LAYERED

SCHOOL SAFETY SYSTEM

Selah

Layered Safety System
October 2023

The safety of our students and staff is the top priority of the Selah School District.

In order to provide quality learning opportunities and environments, students and staff must be safe. That is why the District has safety systems in place, so learning is the focus.

Your collaboration is vital in keeping our schools safe. Please review the following layered school safety approach the District has in place. If you have any questions, please reach out to us.

A Look at the Layered School Safety System

Keeping students and staff safe is the Selah School District's top priority. Our goal is to provide safe and secure learning environments where high quality educational experiences help cultivate a culture of lifelong learning for all.

What is Layered School Safety?

A layered safety approach recognizes that no single barrier or intervention is sufficient by itself to maintain a safe school campus.   Rather, using **multiple layers** acts like a filter to be able to **identify**, **resolve** and **mitigate** threats.

In the Selah School District, we think about safety in the following layers:
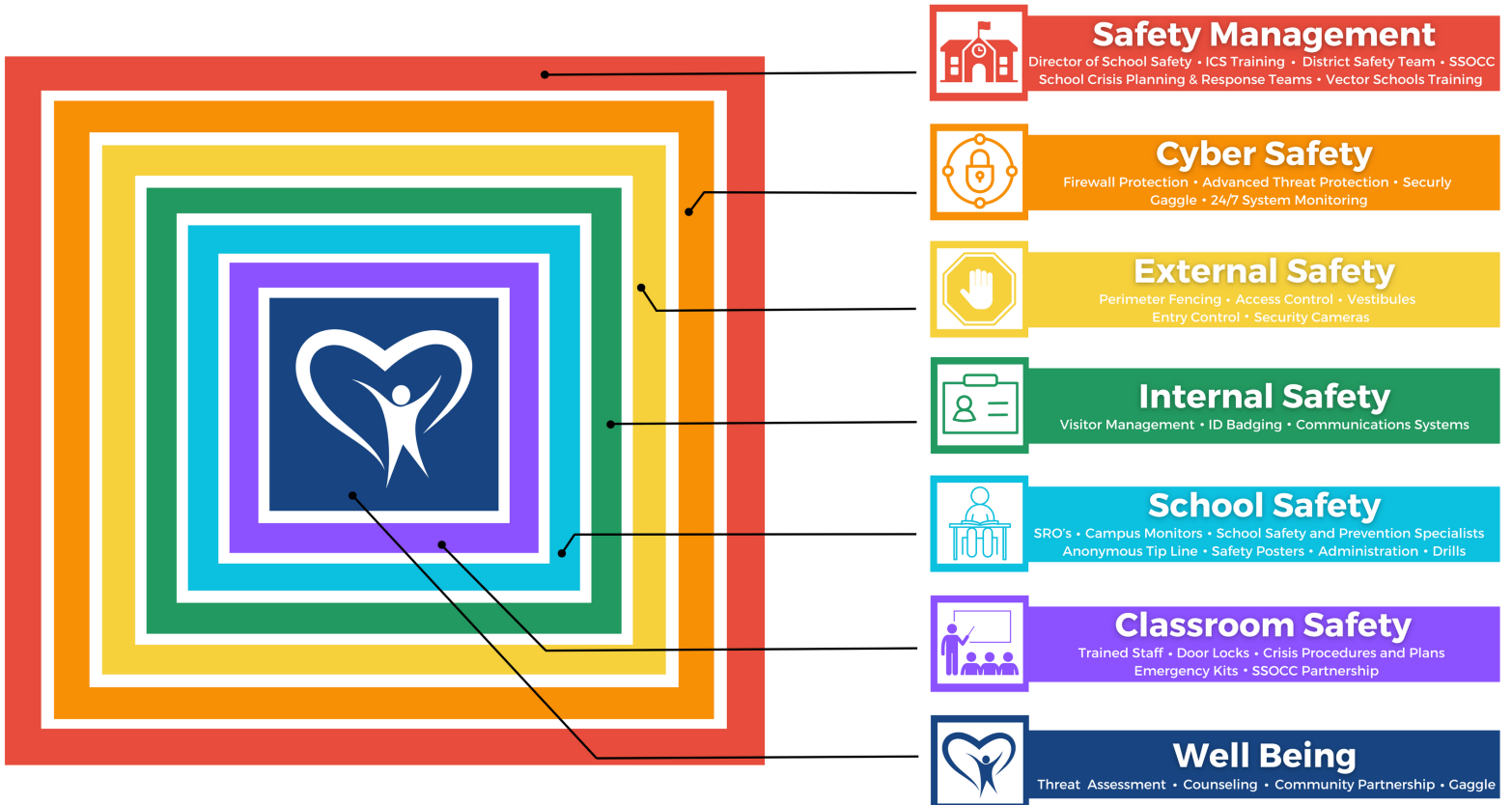
- **Well-being**
- **Classroom Safety**
- **School Safety**
- **Internal Safety**
- **External Safety**
- **Cyber Safety, and,**
- **Safety Management**

Each of these layers have multiple components and taken together are designed to help keep Selah students, staff and visitors safe.

A Closer Look at Layered School Safety

A closer look at the District's Layered School Safety approach highlights the seven specific steps in Selah's system and what each layer entails. Our hope is that by better understanding what resources are available, our staff, students and visitors will better be able to use or access these resources when needed.

Safety Management
Director of School Safety • ICS Training • District Safety Team • SSOCC
School Crisis Planning & Response Teams • Vector Schools Training

Cyber Safety
Firewall Protection • Advanced Threat Protection • Securly
Gaggle • 24/7 System Monitoring

External Safety
Perimeter Fencing • Access Control • Vestibules
Entry Control • Security Cameras

Internal Safety
Visitor Management • ID Badging • Communications Systems

School Safety
SRO's • Campus Monitors • School Safety and Prevention Specialists
Anonymous Tip Line • Safety Posters • Administration • Drills

Classroom Safety
Trained Staff • Door Locks • Crisis Procedures and Plans
Emergency Kits • SSOCC Partnership

Well Being
Threat Assessment • Counseling • Community Partnership • Gaggle

A Closer Look at Selah's Safety LAYERS

WELL-BEING

- **In-School Counseling/Mental Health Supports and Community Partnerships**

Counselors can help identify students at risk. They provide help to those who might be on their way toward causing harm to themselves or others. The District has full-time counselors, psychologists, social workers, behavioral specialists and social emotional staff, who work with students who need help. Also, there are social emotional resources students and families can access on our District and school websites.

- **Threat Assessment Protocols**

Following the Salem-Keizer Cascade Threat Assessment Model, the Selah School District uses a multi-discipline team-based, two-tiered threat assessment process that is distinct from student discipline procedures. This team, which includes counselors and administrators at each building who are Stage 1, 2, and/or 3 threat assessment trained, identify and assess the behavior of a student that is threatening, or potentially threatening to their self, other students, staff, school visitors, or school property. The team gathers and analyzes information about the student's behavior to determine a level of concern for the threat. The purpose of obtaining the information is to evaluate situational variables, rather than the student's demographic or personal characteristics. The team determines the nature, duration and level of severity of the risk and whether reasonable modifications of policies, practices or procedures will mitigate the risk based on an individualized assessment, reasonable judgment and best available objective evidence. Depending on the level of concern determined, the threat assessment team then develops and implements intervention strategies to manage the student's behavior in ways that promote safe and supportive teaching and learning environments.

CLASSROOM SAFETY

- **Door Locks**

For safety purposes, the District utilizes interior classroom door locks. This tool allows staff to quickly lock and shield their classrooms and offices in the event of a lockdown. Also, the District enjoys a partnership with the ESD 105 SSOCC which helps coordinate safety plans and provides another level of security assistance.

- **Emergency Kits**

Each of our classrooms is equipped with emergency supply kits. These kits can be in a backpack, bucket or another lightweight container so they can be accessed quickly and easily. These kits contain basic supplies such as first aid supplies, a flashlight, gloves, safety equipment, etc.

- **Trained Staff**

District staff are trained in a variety of ways and methods to keep students safe. Conducting safety drills are an important part of training. These monthly drills provide time to pause and focus on safety measures and procedures. Additionally, schools have staff meetings and organized safety committees. Also, the District utilizes an internal online training system, Vector Safe Schools Systems, which brings safety instruction directly to staff.

SCHOOL SAFETY

• Administration

Our Director of Transportation and Safety as well as school safety leads meet monthly with the SSOCC to discuss various safety practices. Also, building principals and assistant principals coordinate these layers at the school level to ensure classrooms have the supplies they need, staff and students have the training they need, systems to prevent incidents are in place and that tools for coordinating emergency responses are ready.

Campus Engagement Specialists and Campus Security Monitors

Campus Engagement Specialists and Campus Security Monitors are an integral part of our overall school safety at Selah's secondary schools. Both Selah Middle School and Selah High School have multiple staff serving in these positions. These positions have an opportunity to preventatively impact the outcomes of issues through their interactions and relationships with students, visitors, and parents. School campus engagement specialists and campus security monitors bring a passion for helping students in many ways, which impact students beyond the school day. They interact with students on campus to build a positive and engaging school climate where students feel comfortable coming forward to adults when situations arise.

• School Resource Officers

In cooperation with the Selah Police Department, the role of the School Resource Officer (SRO) on our campuses involves four parts: law enforcement, fostering a positive school climate, crime prevention and education. The focus of any SRO working in a District is to keep students out of the criminal justice system. The SRO also participates in school and community activities as requested. SROs support a positive school climate by developing relationships with students, parents, staff, and school visitors, by helping to promote a safe, inclusive and positive learning environment. The SRO is a valuable educational team member of the District and school-based threat assessment teams, which are preventative in purpose.

• Safety Drills

Regular safety practice for staff and students helps ensure that best practices are followed automatically in an actual emergency. Washington State law requires one safety drill per month, including one for the months when summer school is in session. Drills teach students these responses: **lockdown**, **secure-and-teach**, **shelter-in-place** and **evacuation**. Each
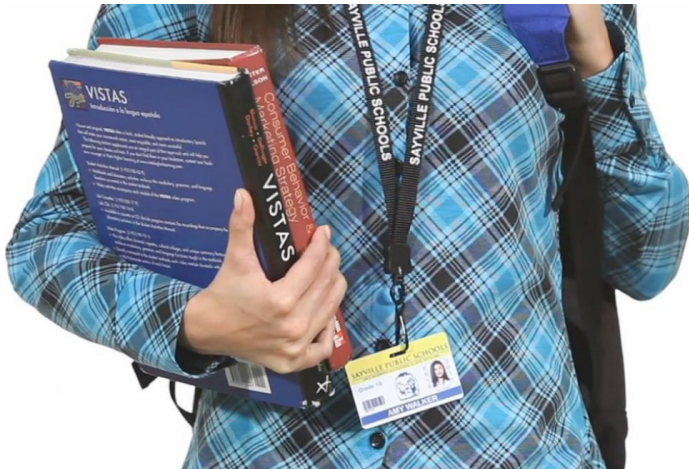
Selah School District campus has an annual drill schedule, which specifically outlines the drill to be completed each month. Also, the drills may incorporate an earthquake drill (participation in the October statewide earthquake drill *Great Washington Shakeout*, or on an alternative date), using the drop, cover and hold safety techniques.

INTERNAL SAFETY

• Visitor Management System & I.D. Badging

Selah School District officials ask all staff to wear their district-issued identification badges. Also, all visitors are required to sign-in at the main office, and district and school volunteers must be cleared through our volunteer application system. These measures help ensure that every adult on Selah campuses is an individual that is approved to be in the buildings.

• Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

The District utilizes a Comprehensive emergency Management Plan (CEMP) which is a documented strategy with elements that address all natural and man-made emergencies and disasters to which an entity is vulnerable. A CEMP has five components:

① **Prevention** — Measures taken to eliminate potential hazards and risks.

② **Protection** — Written plans and changes to the physical environment that reduces the exposure to hazards or risks.

③ **Mitigation** — Actions taken to reduce the expected loss due to hazards or risks.

④ **Response** — Functional measures in place to ensure proper actions are taken during an emergency.

⑤ **Recovery** — Processes and resources that enable the return to normal activity.

• Communication Systems

The Selah School District has a variety of communication systems that can be used in an emergency. A Motorola radio system as well as two-way radios, connect all schools, maintenance department, and the District Office. The radio system is not connected to the internet or network and can be used when these systems are ineffective. The District also maintains a partnership with the SSOCC, which is a web-based ESD 105 system that houses each school's emergency response plans and protocols. Authorized district staff can access this site, as well as first responders. Also, in the situation of a school emergency, including lock-down, secure-and-teach, shelter-in-place and evacuation, the District will communicate with parents and guardians after ensuring students and staff are safe and after accumulating accurate information to share. The District will communicate through its ParentSquare platform. Parents and guardians will want to make sure current email addresses and phone numbers are entered in their Skyward account and that ParentSquare has been activated. Reference our Family Communication Protocol on the District website.

• Security Audits

Each of our five campuses is required to perform a safety/security audit of their building each year. These audits are in place to ensure that safety measures and procedures are in place in order to protect students, staff, and visitors. These audits are compiled centrally with ESD 105/SSOCC and the Selah School District Director of Safety and Transportation. If you have questions regarding our security audits, please don't hesitate to contact us.

EXTERNAL SAFETY

- **Entry and Access Control**

The Selah School District has installed control systems which include hardware and software to manage access to exterior and some interior doors on our campuses. Also, entry control system cameras and audio systems require visitors and guests to request access through an external call station before entering the school. Other safety controls utilized include a Knox Box, panic button and vestibule entry passage ways.

- **Security Cameras**

Our district supports the use of security camera systems across buildings in order to maintain school safety and security for students and staff, while still providing parents and visitors access to buildings. Our District goal is to promote and foster safe and secure schools and diminish the potential for personal and district loss or destruction of property.

- **Fencing and Gates**

Fencing and gate design is generally to provide separation of students and the public. In most cases, this is a 4-to-6 foot-tall fence around the playground areas or parking lots to encourage safe pedestrian flow.

CYBER SECURITY

- **IT System Monitoring**

The District monitors systems such as log-ins and email for suspicious activity so to take appropriate action against threats. Automated tools run around-the-clock to detect digital threats, and the District monitors core network infrastructure to ensure school networks are ready for students and staff.

- **Advanced Threat Protection**

Microsoft Advance Threat Protection (ATP) is one of the technologies used to provide in-depth defense for our technology assets and to provide a safe computing environment for students and staff. ATP monitors for events such as improper or suspicious account log-ins and looks for malware activity.

- **Firewall Protection**

The District deploys firewall protection to inspect network traffic and secure its technology assets from intrusion. Client computers use OS-level firewalls to reduce the attack surface for network-based threats.

SAFETY MANAGEMENT

- **District Safety Team and Safety Advisory Committee**

The District maintains teams to provide district-wide guidance with our community partners, including the Selah Police Department, Selah Fire Department, Washington State Department of Transportation, and Yakima County Sheriff's Office. A partnership in safety, security and emergency preparedness sets overall direction of district-wide safety and security measures. These teams meet at least twice annually.

- **Safety Director**

The District has a department dedicated to the oversight of programs and services that support the safety and security of students and staff. This team focuses on emergency preparedness and response, safety and supervision, threat assessment, risk assessment, and claims and insurance management, while also helping coordinate preparedness and response efforts with local health and safety agencies.

Learn More About Selah School District Safety at https://www.selahschools.org/domain/756

Family Communication Protocol:

For Lockdowns, Police Activity, Potential Threats to Student Safety, and Bus Accidents

During an emergency, the District's first priority is to protect students and staff. When we share information, the goal is to ensure it is timely and accurate. During some incidents, the District cannot share information from law enforcement. The District communicates what it can and when it is appropriate to do so, and in emergency situations the time and method of communication varies. We thank you for your safety support. The chart below is for communication protocols. This is a guide as some emergency situations may require alternative actions.

EMERGENCY SITUATION	PARENT SQUARE	PARENT PHONE CALL	PRINTED LETTER	SCHOOL WEBSITE
Police Activity on Campus or Near School; No Transportation Impact • Secure & Teach/Lockdown • No Impact to transportation or arrival/dismissal times *Time of Communication:* As soon as possible after secure & teach/lockdown is initiated. **Threat Cleared and Lockdown Lifted** *Time of Communication:* As soon as possible after threat has been cleared and secure & teach/lockdown is lifted.	✔			
Police Activity on Campus or Near School; Transportation Impacted • Secure & Teach/Lockdown • Suspect still at large • Change in transportation or arrival/dismissal times. *Time of Communication:* As soon as possible after secure & teach/lockdown is initiated.	✔			✔
Threat: Bomb, Weapon, etc.; No Transportation Impact • No Secure & Teach/Lockdown/Evacuation • No impact to transportation or arrival/dismissal times. *Time of Communication:* After threat/situation is stabilized.	✔			
Threat: Bomb, Weapon, etc.; No Transportation Impact • Secure & Teach/Lockdown/Evacuation • No impact to transportation or arrival/dismissal times. **Time of Communication:** As soon as possible after secure & teach/lockdown/evacuation initiated. **Threat Cleared and Lockdown Lifted** *Time of Communication:* As soon as possible after threat has been cleared and secure & teach/lockdown/evacuation is lifted.	✔			
Threat: Bomb, Weapon, etc.; Transportation Impact • Secure & Teach/Lockdown/Evacuation • Change in transportation or arrival/dismissal times. *Time of Communication:* As soon as possible after threat has been cleared and secure & teach/lockdown/evacuation is initiated.	✔			✔

SELAH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Cultivating Life-Long Learners

Family Communication Protocol:

For Lockdowns, Police Activity, Potential Threats to Student Safety, and Bus Accidents

EMERGENCY SITUATION	PARENT SQUARE	PARENT PHONE CALL	PRINTED LETTER	SCHOOL WEBSITE
Weapon at School; No Threat • No Secure & Teach/Lockdown/Evacuation *Time of Communication:* After the situation is stabilized.	✔			
Bus Accident; No Impact to Transportation • No impact to transportation times. **Time of Communication:** As soon as possible.	✔	✔		
Bus Accident; Transportation Impacted • Change in time students arrive to school/home *Time of Communication:* As soon as possible.	✔	✔		

PUTTING SAFETY FIRST!
Remember these Important Safety Resources

See Something, Say Something!
Use the STOPit App!
Report to Crime Stoppers!

As we work to ensure student and staff safety in Selah Schools, here is a reminder of important reporting resources if students or adults suspect a dangerous and n unsafe incident could transpire.

SEE SOMETHING?
SAY SOMETHING!
Tell an adult.
Email the principal.
It only takes one person.

STOPit
Anonymous Incident Reporting

CRIME STOPPERS
YAKIMA COUNTY

🌐 **Learn More About Selah School District Safety at**
https://www.selahschools.org/domain/756