



# **Mount Pleasant**

Central School District

**DISTRICT-WIDE SAFETY & EMERGENCY**

**MANAGEMENT PLAN**

UPDATED APRIL 2023

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## PURPOSE

Emergencies in schools are defined as undesirable events that occur and have the potential to cause injury or illness to members of our school community or disrupt the orderly educational process. They range from acts of bullying or harassment to catastrophic natural or man-made events. Emergency management is the discipline of dealing with and avoiding risks. It is a discipline that involves preparing for an emergency situation or disaster before it occurs as well as supporting and rebuilding from the emergency after natural or human-made disasters have occurred.

Emergency management in our schools is the continuous process by which our staff, students, administrators, parents, school groups, emergency responders and our community manages hazards in an effort to avoid or mitigate the impact of disasters resulting from hazards. Preventive measures and good planning will reduce the likelihood that emergencies will occur and allow us to address those that do in an expeditious and effective manner.

Districts are required to develop district-wide school safety and emergency management plans designed to prevent and effectively manage such events to minimize the effects of serious incidents and emergencies. These plans also facilitate the coordination of the District with local and county plans and resources when incidents and emergencies occur.

The district-wide plan is responsive to the needs of all schools in the District and is consistent with the more detailed building-level emergency plans. Districts are vulnerable to a wide variety of acts of violence; and natural and manmade disasters. To address these threats, the State of New York has enacted the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (S.A.V.E.) law. Project S.A.V.E. is a comprehensive planning effort that addresses prevention, response, and recovery with respect to a variety of emergencies in schools.

The Mount Pleasant Central School District supports the S.A.V.E. legislation. As such, the Superintendent of Schools, Board of Education, and the entire District staff encourages and advocates on-going district-wide cooperation in support of Project S.A.V.E.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S DIRECTIVE

The Superintendent, or Designee, will serve as the District's Chief Emergency Officer (CEO) whose duties shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Coordination of the communication between school staff, law enforcement, and other first responders;
2. Leading the efforts of the district-wide school safety team in the completion and yearly update of the district-wide school safety plan and the coordination of the district-wide plan with the building-level emergency response plans;
3. Ensuring staff understanding of the district-wide school safety plan;
4. Ensuring the completion and yearly update of building-level emergency response plans for each school building. The CEO will require each building principal to maintain a Building-level Emergency Response Plan in compliance with Commissioner of Education Regulation 155.17(2). Each plan should be updated annually with the assistance of the Building Emergency Response Team (BERT). The plan shall provide for lockdown, lockout, sheltering, evacuation, early dismissal, fire and other emergency planning and notification (when necessary) to students and staff, annual drills and exercises, and coordination with local and county emergency preparedness administrators. These plans shall be submitted to the District's Safety Team for annual approval and incorporation into the overall District-wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan.
5. Assisting in the selection of security related technology and development of procedures for the use of such technology;
6. Coordination of appropriate safety, security, and emergency training for district and school staff, including required training in the emergency response plan;
7. Ensuring the conduct of required evacuation and lockdown drills in all district buildings as required by Education Law section 807; and
8. Ensuring the completion and yearly update of building-level emergency response plans by the dates designated by the commissioner.
9. Ensures protocols for responding to a declared state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease are substantially consistent with the provisions of Section 27-C of the Labor Law.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF SCHOOL TEAMS

The District-wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan was developed pursuant to Commissioner's Regulation 155.17(b)(13) and NYS Education Law 2801-a. At the direction of the Board of Education and under the direction of the Superintendent, a District-wide Safety Team will be utilized for emergency management within the District. The Safety Team shall include, but is not limited to, representatives of the school board, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors.

At the discretion of the board of education, a student may be allowed to participate on the safety team. If the Board appoints or selects a student to participate on the safety team, in accordance with Regulation 155.17(b)(14), no portion of a confidential building-level emergency response plan shall be shared with such student nor shall such student be present where details of a confidential building-level emergency response plan or confidential portions of a district-wide emergency response strategy are discussed.

The duties of the team shall include the development, review, and update of the District-wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan in compliance with Commissioner of Education Regulation 155.17. The District Safety Team should meet regularly throughout the year to conduct the following business:

1. Assess and review the District-wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan annually.
2. Make any necessary recommendations regarding emergency operations, planning, procedures, and/or protocols.
3. Conduct training sessions as necessary.
4. Meet with, oversee, and help guide the Building-level Emergency Response Teams at each school as necessary.
5. Meet as needed with the District's Emergency Management Consultant to review protocols and procedures as well as receive training and instruction.
6. Meet with local government and emergency service organization officials to develop procedures for obtaining guidance and for emergency situations that exceed the expertise and/or resources of the District. These procedures may then be incorporated into the District's Emergency Management Plan.
7. Conduct all other business as deemed necessary.

## DISTRICT SAFETY TEAM

*Members listed here may be removed from the “additional emergency numbers” table*

TITLE	NAME	OFFICE PHONE
Superintendent of Schools	Peter Giarrizzo	914.769.5500 ext. 5501
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum/ Instruction/Administrative Services	Adam Bronstein	914.769.5500 ext.5118
HES Principal	Anne Stern	914.769.8536 ext.4510
WMS Principal	Anthony Mungoli	914.769.8540 ext.2510
WMS Assistant Principal	Theresa Outhouse	914.769.8536 ext.3520
Director of Technology	Kenneth Amann	914.769.5500 ext.5110
Athletic Director	Shawn Baumann	914.769.8540 ext.1880
WHS Principal	Keith Schenker	914.769.8311 ext.1510
WHS Assistant Principal	Daniel Brady	914.769.8311 ext.1520
MPPD Detective	Ben Spindler	914.769.1941
MPPD Lieutenant	Marty Greenberg	914.769.1941
MPPD Detective	Dan Franco	914.769.1941
CES Principal	Michael Cunzio	914.769.8538 ext.3510
HES/CES Assistant Principal	TBD	914.769.8536 ext.3520
Teacher	Thomas Hall	914.769.8540
Superintendent of Highways	Richard Benkwitt	914.769.1045
Parent	Tara Caggiano	
Parent	Michael Dowd	
Parent	David Swartz	
Parent	Megan Rivera	

## CONCEPTS OF OPERATION

1. The District-wide School Safety and Emergency Management Plan will be directly linked to individual Building-level Emergency Response Plans for each school. Protocols developed in the District-wide School Safety and Emergency Management Plan will guide the development and implementation of Building-level Emergency Response Plans.
2. All District building plans have been standardized to the extent possible so that leadership decisions are consistent and leaders may be interchangeable as necessary. The training and expectations set at the district level are applicable to all building team members.
3. In the event of an emergency or violent incident, the initial response at an individual school will be by the Building Emergency Response Team.
4. Once the Superintendent and/or their designee are notified, the District Emergency Response Team may be mobilized to respond, and when appropriate, local emergency officials will be notified. All will follow the emergency management protocols and practices outlined in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and will practice Incident Command System (ICS) techniques to better manage these events.

## PLAN REVIEW & PUBLIC COMMENT

1. The District-wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan shall be monitored and maintained by the District Safety Team. The District Safety Team shall review the plan annually before making it available for a 30-day comment period, a public hearing, and, finally, adoption by the Board of Education before September 1st of each year.
2. On June 23, 2022, Governor Hochul signed Alyssa's Law, Chapter 227 of the Laws of 2022 (Chapter 227) which became effective immediately. Chapter 227 amends Education Law § 2801-a to require that district-wide school safety teams of public schools, boards of cooperative educational services, and county vocational education extension boards consider the usefulness of silent panic alarm systems when reviewing and amending district-wide safety plans. The District has installed these panic systems at each school building.
3. Building-level Emergency Response Plans shall be confidential and not subject to disclosure under Article 6 of the Public Officers Law or any other provision of law in accordance with Education Law Section 2801-a.
4. Full copies of the District-wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan and any amendments will be submitted to the New York State Education Department on or before September 1st of each year or within 30 days of adoption.
5. The Board of Education must formally adopt the District-wide Plan pursuant to Commissioner's Regulation, Section 155.17(c)(3). This plan will be made available for public comment at least 30 days prior to its adoption.



6. Building-level Emergency Response Plans will be supplied to the New York State Police, County Police and all local police departments covering the District, by October 15<sup>th</sup> of each year or within 30 days of adoption.

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## SECTION II RISK REDUCTION/PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

### PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

The District utilizes a variety of intervention strategies to reduce risk and prevent critical incidents.

1. The District intends to implement trained multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Teams at each building to evaluate threats and implement the appropriate mitigation strategies. The District will provide support and record keeping for the activities of each team.
2. Any utilized school safety officers and other security personnel are trained annually with the assistance of one or more of the following collaborative relationships:
  - Emergency Responders
  - Regional BOCES
  - District Consultants
3. Training for school staff working in an incident control capacity may include:
  - a. Individual and group de-escalation techniques
  - b. Non-violent conflict resolution skills and
  - c. Peer mediation
4. The District may provide de-escalation techniques and nonviolent conflict resolution training to other staff annually. Each building has some staff trained in nonviolent conflict resolution.
5. Training may be available during staff development sessions, on conference days and via on-demand web-based training modules.
6. Procedures relating to building security including utilization of staff and security equipment are as follows:
  1. All authorized staff members are expected to carry their classroom/office keys/swipe cards at all times.
  2. All staff members are expected to wear District-issued photo identification badges.
  3. After the designated start time of the school day, each school will be appropriately secured.
  4. All visitors must report to each building's designated single point of entry and sign in before proceeding further into the building.
  5. All contractors assigned to work in any building must first be authorized by the Facilities Department to receive an identification badge, which must be visible at all times when workers are on school property. All deliverables and delivery personnel must first be authorized by the Facilities Department, prior to

delivery. An exception for regular food service deliveries may be made after the vendor has been authorized for the school year.

6. The District has executed Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with Security Providers as required by NYS Regulation.
7. Extended day and other school safety programs - The district school buildings and facilities provide a valuable resource to our students and community after the conclusion of the school day. The following are strategies are utilized during after-school hours:
  1. To the degree possible, access to areas of the school building is limited to only those needed for activities.
  2. Some buildings may use a modified point of entry.

The District continually investigates other security measures and conducts staff development training to ensure schools are as safe as possible. Security measures include:

- a. Security personnel
- b. Surveillance cameras
- c. Door-lock (buzzer) entry systems
- d. Portable Radios
- e. Alarm Systems
- f. Keypad or swipe entry systems
- g. Single or limited points of entry

#### IMPROVING COMMUNICATION WITH STUDENTS

Each of the schools within the district provides a wealth of school safety-related initiatives. These programs may include peer mediation, bullying prevention, conflict resolution, social skills development, managing emotions and components of character education. Students are involved in a wide variety of safety activities through both their classes as well as through work with school counselors, social workers, and school psychologists. By October 1st of each school year, the superintendent and chief school administrator have provided written information to all students and staff about emergency procedures.

Each building has established a mechanism for the anonymous reporting of school violence and harassment and has communicated this to students and parents.

The school district's Code of Conduct is accessible to parents and students and reviewed with all students in the beginning of the school year. During the review with students, bullying, discrimination, harassment and violations of the Code of Conduct, along with consequences are discussed.

All staff members are trained in recognizing and effectively dealing with these behaviors, as outlined in the Code of Conduct.

In addition, each school has a wide range of programs and supports that impact school safety. These may include offering a variety of clubs, classroom lessons, small group lessons and/or individual counseling sessions, school-wide meetings, morning meetings in classrooms, assemblies, mindfulness rooms, yoga and movement breaks, and a variety of wellness opportunities.

## REPORTING THREATS OR ACTS OF VIOLENCE

Students, staff, parents and others are informed annually about the importance of reporting threats or acts of violence and the procedures of reporting.

The District has developed a system for reporting threats and actual acts of violence. The procedure for reporting is as follows:

- Students are instructed to report threats and acts of violence to staff members.
- Each school has designated a reporting process, which can be done anonymously.
- Staff members are required to report all student referrals to the administration for investigation.
- Staff training programs meet S.A.V.E. requirements. Instruction on issues of school safety is provided to all employees each year.

## TRAINING, DRILLS AND EXERCISES

### Drills and Exercises:

The District will conduct emergency management drills and exercises annually including, but not limited to:

**EVACUATION AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS:** Evacuation and lockdown drills will be conducted during school days in each school within the District with staff and students twelve (12) times annually (September – June). The first eight (8) drills are conducted prior to December 31st of each school year. Eight of all such drills shall be evacuation drills. Four of all such required drills shall be lockdown drills. Prior to the first annual drill, staff shall review emergency response procedures and drill requirements with students during class time. Students are also provided the opportunity to ask questions on any procedure that they are not clear on. The appropriate Fire Department may, upon mutual agreement with the District, participate in some or all of the drills and offer feedback regarding effective building evacuation in the event of a fire. Four of the required drills must be through use of the fire escapes on buildings *where fire escapes are present* or through the use of identified secondary means of egress. The appropriate Police Department may, upon mutual agreement with the District, participate in some or all of the lockdown drills and offer feedback regarding the effectiveness of these drills. Drills shall be conducted at different times of the school day with at least one of the eight required evacuation drills occurring during a mass gathering event such as lunch or assemblies. Instruction in drill procedures, including during lunch periods and assemblies, is conducted annually by staff. At least two additional drills must be held during summer school in buildings where summer school is conducted, one must be held during the first week of summer school.

Prior to the commencement of each school year, the Building-Level Emergency Response Team shall conduct an inventory of any special needs students. Appropriate accommodations for the school year will be incorporated into each Building-Level Emergency Response Plan.

**EARLY DISMISSAL DRILL:** The District will conduct an Early Dismissal drill annually wherein students are dismissed no more than 15 minutes before the normal dismissal time. Parents will be notified of these drills at least one week prior. Transportation Officials and District staff may also take place in conducting and evaluation of this drill. This drill also allows the District to test the usefulness of the communications and transportation system during emergencies

**SHELTER-IN-PLACE AND/OR LOCKOUT DRILLS:** While not required, each school in the District may conduct Shelter-in-Place and/or Lockout drills in addition to those drills required by New York State regulation. The appropriate Police Department may, upon mutual agreement with the District, participate in some or all of the drills and offer feedback regarding the effectiveness of these drills.

In addition to post-drill debriefings conducted by each building-level emergency response team, each building will complete a drill evaluation form that will be submitted to the district-wide safety team for periodic review, which includes observations from the drill as well as any additional feedback obtained from building personnel. Changes to procedures are made as needed. The district-wide safety team should evaluate communications and transportation systems during emergencies.

Each Building-level Emergency Response Team and representatives of the District administration engage in tabletop exercises facilitated by the district's emergency management consultant. Emergency response agencies are encouraged to participate in these exercises. The district may opt to conduct functional exercises with emergency response agencies to involve staff, students and parents in realistic drills. The school board will ensure that information about drills be provided in the teacher's manual or handbook.

A summary of drill procedures are detailed in each of the Building-Level Emergency Response Plans.

#### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT TRAINING:**

All general staff will receive training on District-wide procedures as well as specific procedures contained within their respective building-level emergency response plan. This training shall occur prior to September 15<sup>th</sup> of each school year or within 30 days of joining the district. This training will be conducted at a staff development day in August, online or a combination of both.

The District will provide advanced training for each Building-level Emergency Response Team (BERT) and District-wide Safety Team annually. The training will include practices and procedures to educate, evaluate, update and review all Emergency management protocols and procedures the teams perform including, but not limited to Lockdown, Lockout, Evacuation, Shelter-In-Place, Hold-in-Place and Early Dismissal. The District may involve local emergency responders to participate in this training.

Additional training includes but is not limited to:

- De-escalation training
- Warning signals for violence and mental health concerns
- Non-violent conflict resolution

#### PROACTIVE BUILDING SECURITY MEASURES

1. The District buildings use limited points of entry. All doors are locked. Main doors are controlled by remote “buzzer” entry during normal school hours.
2. All schools have greeters or office staff members just inside the entrance to each school in the District. These individuals ensure visitor sign-in procedures and help supervise building traffic flow. The building principals are responsible for supervision of the greeters and other staff.
3. Staff members are required to wear visible identification badges.
4. Visitors are required to sign in and wear visitor identification.
5. Visitor access is limited to specific areas of the school building.

#### VITAL EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Information on each building’s student and staff, transportation needs, and the telephone numbers of key officials are outlined in each Building-level Emergency Response Plan. The purpose of including such information in the Building-level plan is to ensure coordination or coverage in the event of a serious incident.

#### EARLY DETECTION OF POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS BEHAVIOR

This section contains the District policy and procedure for disseminating information regarding early detection of potentially dangerous behavior.

1. A “plain language” summary of the District’s Code of Conduct is provided to all students in the District at the start of every school year to ensure that all students understand acceptable behavior in the school setting. The Code of Conduct delineates, among other behavior, lack of tolerance for harassment, discrimination, bullying and violence.
2. A “plain language” summary of the District’s Code of Conduct is mailed or emailed to all parents/guardians of students in the District at the start of each school year, and is disseminated at the time of registration thereafter.
3. All new employees will be provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct at the time of hire. All teachers and other staff members will be provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct annually.

4. Efforts are made on the building level in each of the District's schools to identify, prevent, and resolve potentially dangerous behavior at the earliest possible stage. Teams meet regularly in each building in order to work with classroom staff in identifying and preventing potentially dangerous behavior. School counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, nurses, outside agencies (when appropriate), administrators, teachers, parents/guardians and students may be involved in this process.
5. District students at all grade levels participate in instruction guided by evidence-based violence prevention/intervention programs. Elements of these programs support students in identifying potentially violent or problematic situations with peers and in developing strategies to address these such as reporting to an adult.
6. Secondary health curricula incorporate information regarding emotional health, the impact of drugs and alcohol on an individual's behavior, and on responsible decision-making.
7. Each of the District's school psychologists/social workers may facilitate counseling groups for identified students around issues related to poor social skills development, managing emotions, and good decision-making.
8. Certified and noncertified staff members working with students who have been identified by the Committee on Special Education as being at-risk for engaging in violent behaviors receive annual training in crisis prevention and intervention.
9. The District may work in collaboration with building-level and District-wide PTAs to offer parents/guardians information regarding early-warning signs of potentially dangerous and/or violent behavior, as well as a forum to discuss specific parental concerns.

#### Police Agencies

The District buildings fall within the jurisdiction of the following police departments:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Mount Pleasant Police Department	914-769-1941
Westchester County Police, Hawthorne	914-864-7700
New York State Police, Troop K	914-769-2600

#### HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

##### Identification of Potentially Dangerous or Hazardous Sites:

Each school will identify and locate areas of potential emergencies in and around its building. The Director of Facilities and building custodians will locate these sites.

1. These sites are to include electrical, gas, heating, ventilation, water supply and sewage systems locations and shut-off valves. Local fire department personnel have and will continue to participate in these efforts.

2. These sites of potential emergencies will be listed in each Building-level Emergency Response Plan supplied to police, fire, emergency management services, and District personnel.
3. Potentially dangerous sites indicated below that are contained within school property and under the jurisdiction of the school district, will be checked regularly and inspected by building safety personnel on a regular schedule, at least annually. They include but are not limited to:
  - Electrical panels/shut-offs
  - Gas lines/shut-off
  - Gas appliances
  - Heating plant
  - Sewage system
  - Structural failure
  - HVAC
  - Water supply/shut-off
  - Chemical storage and cleaning supplies
  - Paper supply storage
  - Industrial arts room
  - Science rooms and labs
  - Isolated areas near the school
  - Nearby aqueduct, streams, ponds, rivers (flooding)
  - Steep areas near school
  - Unprotected exterior gas/electric, air conditioning supplies or equipment
  - Playground equipment

#### SCHOOL SAFETY PERSONNEL ALLOCATIONS, HIRING, DUTIES, AND TRAINING

#### PRIVATE SECURITY AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

This plan includes contracts or memoranda of understanding that define the relationship between the district, personnel, students, visitors, law enforcement, and public or private security personnel. These contracts or memoranda are consistent with the Code of Conduct, and define the roles, responsibilities, and involvement in the schools of law enforcement or security personnel. The role of school discipline is delegated to school administration.

#### SECURITY ALLOCATIONS

- A. At the elementary and middle school level, there is a single point of entry for visitors at each building and visitors to the school must be buzzed into the building, sign in and receive an identification badge issued by a safety greeter. Staff in the building all wear district-produced identification badges which must be worn at all times.
- B. At the high school level, there is a single point of entry for visitors, which is staffed during normal school hours by one of several staff members or safety personnel assigned to the High



School. Visitors to the school must be buzzed into the building, sign in and receive an identification badge issued by a safety greeter. Staff in the building all wear district-produced identification badges, which must be worn at all times. In addition, safety personnel are assigned to areas throughout the building.

### Hiring

The interviewing and hiring of safety personnel follows the district's practices for hiring of new staff. All new staff employed by the District must be fingerprinted in order to be employed.

### Duties and Training

#### **Greeters**

- Staffed at each building
- buildings are staffed during regular school hours
- primarily responsible for enforcement of the visitor protocols
- detection of hazards
- deter and report unlawful activity
- provide escorts for parents and students when needed

#### **Secondary School Monitors**

- staffed at select elementary, both middle schools and high school
- actively monitor the building and support the staff with student safety and traffic
- provide student supervision
- check that school procedures are being adhered to
- guide the arrival and dismissal processes

#### **Contract Security Guards**

- School building security trained
- perform perimeter patrols
- staffed during regular school hours at the high school as well as for special events in the evening and on weekends
- enforce our visitor policy as well as actively monitor the building and support the staff with student safety and traffic

#### **Required training includes:**

- School violence prevention and intervention training
- Site-specific training including review of all manuals (e.g., school district policies, Code of Conduct, District-wide School Safety Plan, School Handbook, etc).
- Right-to-know training
- Blood borne pathogen training

## NOTIFICATION AND ACTIVATION - INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

### Internal

After receiving the information from the Incident Commander at the scene, an email will be sent from the Superintendent's office to all administrators and administrative offices alerting them to the nature and status of any incident in the district. The mass communication system may be used to provide information as deemed appropriate by the Incident Commander. Portable radios will also be used when possible.

### External

Anyone with knowledge of an emergency event is encouraged to immediately call 911.

The District's mass communication system will be used to provide information to parents/guardians and emergency contacts. The District website may also be used to provide updated information throughout an incident as deemed appropriate by the Incident Commander. Schools may also use their websites, groups, and hotlines for announcements or updates as directed by the Incident Commander.

When an emergency requires notification of parents and students, the Superintendent or his designee will provide updated information to parents and students through the emergency notification system. Additional information may also be found on the District's website: <https://www.mtplcsd.org/>

During an emergency, all contact with the media will be handled either by the Superintendent or their designee. The media and public will be informed and updated as soon as practicable on all developments in statements released by the Superintendent or their designee. Students, staff and parents should refer all questions and requests for information to the Superintendent in order to assure the release of factual and current information. The Superintendent may refer such requests to the Public Information Officer for response.

By definition, emergency events are unforeseen and unpredictable. The safety of students and staff is the primary focus of all activities surrounding an emergency event. Every effort will be made to contact parents and the general public once the situation has stabilized.

## SITUATIONAL RESPONSES

### MULTI-HAZARD RESPONSE

In the event of an emergency, a Command Center will be set up at a safe location in collaboration with emergency responders. Each building has specific plans for dealing with a wide range of hazards. Specific response procedures are sensitive in nature and therefore are contained within each confidential building-level emergency response plan.

In each emergency, the building's administrator will contact the District office for assistance. The District office will provide support as appropriate and deemed necessary by the Incident Commander on the scene (i.e. sending additional mental health resources). The Superintendent or their designee

will be the sole contact person for releasing information to the media and for communicating the status of the emergency with other District schools, out-of-district schools, private schools, and outside agencies.

## RESPONSE PROTOCOLS

Written information on emergency response procedures is disseminated to parents, age-appropriate students and staff via email by October 1st annually. This non-sensitive information may also be found on the district website.

### SCHOOL CANCELLATION

- The Superintendent or their designee will monitor any situation that may warrant a school cancellation and will make the determination to do so.
- The Public Information Officer will activate use of the District's mass communication system.
- The Public Information Officer will contact local media, post the information on the website and social media sites utilized by the District.

### EARLY DISMISSAL

- The Superintendent or their designee will monitor any situation that may warrant an early dismissal and will make the determination to do so.
- The Operations Chief will designate people to arrange transportation for students.
- The Public Information Officer will activate use of the District's mass communication system.
- The Public Information Officer will contact local media, post the information on the website and social media sites utilized by the District.
- The Liaison Officer will notify each of the building principals.

### EVACUATION

- The Superintendent or their designee will determine the level of the threat.
- The Operations Chief will contact the transportation supervisor to arrange transportation. They will also arrange for student-parent reunification.
- The Safety Officer will clear all evacuation routes and sites prior to evacuation
- Principal(s) will evacuate all staff and students to prearranged evacuation sites as outlined in building plans. They will report to the superintendent or their designee any missing staff or students.

### SHELTERING SITES (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL)

- The Superintendent or their designee will determine the level of the threat and communicate with building principal(s) who are affected by the emergency.
- Principal(s) will move all staff and students to pre-arranged sheltering sites as outlined in building plans. They will report any missing staff or students.
- The Logistics Chief will make appropriate arrangements for human needs in the event of a long-term situation.

## PROTOCOLS FOR RESPONDING TO BOMB THREATS, HOSTAGE-TAKINGS, INTRUDERS, ABDUCTION, AND OTHER EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

The District has procedures and provides training for emergencies. Specific response steps are confidential and contained within each Building-level Emergency Response Plan. Emergencies include but are not limited to the following situations.

- Abduction
- Armed Intruders / Active Shooters
- Bomb Threats
- Cyber Security Annex
- Early or Alternate Emergency Dismissal
- Explosions
- Fires
- Hazardous Material Incident
- Homeland Security Threats
- Hostage Situations
- Infectious Disease
- Severe Weather
- Student-Made Threats
- Suicidal Students
- Suspicious Package Protocol
- Suspicious Persons

## RESPONSES TO IMPLIED OR DIRECT THREATS OF VIOLENCE

1. Students are required to inform school staff about any direct or indirect threat of violence or actual act of violence to themselves, others or school property.
2. Staff members are required to immediately inform the Principal or their designee of any direct or implied threat of violence or actual act of violence by students, teachers, or other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors as well as visitors to the school, including threats by students against themselves, which shall include suicide. The Principal or their designee decides whether to utilize the building's trained clinician(s) in an effort to de-escalate or defuse the situation.
3. The district disseminates educational material, including but not limited to emails and formal brochures, encouraging parents and visitors to tell school staff about any direct or implied threat of violence or actual acts of violence by students, teachers, other school personnel and visitors to the school, including threats by students against themselves.

4. After considering the specificity/generality of the threat or severity of the violent act, the Principal or their designee will determine whether to immediately contact the Superintendent of Schools or the Assistant Superintendent to advise them of the threat, obtain assistance to determine the severity of the threat or report the violent act. The Principal will have the discretion to report minor incidents to the Superintendent verbally and/or in memorandum form after the situation has been resolved.
5. Each building will have the availability of a Threat Assessment Team. This is a multi-disciplinary team that uses a nationally recognized evidence-based model to evaluate threats and implement the necessary mitigation steps to help prevent a threat from escalation to an act of violence.
6. The building administrator will investigate reported threats of violence and will make the determination of disciplinary measures consistent with the District's Code of Conduct.

## RESPONSES TO ACTS OF VIOLENCE

1. The Principal or their designee will determine whether to contact law enforcement personnel. **Threats or actions placing students, staff and others in imminent danger require an immediate LOCKDOWN protocol followed by a call to the police and the District Superintendent (if safe to do so).** Violent offenses defined in the S.A.V.E. regulations will also require the involvement of the police.
2. The Principal, and/or their designee then determine the appropriateness of directing the Building-level Emergency Response Team to be activated.
3. The Building-level Emergency Response Team (BERT) consisting of trained staff and school personnel may assist with an Evacuation, Lockout, Shelter-in-Place, Hold-in-Place, or Early Dismissal and will follow the appropriate protocol (see appendices for further information). The Incident Command System (ICS) under the National Incident Management System (NIMS) should be followed as closely as possible to ensure good coordination between the building-level teams, District leadership, and responding agencies.
4. If the threat of violence or danger is imminent, a Lockdown may be utilized. A Lockdown is time sensitive and therefore may be requested by any school staff member based on the incident and timely need for the Lockdown. During the Lockdown, all school staff, students, and visitors (including all BERT members) are required to Lockdown in the nearest lockable space and await further instruction, or in some situations, evacuate the campus.
5. Procedures for contacting parents, guardians and persons in parental relation to students in the event of a violent incident or early dismissal are detailed in each building-level emergency plan. The use of the District's mass communication system is typically utilized.
6. Aggressively dangerous and violent students, staff or visitors shall be managed as outlined by the procedures detailed in the district Code of Conduct.
7. The building administrator will investigate reported threats of violence and will make the determination of disciplinary measures consistent with the District's Code of Conduct.
8. School administrators must keep records of serious threats and acts of violence and report them annually to the state.
9. Prompt contact with appropriate law enforcement officials is essential in the event of a violent incident. These relationships have been established by participation of local response officials on Building-Level Emergency Response Teams. These individuals and appropriate means of contact are documented in each Building-Level Emergency Response Plan.
10. The district has a zero-tolerance policy for acts of school violence.

## PROTOCOLS FOR A STATE DISASTER EMERGENCY INVOLVING A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

*The following procedures provide a general overview of the District's response to a State Disaster Emergency and may require modification during an actual event based on a number of factors. The District will follow current guidance from the County Department of Health, State Department of Health and the State Education Department related to masking, distancing, quarantines, and other health-related requirements.*

### BACKGROUND

In September 2020, Governor Cuomo signed legislation that requires all New York State public employers to adopt a plan for operations in the event of a declared state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease. The new legislation will constitute New York State Labor Law [Section 27-c](#), and serve as a response to the effects of the sudden onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Spring of 2020. In addition to 27-C, the following section was added to [2801-a of the Education Law](#) that required additions to the District Plan.

*Education Law - 2801-a (m) - protocols for responding to a declared state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease that are substantially consistent with the provisions of section twenty-seven-c of the labor law.*

### PROTOCOLS

1. In the event of a state-ordered reduction of the District's in-person workforce, the following is a list of **essential** employees.

Essential Position	Description	
<b>Information Technology</b>	Director Technicians	This group is needed to maintain the internet capability including remote learning and working from home.
<b>Custodial and Maintenance</b>	Director Asst. Director Senior Custodians Custodians Maintenance Mechanics Grounds	This group is needed to maintain the cleanliness and continued functioning of the building & grounds.

<b>Administration</b>	Superintendent & Asst. Superintendents	Required to ensure continuity of the response efforts.
<b>Building Administration &amp; Clerical Support</b>	Building Administrators & Clerical Support *	Required to ensure continuity of the response efforts.
<b>Faculty and Staff</b>	Teacher/Related Service Provider	Should it become necessary to meet a student's needs under IDEA and/or Section 504 regulation (FAPE), teachers/related service providers may be deemed essential on an as-needed basis.
<b>Security</b>	Security Coordinator & Security Assistants	To ensure the safety/security of the campuses.
<b>Transportation</b>	Director of Transportation, Support Staff & Transportation Contractor	To transport food to students who receive home meals and/or to transport students in the event they are attending in person instruction
<b>Food Service</b>	Food Service Director & Food Service Workers	To prepare and distribute meals to students.
<b>Health Services</b>	Director of Health Services and staff as deemed necessary	To assist with testing requirements, reporting and contract tracing.
<b>Business Operations</b>	Accounting, Payroll, Accounts Payroll, Purchasing	Where necessary to ensure the continued operation of the District.

- In the event of a state-ordered reduction of the District's in-person workforce the District will provide the opportunity for all **non-essential** employees the capability to telecommute including, but not limited to, facilitating or requesting the procurement, distribution, downloading, and installation of any needed devices or technology, including software, data, office laptops or phones, and the transferring of office phone lines to work or personal cell



phones as practicable or applicable to the workplace. [DISTRICT] Staff will be guided on this as per the **Building Level Emergency Plans**, specifically the **Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Instruction** sections.

3. To the extent possible the District will stagger work shifts of essential employees in order to reduce overcrowding on public transportation systems and at worksites. Staff and students typically walk or drive via personal vehicle to campus. In an effort to reduce overcrowding on public transportation:
  - Class schedules, if scheduled to be on site, will be staggered to a morning and afternoon cohort
  - Staff will arrive on campus prior to students at staggered times/work shift or/and staggered assigned days of work
  - If no students are in school staff will continue to have their work shift or assigned days of work staggered.
  - Most employees will be permitted to work remotely.
  - Visitors will not be permitted on campus.
4. A quantity of personal protective equipment (PPE), sufficient to provide to all essential employees, will be procured, stored, and managed as follows:
  - Facilities will maintain inventory of PPE as recommended by the NYS Education Department guidelines, and continually restock same as needed.
  - Storage of personal protective equipment will be on campus and comply with the manufacturer's storage recommendations for each item.
  - The equipment will be stored and readily available to any person in need of it.
5. In the event an employee is exposed to a known case of a communicable disease that is the subject of a state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease, exhibits symptoms of such disease, or tests positive for such disease, and in order to prevent the spread or contraction of such disease in the workplace the District has a set protocol to be followed for the exposure as well as the disinfecting of the affected work area(s). The District's **Building Level Emergency Plan** contains an **Infectious Disease Annex, section 25** which details:
  - The disinfecting of any area known or suspected to be infected with the communicable disease as well as any common area surface and shared equipment such employee may have touched
  - Available leave options, for the affected employee(s), in the event of an employee's need to receive testing, treatment, isolation, or quarantine

*Note: Such protocol does not involve any action that would violate any existing federal, state, or local law, including sick leave or health information privacy.*

6. All essential employees will have their hours and work locations documented, including off-site visits, by:

- All entrances will be locked with guard staff posted.
- All employees will use their access cards for entrance which documents their arrival on the premises.
- Payroll, attendance, and time cards will further document an employee's presence on campus.
- No other visitors will be allowed on site.

Such protocol shall be designed only to aid in the tracking of the disease and to identify the population of exposed employees in order to facilitate the provision of any benefits which may be available to certain employees on that basis.

7. If emergency housing is needed to further contain the spread of the communicable disease, the Mount Pleasant Central School District will lodge an essential employee at a local hotel bearing the full cost of the stay.

If there is a declared state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease that involves the Mount Pleasant Central School District, all staff, essential and non-essential, will be contacted, and they will be guided by the aforementioned protocols.

8. **OTHER:** Any other requirements determined by the Department of Health such as contact tracing, testing, physical distancing, hygiene, disinfecting, drill modifications, or mask-wearing.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF DISTRICT RESOURCES WHICH MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR USE DURING AN EMERGENCY

District resources are available in each building and stored in a central location. Each building will designate a Command Post. The list, which is not meant to be inclusive, requires the following items:

- Copy of District-Wide School Safety Plan
- Building-level Emergency Plan
- Quick reference Emergency Management Procedures
- List of emergency telephone numbers
- Building floor plans
- Telephones
- Radio communications
- Weather radio
- Flashlights
- Photocopier
- Computer
- Student rosters
- List of individuals with special needs and specific evacuation plans
- Telephone numbers for parents/guardians Information about emergency needs (e.g. students/staff that require medications, vehicular transportation issues, etc.)

- School and staff census information

#### COORDINATION AND SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOURCES AND MANPOWER DURING EMERGENCIES

The District will, as appropriate, utilize all available manpower during an emergency. Within each building, schools may use the Staff All Call response protocol, that quickly summons all available staff members to a staging area for assignments. Coordination of available employees is typically performed by the Principal or their designee. Specific job duties will be assigned based on the type of emergency and in compliance with the appropriate district and building emergency response procedure. Additional district resources may be requested by any building administrator or designee as needed. The Superintendent or their designee will call in all available maintenance and custodial staff to provide support during an emergency as needed. Assistance from outside government agencies may also be requested. A specific list of available resources may be found in Appendix 4 of this plan.

#### PARTICIPATING IN UNIFIED COMMAND UNDER ICS PRINCIPLES

##### ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A chain of command consistent with the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIMS)/Incident Command System (ICS) will be used in response to an emergency. Members of the School, Emergency Response Team, will be part of this system. In the event of an emergency, the response team will adopt NIMS/ICS principles based on the size, scope, and character of the emergency.

1. All administrators and Building-level Emergency Response Teams members shall complete the incident command training level one.
2. All District Emergency Response Team members shall complete incident command training level one and level two.

##### ICS POSITIONS

The number of ICS positions filled will be dependent upon the scope of the incident.

- **Incident Commander** – Responsible for the direction of the building response in a building-level emergency (Building Administrator/designee).
- **Public Information Officer** – Compiles and releases information to the news media.
- **Safety Officer** – Monitors the response to prevent injuries from occurring to both those involved in the incident and those trying to resolve it.
- **Liaison** – Represents the District by working with responding agencies (law enforcement, fire department, EMS, utilities, etc.) and other school districts that may be involved in the incident.

- **Incident Log** – Keeps a written log of all incident events and updates appropriate command post personnel on significant developments.
- **Operations** – responsible for directing the implementation of action plans and strategies for incident resolution.
- **Logistics** – Responsible for providing all resources (personnel, equipment, facilities and services) required for incident resolution.
- **Planning/Intelligence** – Responsible for collecting, evaluating, and disseminating the information needed to measure the size, scope and seriousness of an incident and to plan a response.
- **Administration/Finance** – Responsible for all cost and financial matters related to the incident.

## EMERGENCY REMOTE INSTRUCTION

### OVERVIEW

The District may offer eLearning days to students in the event-of-an-emergency condition, including, but not limited to, extraordinary adverse weather conditions, impairment of heating facilities, insufficiency of water supply, shortage of fuel, destruction of a school building, or a communicable disease outbreak.

When making decisions about remote instruction, the District will consult with students, parents, teachers, administrators, community members, and other stakeholders as appropriate. When implementing remote instruction, the District will ensure that it is complying with applicable teaching and learning requirements.

### DEFINITIONS

- A. "Asynchronous instruction" means instruction where students engage in learning without the direct presence (remote or in-person) of a teacher.
- B. "Non-digital and/or audio-based instruction" means instruction accessed synchronously and/or asynchronously through paper-based materials where the student to teacher interaction occurs via telephone or other audio platforms.
- C. "Remote instruction" means instruction provided by an appropriately certified teacher who is not in the same in-person physical location as the student(s) receiving the instruction, where there is regular and substantive daily interaction between the student and teacher.
  - 1. Remote instruction will encompass synchronous instruction provided through digital video- based technology and may also include asynchronous instruction intended to complement synchronous instruction. Digital video-based technology includes online technology and videoconferencing technology.
  - 2. Remote instruction may encompass non-digital and audio-based asynchronous and/or synchronous instruction where this instruction is more appropriate for a student's educational needs.
- D. "Synchronous instruction" means instruction where students engage in learning in the direct presence (remote or in-person) of a teacher in real time.

### FORMATS AND METHODS OF REMOTE INSTRUCTION

Remote instruction may be delivered through a variety of formats and methods. Determinations about how to best deliver remote instruction will take into account a variety of factors including, but not limited to, the number of students involved, the subject matter, the students' grade levels, and technological resources of both the District and students. Consideration will also be given to whether accommodations need to be made for students with disabilities or English language learners. Each school's Building-level Emergency Response Plan will contain this confidential information in the Continuity of Instruction Plan (COIP) section.

#### INSTRUCTIONAL OPTIONS

The District may engage students in synchronous and asynchronous learning on days of remote instruction under emergency conditions with an expectation that asynchronous instruction is supplementary to synchronous instruction. When remote instruction by digital technology is unavailable, appropriate special accommodations for students will be made to aid their learning.

#### COMPUTER AND CONNECTIVITY ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

The District will ensure that students have the necessary equipment at home to participate in eLearning. No later than June 30th of each school year, the Superintendent will report to the Commissioner of Education the results of the survey on student access to computing devices and access to Internet connectivity on a form and format prescribed by the Commissioner. The information received from the survey will aid in the development/updates to the detailed Continuity of Instruction Plan in each school's Building-level Emergency Response Plan.

#### MINIMUM INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

Remote instruction provided on days when the District would have otherwise closed due to an emergency condition may be counted toward the annual hourly requirement for the purpose of state aid. The Superintendent will certify to the New York State Education Department, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner, that an emergency condition existed on a previously scheduled school day and that the District was in session and provided remote instruction on that day and indicate how many instructional hours were provided on that day and certify that remote instruction was provided in accordance with the District's emergency remote instruction plan.

#### REMOTE INSTRUCTION SUPPORT

As necessary, the District will provide instruction on using remote instruction technology and IT support for students, teachers, and families. The District will also work to ensure that teachers and administrators are provided with professional development opportunities related to designing an effective remote instruction experience.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH DISTRICT POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Teachers and students are required to comply with any and all applicable District policies, procedures, and other related documents as they normally would for in-person instruction. Examples include, but are not limited to, the District's policies and procedures on non-discrimination and anti-harassment, acceptable use, and copyright. Students will also be required to abide by the rules contained within the *Code of Conduct* at all times while engaged in remote instruction. Violations of the *Code of Conduct* and/or engaging in prohibited conduct may result in disciplinary action as warranted.

#### PRIVACY AND SECURITY OF STUDENT AND TEACHER DATA

The District will take measures to protect the personally identifiable information of students and teachers from unauthorized disclosure or access when using remote instruction technologies in compliance with law, regulation, and District policy. Examples of these measures include, but are not limited to, minimizing the amount of data shared to only that which is necessary, de-identifying data, and using encryption or an equivalent technical control that renders personally identifiable information unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized persons when transmitted electronically.

#### SECTION IV COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS

##### Obtaining assistance during emergencies from emergency service organizations and local government agencies

1. The district continues to work closely with local police, fire, EMS, and governmental agencies to obtain assistance during emergencies. Representatives helped in the development of this plan, have assisted in emergency drills, and provided technical assistance. Providers have given approval to the district to rely on local personnel, resources, and facilities in emergency situations.
2. The district maintains an updated list of local, county, and state agencies and personnel to contact to obtain assistance. The superintendent or their designee will initiate the contact when needed.

##### Obtaining advice and assistance from local government officials, including the county or city officials responsible for implementation of article 2-B of the Executive Law

1. The district maintains an updated list of local and county emergency organizations, agencies, and government officials responsible for implementation of Article 2-B of the Executive Law. The superintendent and their designee will initiate the contact when needed.
2. The key officials in local government that can help to develop plans and assist in emergency situations as listed in emergency situations are listed in Appendix 4. Key government agencies are listed below:
  1. Mount Pleasant Police Department
  2. Hawthorne Fire Department
  3. Pleasantville Fire Department
  4. New York State Police
  5. Westchester County OEM
  6. Westchester County Police Department
  7. Empress EMS
  8. Red Cross

## Contacting Parents, Guardians or Persons in Parental Relation to the Students of the District in the Event of a Violent Incident or an Early Dismissal

In the event of violent incidents or crises, or an early dismissal of students, every effort will be made to notify parents. As soon as practical, the Superintendent or their designee shall activate the emergency notification system that will provide relevant information. Parental notification procedures for a student involved in disciplinary situations shall be consistent with the Code of Conduct and New York State law, and shall be presented clearly and concisely to staff and students each year.

When a student is involved in any violent situation, or an implied or direct threat of violence by such student against themselves, including suicide, parent or guardian shall be contacted as soon as practicable. Administration shall utilize school mental health resources when necessary.

It is the responsibility of all parents and guardians to ensure that emergency contact information for students is always up-to-date and complete.



## SECTION V RECOVERY

### CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS

This district maintains continuity of operations at both the district and building level to ensure that essential functions continue during an emergency and its immediate aftermath. Essential functions include business services (payroll and purchasing), communication (internal and external), computer and systems support, facilities maintenance, safety and security, and continuity of instruction. Specific continuity plans are contained within each Building-level Emergency Response Plan.

### CONTINUITY OF INSTRUCTION

The District offers a suite of online instructional tools that can be used to support remote instruction and communication. General instructional tools for communicating with students include online services including:

- Google Drive with shared folders
- Google Suite (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Classroom, Sites)
- Gmail
- eSchool Data

Detailed grade-specific remote instructional procedures are contained within each building-level emergency plan.

*Note: The local public Library online resources are available remotely and can be accessed by students who have a library card.*

### DISTRICT SUPPORT FOR BUILDINGS

When the Chief Emergency Officer is notified that an emergency exists, he/she will respond accordingly.

Members of the District Safety Team will assist as needed either at their respective Building Command Posts or by responding where directed by the Incident Commander(s). The District Safety Team will assign such other personnel as deemed necessary to meet the needs of the situation.

The District Safety Team members will remain at their assigned posts until the Incident Commander(s) has determined that the emergency is over, or it is unsafe, or no longer necessary to remain, or need to relocate.

Should the incident involve a single building, at the discretion of the District Safety Team leader in consultation with that building's administrators and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT), other school buildings may be called to support the Building Emergency Response Team in that building.

Should the incident involve multiple buildings, at the discretion of the District Safety Team leader, in consultation with building administrators, additional mental health support from the County Crisis Team

and local area hospitals may be solicited to support the Emergency Response Teams in the affected building(s).

In any case, a “debriefing”, or post-incident analysis, will be facilitated by the District Safety Team. This process will include a review of the actual incident, the Team’s response to the incident, and post-traumatic incident debriefing.

District clinicians (or, mental health professionals from outside agencies if they have been involved) will provide ongoing as-needed support to the Team members, and will monitor post-traumatic stress symptoms in team members. As appropriate, team members may be provided with a referral to EAP and/or with information regarding private mental health providers in the area.

Principal(s) are expected to consult with the District Public Information Officer in composing letters to parents following any emergency. The District’s Public Information Officer will assist in sending mass communication messages to affected groups. The District’s Liaison Officer will communicate with outside agencies, such as the County Health Department, to provide necessary services following any emergency.

#### DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The District Liaison Officer will communicate with outside agencies, such as the County Health Department, to provide necessary mental health services following any emergency. District mental health providers may be temporarily reassigned to assist in the recovery process.

## APPENDIX 1 - LISTING OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS

### District Office

825 Westlake Dr.  
Thornwood, NY 10594  
Phone: (914) 769-5500

### Westlake High School

825 Westlake Dr.  
Thornwood, NY 10594  
Phone: (914) 769-8311

### Westlake Middle School

825 Westlake Dr.  
Thornwood, NY 10594  
Phone: (914) 769-8311

### Columbus Elementary School

580 Columbus Ave.  
Thornwood, NY 10594  
Phone: : (914) 769-8538

### Hawthorne Elementary School

225 Memorial Dr.  
Hawthorne, NY 10532  
Phone: (914) 769-8536

## APPENDIX 2 – BUILDING-LEVEL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS

Due to the sensitive safety and security information contained in each Building-level Emergency Response Plan, these plans are confidential and not available for public dissemination. Copies of plans are maintained at each school building and the District office.

DRAFT

## APPENDIX 3 – MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

Any applicable Memoranda of Understanding relevant to implementation of the District-wide and Building-level Emergency Response Plans are on file in the district office.

Purpose of MOU: The purpose of this Agreement is to formalize and clarify the roles and responsibilities of the District and Security Consultant in Student Discipline.

Services Provided by Agency/Vendor:

### **TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT AGREEMENT WITH THE MT. PLEASANT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The term of this agreement (the "Agreement") shall commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 2022 by and between the Mt. Pleasant Central School District (the "School District") and the Town of Mt. Pleasant (the "Town") as follows:

#### **WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, municipal corporations are authorized, pursuant to both Article 9, Section 1 of the State Constitution and Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law to enter into intergovernmental agreements;

**WHEREAS**, Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law specifically authorizes and encourages municipal corporations to enter into agreements with each other in order to provide cooperatively, jointly, or by contract any facility, service, activity, or undertaking which each participating municipal corporation has the power to provide separately; and

**WHEREAS**, the School District and the Town desire to set forth in this Agreement the terms by which the Mt. Pleasant Police Department (the "Police Department") shall patrol the schools operated by the School District as defined herein (the "Schools") during the school year.

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES HERETO AGREE AS FOLLOWS:**

##### **1. Scope of Services/Parment**

**1.1.** The Town through its Police Department agrees to employ one (1) police officer ("Police Officer") during the term of this Agreement who will be assigned to the schools made up of three (3) different properties – (1) Hawthorne Elementary School; (2) Columbus Elementary School; and (3) Westlake Middle/High School – the Schools. Such Police Officer shall be assigned to the Schools at the direction of the Police Department in coordination with the School District. It is understood and agreed that the Police Officer assigned to patrol the Schools shall be an employee of the Town. It is also understood that there will be one (1) Police Officer assigned to the Schools during the school year. The Town will identify one additional police officer ("Designated Substitute Officer") who will be assigned to the schools in the event that the Police Officer assigned to the Schools is absent (e.g., sick, training, emergency, vacation). The Police Department will use reasonable efforts to have the Designated Substitute Officer or any other police officer ("Substitute Officer") assigned to the Schools in place and stead of the assigned Police Officer when he/she is absent for any reason. It is understood and agreed, that in such a scenario, the Town, through its Police Department, does not guarantee that an officer will be available to specifically patrol the Schools on a given school day. Should the Town be unable to afford coverage by a Substitute Officer on any given school day, prompt notification will be provided by the Police Officer and/or the Town Supervisor to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee; and the quarterly amount owed by the School District to the Town pursuant to Section 1.2 below will be reduced accordingly pursuant to collaboration between the Superintendent and the Town Supervisor and/or their designees.

1.2. The assigned Police Officer and one Designated Substitute Officer will be trained at the Basic School Resource Officer Course recognized by the Division of Criminal Justice Service. Should the Town need to assign a Substitute Officer other than the Designated Substitute Officer to the schools on any given day, the Town will make a concerted effort to assign a Substitute Officer who has also completed the Basic School Resource Officer Course recognized by the DCJS. The Police Officer and Designated Substitute Officer, will meet all of the requirements for employment with the Police Department, and have been identified by the Police Chief as a prime candidate to meet the needs of the School District in promoting a safe environment for everyone in the school community; based upon his/her knowledge of applicable laws, capacity in police work, and demonstration of exemplary communication skills and temperament ideal to address the needs of the School District community.

1.3. The assigned Police Officer will familiarize himself/herself with the School District Code of Conduct, the School District Districtwide Safety Plan, and any policies or protocols of the School District identified by the Superintendent as being pertinent to the work of the Police Officer and the objective of this Agreement to afford all members of the School District community a safe place to work and learn.



1.4. The assigned Police Officer, as directed by the Police Chief, will perform all of the responsibilities of a Police Officer for the Town of Mt. Pleasant during his/her assignment to the Schools pursuant to this Agreement; and will keep in communication with the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee as well as building leadership (Principal or designee) with respect to the following circumstances, if known, to the extent such acts are not inconsistent with his/her responsibilities as a law enforcement officer for the Town concerning:

- (i) any dangerous activity, accidents or other circumstances which may require action on the part of the School District and/or the Police Officer;
- (ii) the presence of any known unidentified guests at the Schools;
- (iii) information and material relevant to necessary School District investigation and documentation of incidents;
- (iv) matters of school and campus safety, on a schedule to be determined by the Police Officer and Superintendent or Superintendent's designee;
- (v) security personnel working at the School District and any concerns pertaining to any personnel member;
- (vi) access to community resources to members of the School District community;
- (vii) District initiatives consistent with the School District's Safety Plan;
- (viii) participation with the School District's Safety Plan Committee upon determination by the Supervisor and the Superintendent or their designees;
- (ix) identify any potential threat to the safety of any member of the School District community or to School District property, and collaborate with the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee, and building leadership, to address the situation in a manner consistent with Police Department protocol, and in accordance with School District policy;

- (x) any need to transport any student or member of the School District community off campus for purposes of arrest or in furtherance of necessary law enforcement measures, and in accordance with Police Department protocols;
- (xi) any need to pursue a police investigation, interview, search or arrest procedures in connection with any member of the School District community; and,
- (xii) any need to call the Police Department for backup support in the course of law enforcement measures consistent with Police Department protocols, involving a member of the School District community.

1.5. In the course of fulfilling this Agreement, the Police Officer will comply with all laws and regulations governing maintenance of records and confidentiality of student education records, including but not limited to FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act).

1.6. For and in consideration of the Town providing a Police Officer to the Schools as described herein, the Mt. Pleasant Central School District agrees to reimburse the Town as follows:

- (i) 
- (ii) The School District will pay a sum equal to Sixty (60) percent of the Town's costs, including but not limited to salary, overtime, holiday pay, shift differential, fringe benefits, equipment, and training. A cost breakdown will be presented to the District for the 2022-23 School Year prior to the time of Board of Education approval of this Agreement; and for each subsequent year for which the Parties decide to pursue extension of this Agreement.
- (iii) The cost of same and calculation regarding compensation to the Town was considered and determined based on multiple factors. The Chief of Police has consulted with the Town Supervisor and Town Comptroller and the School Superintendent had consulted with his staff and the Board of Education for the School District.
- (iv) 

## 2. Schedule/Facilities.

2.1 The maximum number of hours that the Police Officer shall be scheduled to patrol the Schools is forty (40) hours per week. Any amount of time wherein the Police Officer or Substitute Officer is assigned to patrol the Schools in excess of the forty (40) hours, shall be

deemed necessary and appropriate by mutual agreement of the Town Supervisor and the Superintendent and/or their designees; and any such additional hours shall be considered overtime, with said overtime to be paid solely and exclusively by the School District, in excess of the amount to be paid by the School District to the Town as per this Agreement.

2.2 The Police Officer shall be either dressed in police uniform or dressed in civilian attire with his/her police shield prominently displayed to the public, as determined by mutual agreement of the Town Supervisor and the Superintendent and/or their designees.

2.3 The School District will provide the Police Officer with an office space with an office desk, chairs, and a locking file cabinet, as well as, a hard-wired phone with an outside extension line and internet connection.

2.4 [REDACTED]

### 3. Term of Agreement.

The term of this Agreement is for one year commencing on September 1, 2022 and ending August 31, 2023. The Agreement may be renewed upon mutual consent of the parties for additional one (1) year periods upon the same terms and conditions set forth herein unless otherwise modified in writing by the parties.

### 4. Employment Status.

4.1 The Police Officer assigned to the School District shall be an employee of the Town for all purposes, including but not limited to, wage and hour, workers' compensation, and disability insurance purposes. The Workers' Compensation Law shall apply in the case of any injury to the Police Officer, and the Police Department shall pay all premiums and/or expenses related to such insurance. The Police Officer shall not be deemed an employee of the School District and the School District shall pay no monetary consideration of any kind directly to the Police Officers in connection with the services provided to the School District, but shall pay the Town as set forth above. In the absence of any affirmative assumption of duty on the part of the Police Officer in the scope of his employment with the Town, and/or where conduct involves criminal activity



requiring police response, the School District alone is responsible for student discipline during school hours and at school functions.

4.2 The Superintendent will communicate with the Supervisor or the Supervisor's designee with respect to any issues or concerns surrounding this Agreement, the Police Officer or the Substitute Officer(s); and the Superintendent and Supervisor or their designees will collaborate as to any necessary or appropriate means by which to address those concerns.

## **5. Insurance and Indemnification.**

5.1 The Town hereby agrees to effectuate the naming of the Mount Pleasant Central School District as an additional insured on the Mt. Pleasant Police Department's insurance policies, with the exception of workers' compensation, NY State disability and law enforcement liability.

5.2 The policy naming the District as an additional insured shall:

- a. Be an insurance policy from an A.M. Best A- rated or better insurer, licensed to conduct business in New York State.
- b. State that the District's coverage shall be primary and non-contributory coverage for the District, its Board, employees and volunteers with a waiver of subrogation in favor of the District.
- c. Additional insured status shall be provided by standard or other endorsements that extend coverage to the District (CG 2026) or equivalent.

5.3 The District shall be listed as an additional insured by using endorsement CG 2026 or equivalent. The certificate must state that this endorsement is being used. A copy of the additional insured endorsement naming the District as an additional insured must be attached to the certificate of insurance.

5.4 Minimum Required Insurance: Commercial General Liability Insurance



The policy shall include coverage for assault and battery, including coverage for defamation, false arrest, detention and imprisonment. The policy shall include coverage for all law enforcement related services rendered to the District.

5.5 Law Enforcement Liability Insurance

If coverage for law enforcement services as detailed above is not provided in the Commercial General Liability policy, it shall be included in a separate Law Enforcement Liability policy. [REDACTED]

5.6 [REDACTED]

#### 5.7 Workers' Compensation and N.Y.S. Disability

Statutory Workers' Compensation (C-105.2 or U-26.3); and NYS Disability Insurance (DB-120.1) for all employees. Proof of coverage must be on the approved specific form, as required by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board.

5.8 [REDACTED]

### 6. Indemnification.

The Town and the School District each agree to indemnify and hold harmless the other parties to this Agreement, its agents and employees, against any and all claims, damages, losses, and/or expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees, arising out of and/or resulting from the act(s), omission(s), and/or negligence of its/their employee(s) or agent(s).

### 7. Reservation of Rights.

This Agreement shall not be construed to modify or in any way interfere with the School District's right(s) and/or responsibility to determine appropriate staffing levels and safety protocols, in accordance with the Education Law and/or other applicable laws, rules, and/or regulations.

### 8. Legal Compliance.

In performing under the terms of this Agreement, the Town and the School District and each of their agents shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, resolutions, ordinances, codes, rules, and regulations.

#### **9. Notices.**

Any and all notices or any other communication herein required or permitted shall be deemed to have been given when deposited by overnight courier, postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

Mt. Pleasant School District  
825 Westlake Drive  
Thornwood, New York 10594

Town of Mt. Pleasant Police Department  
Chief of Police  
1 Town Hall Plaza  
Valhalla, New York 10595

#### **10. Good Faith.**

The School District, the Town, their agents and employees, agree to cooperate in good faith in fulfilling the terms of this Agreement. Unanticipated circumstances or situations will be addressed after discussion and/or negotiation between the parties.

#### **11. Non-Assignment.**

Neither the School District nor the Town shall assign, transfer, sublet or otherwise dispose of this Agreement, or of its right, title or interest in this Agreement, or its power to execute the same, to any other person or corporation.

#### **12. Severability.**

In the event any provision of this Agreement shall be or become invalid under any provision of federal, state or local law, such invalidity shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision hereof.

#### **13. Governing Law.**

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York, without regard to its principles on conflicts of law, and any disputes hereunder shall be heard by a court of competent jurisdiction in Westchester County, New York.

#### **14. Entire Agreement and Board Approval.**

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and is subject to the approval by the Board of Education for the School District, and the Supervisor for the Town. This Agreement supersedes any and all prior agreements between the parties related to subject matter

of this Agreement and shall not be modified unless any modification is hereafter made in writing and signed by all parties to this Agreement. This Agreement was developed with stakeholder input, and shall be incorporated and published as part of the School District Districtwide Safety Plan, in accordance with New York State Education Law § 2801-a.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement the last day and year written below.

**TOWN OF MT. PLEASANT**

By:   
Carl Fulgenzi, Supervisor

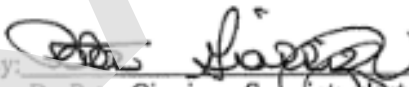
STATE OF NEW YORK ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER )

On this 28 day of November, 2022, before me personally came Carl Fulgenzi, to me personally known, who, being me duly sworn, did depose and say that he is the Supervisor of the Town of Mt. Pleasant, the municipal corporation described in and which executed the foregoing instrument.

Madeline DeRanillo  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 01DE6265332  
Qualified in Westchester County  
Term Expires July 9, 2024

  
Notary Public

**MT. PLEASANT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

By:   
Dr. Peter Giarrizzo, Superintendent

STATE OF NEW YORK ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER )

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022, before me personally came Peter Giarrizzo, to me personally known, who, being me duly sworn, did depose and say that he is the Superintendent of the Mt. Pleasant School District, the municipal corporation described in and which executed the foregoing instrument.

MARIE DAMBROSIO  
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW YORK  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY  
LIC. #01DA6310607  
Commission Expires 9/2/2026

  
Notary Public

## APPENDIX 4 – DISTRICT RESOURCES – CONTACT INFORMATION

TITLE	NAME	OFFICE PHONE
Superintendent of Schools	Peter Giarrizzo	914-769-5500 x5510
Director of Business/Transportation	Margaret Modugno	914-769-5500 x5111
Executive Assistant Human Resources	Susan Tropeano	914-769-5500 x5103
Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction	Adam Bronstein	914-769-5500 x5118
Transportation Coordinator	Linda Ackermann	914-769-5500 x5130
Director of Technology	Ken Amann	914-769-5500 x5110
Director of Pupil, Personnel and Student Services	Joann Vaccaro	914-769-5500 x5107
District Clerk	Mary Beth Mancuso	914-769-5500 x5105
Public Information	Maria Slippen	914-769-5500 x5512
Director of Facilities	Eric Strack	914-769-5500 x5910
Athletic Director	Shawn Baumann	914-769-5500 x1880
Cafeteria Services	Jacqueline Houatchanthara	914-769-0223
Thornwood Fire Department		914-769-0345
Hawthorne Fire Department		914-769-2141
Ambulance - Valhalla		914-946-8138
<b>Westchester County</b>		
County Executive	George Latimer	914-995-2900
Emergency Management	Richard Wishne	914-231-1851
Public Safety Commissioner	Terrance Raynor	914-864-7900
County Health Dept.	Dr. Sherlita Amler	914-864-7292
Red Cross Emergency Services	914-946-6500	