



UPDATE ON DISTRICT SAFETY INITIATIVES

Spring 2022

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Lt Jon Klein, Amherst Police

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Safety is our Priority!

Sweet Home is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and staff.

Please remember that situational awareness, knowledge of environment, & concern for those around you can help to ensure that our District remains a safe and orderly place of learning.

Safety Highlights

2018-19:

Vulnerability
Assessments with
Don Shomette,
National Safety
Expert

Focus:

- Arrival and Dismissal/ Visitor Protocol
- Cafeteria and high traffic areas
- Staff Engagement
- Understanding of Safety Roles
- Lockdown and Evacuation Drills
- Building design
- Hardening Facilities

Key Safety Concepts

- Increase **ENGAGEMENT** (improve culture & climate; also increases awareness of surroundings)
- **Surveillance & Supervision** (ability to “see” situations)
- **Interior Access Control** (ability to delay or deny access)
- **Territorial Ownership** (reinforces message of control)
- **FILTERS & LAYERS:** adult supervision, creating space & distance (interior access), hardening target (improved door hardware, reinforced glass, cameras), procedures (visitor systems, ID badges, subs, systems access, mass notification), environmental design (parking lot flow, etc.)

Outcomes of Vulnerability Assessments

Interior Access Control:

- Raptor (Electronic Visitor Mngmt System)
- Reinforcing Single Point of Entry
- Buildings in Lockout Mode
- Review of Building Access

Increase Surveillance & Supervision:

- Armed & Unarmed Security- HS
- Increased Hall Monitors - HS & MS
- Increased Program Aides - All
- Improved Camera System (ongoing)- All
- PA System review

Territorial Ownership:

- Staff visible and engaging
- All Staff & approved 3rd parties wear and display ID badges
- Thank You, B & G! Our buildings are well maintained

Filters & Layers:

- Mass Notification System
- Training on Improving Lockdowns
- Arrival & Dismissal (e.g. MS traffic flow)
- Capital Project Recommendations

All Staff Members
Have Role in Safety

Own Our Roles- It
takes ALL of US...

- **Increase Engagement:**

by improving culture &
climate we increase
awareness of
surroundings

- **Situational Awareness**

Be part of the solution!

Emergency Awareness/ Preparedness

- Electronic Access of All Plans
- Revised District & Building Safety Plans per Incident Command Structure (ICS)
- Developed Executive Summaries (Quick View) for all Buildings
- Standardized Resources (safety materials, sub packets, etc.)
 - Emergency Procedures - Placards in all rooms
- Training & Table Top Drills w Admin Team & Bldg Safety Teams

And Then Covid...

Priority Shift...

- Drill Modifications
- Social Distancing
- Focus on PPE
- Etc., etc.,

Responding to SEL & Mental Health Issues

- Increased PPS Staff
 - Added: Crisis Counselors (2), Social Workers (3)
 - Increased: School Psychologists (2)
- Ongoing Mental Health Awareness/Training for all Staff
 - Increased offerings & opportunities (FSC & PD)
- On the Horizon:
 - New Northwest Amherst Community Center
 - DEI Committee- NYSED Framework re: Student Wellness

Capital Project 2022-23

- New PA System (2022: MS, HS, WR, HH; 2023: MM, GL)
- Mass Notification System (2022: Ready, WR, HH; 2023: MM, GL, MS)
- Reinforced Glass at all main entrances- 2022
- Capital Outlay: Door Hardware (HS PE wing)

Assess & Progress Threat Assessment Training - Jan 2022

With Don Shomette,
National Safety Expert

Goal: District Safety Committee

All Cabinet Members (Admin & Supervisors), Counselors, Social Workers, School Psychologists,

Amherst PD (Capt Mann & SRO Awald)

Focus:

- Threat vs No Threat
- Path to Violence
- Low, Medium, High Threat
- No Threat but in Need of
____other Services

Threat Assessment Teams

Responding to Threats

Core Team Members:

- DO/ICS: Ginestre, Balazs, Feldmann
- Building Administrators
- Building Counselors/social workers
- School Resource Officer

Additional (per Circumstances):

- Nurse
 - Teachers
 - Other
-

Safe & Loved
Safety Training -
March, 18 2022

With Don Shomette,
National Safety Expert

Goal: District Safety
Committee

All MS & HS Staff

Focus:

- Blends Violence
Prevention technique
with Student
Engagement techniques
 - Critical Safety Response
techniques
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Next Steps

District Safety Committee

Annual Review of:

- Code of Conduct
- District Safety Plan
- Annual Public Hearing

Questions? Your Input Matters...

- As staff members, you have tremendous insight; do not hesitate to share safety ideas and/or concerns
- Recognize that YOU are part of the solution
- Please email or call JoAnn Balazs or SRO Dave Awald