
- staggered dismissal

PERFORMANCE EFFECT

During the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year, ACPS recorded 167 total safety incidents, which is a 40% decrease from the previous 2024-2025

RECOMMENDATIONS

Our CYCP recommendation is important because it directly addresses the foundational requirements for academic and personal success. This issue matters to others because school safety is a cornerstone to a healthy and stable community. When students feel safe, the entire city of Alexandria benefits in ways that impact the economy, public health, and social equity. Our Hispanic community is disrupted by this issue greatly. From recent data, it was determined that latino students are 20% more likely to report being in physical altercations. However, black students often report a more “caring school climate” than Hispanics at ACHS, they are still disproportionally impacted with the black and hispanic population making up 62% of the student body at ACHS and also represent 83% of all school suspensions. If this issue wasn't addressed fighting in schools would escalate back to ordinary circumstances causing disruption and harm to student education.

ONLINE

[Center for Alexandria's Children](#)

[Alexandria Families for Safe Streets](#)

IN PERSON

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) Support Services

City of Alexandria Youth Safety and Resilience Efforts

CITATIONS

12th- Citations in APA format.

Hataway, Leigh. “Being Born into Poverty Negatively Affects Children’s Behavior.” UGA Today, 22 Jan. 2025, news.uga.edu/being-born-into-poverty-negatively-affects-childrens-behavior/.

Cullum, James. “ACPS Sees 40% Drop in Incidents Requiring Police Response during First Semester | ALXnow.” ALXnow | Alexandria, Va. Breaking News, Local Events and Community Happenings, 5 Mar. 2026, www.alxnow.com/2026/03/05/acps-sees-40-drop-in-incidents-requiring-police-response-during-first-semester/.
<https://safespacenova.org/>