School, Staff, Student, and Campus Security Briefing

Update | Kari McGann, Superintendent of Schools | November, 2019
Staff, Student and Campus Security Briefing

- Flemington-Raritan Regional School District’s buildings and facilities represent a substantial community investment.

- The Board of Education implements methods in partnership with the Superintendent for staff, student, and campus security to meet the community’s needs.
Well-Established Phases of Security Planning:

- Prevent school violence;
- Protect and mitigate to protect students and teachers and mitigating the effects of violence.

Emergency operations plans must describe the actions that students, teachers, and school staff will take during an emergency.

A school’s security management team should first consider conducting a risk assessment to determine needs, identify vulnerabilities, and develop a security strategy.
Prevent

- Character Development and a Culture of Connectedness
  - Character education and creation of a positive school climate
  - Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
  - Social and emotional learning (SEL) and character education skills and learning

- Cyberbullying Prevention
  - “If You See Something, Say Something”
  - “HIB” Investigations
  - Suspicious activity reporting programs that incorporate privacy protections
  - Social media monitoring

- Curating a Healthier and Safer Approach: Issues of Mental Health and Counseling for Our Young
  - Improving access to school-based mental health and counseling for young people

- Trainings Through Drills and Professional Development

Protect and Mitigate

- Training School Personnel to Help Ensure Student Safety
  - Procedures for Confronting Strangers
  - All school personnel play a role in school safety

- School and District Security and Staffing
  - The best positioned to respond to acts of violence are those who are sworn law enforcement officers.

- Emergency Training
  - Partnerships with local law enforcement agencies
  - Memorandum of Understanding Between the School District and Law Enforcement

- Effective School Security Plans
  - Use a layered approach across all areas of the school: entry points, the building envelop (e.g. wall, roofs, windows, doors) and the classroom

- Best Practices for School Building Security
  - Building and campus security; protective measures at every school
Responding Through Training

- Emergency Preparedness and Mitigation
  - Emergency Preparedness; training, planning, and related strategies.
  - Training and Exercises
Continuing to Move Forward; Safety and Security

- Finding ways to protect our students and staff will go on; security upgrades;
- Leadership continues to seek answers and solutions to school safety;
- Leadership continues to work with state and local government and local emergency management personnel to protect our students and staff;
- Safe areas in every classroom established and other district security improvements and upgrades.

- Last year the District purchased Collaborative Response Graphics; a gridded reference system, high resolution imagery, floor plans, and communication tool that is accessible to first responders through a smart device. [Critical Response Group, Inc.](https://www.criticalresponsegroup.com)
Going Forward; Policy and Staffing

- Policy and Regulation 7440 School District Security Mandated updates from Strauss Esmay
  - Access to school buildings
  - Procedures for confronting strangers in our buildings
  - Updates with color-coded id card/security card lanyards

- Two District Safety Specialists: Mr. Jesse Lockett, Assistant Principal at Copper Hill Elementary School and Mr. Peter Sibilia, Assistant Principal at J.P. Case Middle School

- The hiring of three (3) Class III officers through a district wide shared services agreement with Flemington Borough and Raritan Township.
  - Officer Mike Fitzpatrick
  - Officer Harry Hultz
  - Officer Craig Santoro
Current Status

- “Each of us has a role to play in improving the safety of our students and the security of our schools. Only by working together can we help prevent future tragedies and, when those incidents do occur, mitigate their effects and continue to learn from them.”

~Final Report of the Federal Commission on School Safety
References

- NJSBA School Security Committee
  - October 23, 2018 Supplement to NJSBA’s 2014 study, *What Makes Schools Safe?*

- Education Week

- Federal Commission on School Safety Comprehensive Resource

- Strategic Plan 2018-2023
  - Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

- New Jersey Department of Education
  - School Preparedness and Emergency Planning