



Owen J. Roberts School District

Administration Building
901 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465-8402
Telephone: 610-469-5100
Fax: 610-469-0403

"Inspiring Each Student for Success Today and Greatness Tomorrow"

Owen J. Roberts Safety and Security

The Owen J. Roberts School District has actively embraced its responsibility to both school and community by instituting a variety of proactive security measures over the years. These initiatives have been designed to provide a safe and secure environment wherein students and staff can effectively pursue the educational goals of the district. In 2007, the district made a commitment to security by hiring a Chief of Security and Safety. Owen J. Roberts School District has built a very extensive and detailed safety and security plan which involved input from local police, fire, and emergency responders and is scrutinized and practiced on an ongoing basis.

Demographically, the Owen J. Roberts School District, comprised of seven townships covering 110 square miles, is located in Northern Chester County, Pennsylvania. The district provides a comprehensive educational system from K-12, including regular instruction, special instruction, vocational education and necessary support services for the approximately 5,500 students who live within the boundaries of the seven townships of the community. To accomplish this goal, the District operates seven (7) schools comprised of one (1) high school, one (1) middle school, and five (5) elementary schools.

Under the direction of the Chief of Security and Safety in 2007, two divisions were formed within the school district, the existing school security department and the Owen J. Roberts School District Police Department. These entities allow overall security to improve as each branch of security focuses on specific needs of the school district. Security officers guarantee day-to-day school security maintenance such as traffic control, parking enforcement and building safety. Although both branches assist each other, the establishment of a school district police force adds another dimension to continued security in the district. School police officers work with staff and administration, providing not only enforcement and investigation, but also counseling and other humanistic resources aimed at preventing security problems and promoting individual well-being. Presently, three armed officers circulate among schools and extracurricular activities.

Ongoing security improvement includes the bolstering of efficient and effective communications and security systems including security cameras and a robust access control system. We continually monitor and review emergency procedure plans and conduct regular staff trainings with regard to emergency procedures. We utilize a district-wide radio system along with radio connection to emergency service providers and municipal police. Our automated family access communication software can notify families via text, email, and telephone sending thousands of messages in an instant.

Our students at each school regularly practice lockdown, intruder, fire, and weather emergency drills and have been doing so since 2000. The movement to the Run, Hide, and Fight active shooter protocol allows students to get used various strategies that may happen depending on the scenario.

Owen J. Roberts is committed to protecting students and staff. The district operates with the goal to eliminate stress and fear in the educational environment and maintain and enhance a secure atmosphere conducive to happiness, learning, and productivity.