



SUFFERN
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT-WIDE SAFETY & EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT PLAN

UPDATED MAY 2025

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STATE REQUIREMENTS

Requirement	Required Action	Date	Check when Completed
The District-Wide School Safety Team was appointed by the Board of Education . ¹	Appointed by the Board of Education on:		<input type="checkbox"/>
The District Chief Emergency Officer is: ² Patrick Breen, Director of School Safety and Special projects: pbreen@sufferncentral.org	District Chief Emergency Officer Appointed on: 7/1/2023		<input type="checkbox"/>
The District-Wide School Safety Team conducted annual review and updates to the District-Wide School Safety Plan: ³	Annual Review and Updates completed on: May 2025		<input type="checkbox"/>
The District-Wide School Safety Plan was made available for public comment at least thirty days prior to its adoption by the Board of Education: ⁴ It is recommended that a DRAFT version of the plan be posted on the district website for the 30-day comment period (watermark is suggested)	Public Comment Period <u>Start Date</u>: 5/20/2025 Public Comment Period <u>End Date</u>:		<input type="checkbox"/>
At least one public hearing that provided for the participation of school personnel, parents, students, and any other interested parties, was held prior to adoption of the plan. ⁵	Date of Public Hearing/Adoption (by September 1st):		<input type="checkbox"/>
District-wide plan must be submitted to the commissioner within 30 days after its adoption, and no later than October 1st . ⁶	District plan submitted in the NYSED business portal (no later than October 1st):		<input type="checkbox"/>
The date the Board Adopted District-Wide School Safety Plan was posted on District Website : ⁷ Within 30 days from adoption and no later than October 1st.	Date Posted (no later than October 1st): [ADD URL] of District-wide School Safety Plan on District Website		<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ 155.17(b)(14) District-wide school safety team means a district-wide team appointed by the board of education, the chancellor in the case of New York City, or other governing board.

² 155.17(c)(1)(xix) the designation of the superintendent, or superintendent's designee, as the district chief emergency officer

³ 155.17(a) Each district-wide school safety plan and building-level emergency response plan shall be reviewed by the appropriate school safety team on at least an annual basis, and updated as needed.

⁴ 155.17(c)(3)(i) Each board of education, chancellor or other governing body shall make each district-wide safety plan available for public comment at least 30 days prior to its adoption.

⁵ 155.17(c)(3)(i) Such district-wide plans may be adopted by the school board only after at least one public hearing that provides for the participation of school personnel, parents, students and any other interested parties.

⁶ 155.17(c)(3)(i) Each district shall submit its district-wide safety plan and all amendments to such plan to the commissioner, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, within 30 days after its adoption. Commencing with the 2019- 2020 school year, such district-wide plans must be submitted no later than October 1, 2019, and each subsequent October 1st thereafter.

⁷ District-wide School Safety Plan Self-Assessment and Planning Tool, Within 30 days from adoption, and no later than October 1, each district must post their District-Wide Safety Plan on their district website. The URL must be submitted to the Education Department to comply with the requirement that the plan be submitted to the Commissioner within 30 days from adoption.

	URL was verified/checked to be sure the link is working		
Date training was provided to staff on Building-level Emergency Response Plans, school violence prevention and mental health by September 15th: ⁸	Date of Training:		<input type="checkbox"/>

DRAFT

⁸ 155.17(c)(1)(xiii) policies and procedures for annual multi-hazard school safety training for staff and students, provided that the district must certify to the commissioner that all staff have undergone annual training by September 15, 2016 and each subsequent September 15th thereafter on the building-level emergency response plan which must include components on violence prevention and mental health, provided further that new employees hired after the start of the school year shall receive such training within 30 days of hire or as part of the district's existing new hire training program, whichever is sooner;

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 Suffern 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.

The Superintendent, or Director of School Safety and Special Projects (see [State Requirements](#)), will serve as the District's Chief Emergency Officer (CEO)⁹ whose duties shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Coordination of the communication between school staff, law enforcement, and other first responders;¹⁰
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;¹¹
3. Ensuring staff understanding of the district-wide school safety plan;¹²
4. Ensuring the completion and yearly update of building-level emergency response plans for each school building.¹³ 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-level Emergency Response Planning Team. The plan shall provide for lockdown, secure lockout, shelter-in-place/shelter, evacuation (evacuate), 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;¹⁴
6. Coordination of appropriate safety, security, and emergency training for district and school staff, including required training in the district-wide school safety plan and building-level emergency response plan;¹⁵
7. Ensuring the conduct of required evacuation and lockdown drills in a trauma-informed, developmentally, and age-appropriate manner that does not include props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting or other act of violence or emergency in all district buildings as required by Education Law section 807;¹⁶ and
8. Ensuring the completion and yearly update of building-level emergency response plans by the dates designated by the commissioner.¹⁷

⁹ 155.17(1)(c)(xix) the designation of the superintendent, or superintendent's designee, as the district chief emergency officer whose duties shall include, but not be limited to:

¹⁰ 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(a) coordination of the communication between school staff, law enforcement, and other first responders;

¹¹ 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(b) lead 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

¹² 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(c) ensure staff understanding of the district-wide school safety plan

¹³ 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(d) ensure the completion and yearly update of building-level emergency response plans for each school building

¹⁴ 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(e) assist in the selection of security related technology and development of procedures for the use of such technology

¹⁵ 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(f) coordinate appropriate safety, security, and emergency training for district and school staff, including required training in the district-wide school safety plan and building-level emergency response [plan] plan(s);

¹⁶ 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(g) ensure the conduct of required evacuation and lock-down drills in a trauma informed, developmentally, and age-appropriate manner that does not include props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting or other act of violence or emergency in all district buildings as required by section 807 of the Education Law

¹⁷ 155.17(c)(1)(xix)(h) ensure 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-a¹⁸. 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 District¹⁹. 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.²⁰ If the Board appoints or selects a student to participate on the safety team, in accordance with Regulation 155.17(b)(14) and EL 2801-A(4), 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 Planning 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.

¹⁸ 2801-a Each district-wide school safety team shall be appointed by the board of education, or the chancellor in the case of the city school district of the city of New York, and shall include but not be limited to representatives of the school board, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel, and other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors.

¹⁹ 155.17(b)(14) District-wide school safety team means a district-wide team appointed by the Board of Education, the chancellor in the case of New York City, or other governing board. The district-wide team shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of the school board, teacher, administrator, parent organizations, school safety personnel, and other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors.

²⁰ 155.17(b)(14)/2801-A(4) At the discretion of the board of education, or the chancellor in the case of the city of New York, a student may be allowed to participate on the safety team, provided however, that 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.

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 TEAM²¹

REQUIRED MEMBERS	NAME	TITLE	OFFICE PHONE
School Board	Mr. Darrell Frasier	Board of Education	845 357-7783
	Mr. Tom Donnelly	Board of Education	845 357-7783
	Mr. Paul Shapiro	Board of Education	
Teacher	Ms. Michelle Sullivan	French teacher and World Language Department Chair.	845 357-3800
Administrator	Dr. P. Erik Gundersen	District Superintendent	845 357-7783
	Mr. Patrick Breen	Chief Emergency Officer	845 357-7783
	Mr. Larry Mautone	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources	845 357-7783
Parent Organization	Dr. Amy MacKenzie	PTA Council/PTA	845-3577783
School Safety Personnel	Mr. John Gisonno	Security (hillburn)	845 357-7783
	Mr. Mike Hennelly	Security	845 357-3800
Transportation Coordinator	Mr. Junior Berridge	Transportation	845 357-7783

²¹ 155.17(b)(14) District-wide school safety team means a district-wide team appointed by the board of education, the chancellor in the case of New York City, or other governing board. The district-wide team shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of the school board, teacher, administrator, parent organizations, school safety personnel, and other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors. At the discretion of the board of education, or the chancellor in the case of the City of New York, a student may be allowed to participate on the safety team, provided however, that 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.

Bus Driver/Monitors	Mr. James Rogan	Director of Safety & Training (Chestnut Ridge)	845-356-2200 X-215
Other School Personnel (below)			
	Mr. Eric Coronado	Technology Coordinator	845 357-7783
	Mr. Andrew Gibson	SEA representative	845 357-3988
	Mr. John Palma	Director of Facilities	845 357-7783
	Mr. Matthew Bollatto	Assistant Director of Facilities	845 357-7783
	Ms. Jenny Mirmelstein	Director of Communications	845 357-7783
	Officer Dan Lynch, S.R.O.	Ramapo Police Department	845 357-2400

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-level Emergency Response Planning 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.²²

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.²³
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 within 30 days of adoption and no later than October 1st each year.
5. The Board of Education must formally adopt the District-wide Plan pursuant to Commissioner’s Regulation, Section 155.17(c)(3).²⁴ 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 appropriate local law enforcement agency and the State Police by October 1st of each year or within 30 days of adoption.²⁵

²² 155.17(a) By September first of each school year, every board of education of a school district, every board of cooperative educational services and county vocational education and extension board, and the chancellor of the City School District of the City of New York shall adopt a comprehensive district-wide school safety plan and building-level emergency response plans regarding crisis intervention and emergency response and management, and commencing with the 2023-2024 school year district-wide school safety plans shall include plans for the provision of remote instruction during any emergency school closure, provided that in the City School District of the City of New York, such plans shall be adopted by the chancellor of the city school district.

²³ EL 2801-A(f) District-wide school safety teams shall consider, as part of its reviews of the comprehensive district-wide safety plan, the installation of a panic alarm system. For purposes of this paragraph, "panic alarm system" shall mean a silent security system signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a life-threatening or emergency situation requiring a response from local law enforcement or, in the case of a school building located in a municipality in which there is no municipal police department, a location designated by the superintendent of state police and may include one or more of the following: wired panic button or buttons, wireless panic button or buttons or a mobile or computer application; The New York State Register, December 2022, <https://dos.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/12/122822.pdf> (page 12)

²⁴ 155.17(c)(3)(i) Each board of education, chancellor or other governing body shall make each district-wide safety plan available for public comment at least 30 days prior to its adoption. Such district-wide plans may be adopted by the school board only after at least one public hearing that provides for the participation of school personnel, parents, students and any other interested parties. Each district shall submit its district-wide safety plan and all amendments to such plan to the commissioner, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, within 30 days after its adoption. Commencing with the 2019-2020 school year, such district-wide plans must be submitted no later than October 1, 2019, and each subsequent October 1st thereafter.

²⁵ 155.17 (c)(3)(ii) Each board of education, chancellor or other governing body or officer shall ensure that each building-level emergency response plan and any amendments thereto, is submitted to the appropriate local law enforcement agency and the State Police within 30 days of its adoption, but no later than October 1 for the 2020-2021 school year and each October 1st thereafter. Building-level emergency response plans shall be confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure under Article Six of the Public Officers Law or any other provision of law.

SECTION II RISK REDUCTION/PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION STRATEGIES²⁶

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

1. The District utilizes trained multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Teams (a.k.a. Behavioral Assessment Teams) at each building to evaluate threats and implement the appropriate mitigation strategies. The District provides support and record keeping for the activities of each team.
2. The District has established a district-level multidisciplinary Behavioral Assessment Team which assesses whether certain exhibited behaviors or actions need intervention or other support. The Behavioral Assessment Team convenes annually to conduct staff training sessions on the safety and emergency procedures of such team²⁷
3. The District utilizes a multidisciplinary Behavioral Threat Assessment Team that assesses whether certain exhibited behaviors or actions need intervention or other support. The Behavioral Threat Assessment Team is available to the district whenever a threat is identified and requires evaluation.
4. The District Safety Team may utilize table top exercises to discuss their roles during an emergency and their responses to a sample emergency situation.²⁸
5. 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

²⁶ 155.17(c)(1)(iii) appropriate prevention and intervention strategies, such as:(a) collaborative arrangements with State and local law enforcement officials, designed to ensure that school safety officers and other security personnel are adequately trained, including being trained to de-escalate potentially violent situations, and are effectively and fairly recruited;(b) where applicable, the establishment and/or participation of, school or district staff in a multi-disciplinary behavioral assessment team to assess whether certain exhibited behaviors or actions need intervention or other support, including a school or district-level behavioral assessment team or, if available, a county or regional threat assessment team. Where such teams are utilized, the district-wide school safety plan shall describe the school, district, or county team and its purpose, and annual staff training on safety and emergency procedures shall include information regarding the purpose and procedures of such team. (c) nonviolent conflict resolution training programs; (d) peer mediation programs and youth courts; and (e) extended day and other school safety programs.

²⁷155.17(c)(1)(iii)(b) where applicable, the establishment and/or participation of, school or district staff in a multi-disciplinary behavioral assessment team to assess whether certain exhibited behaviors or actions need intervention or other support, including a school or district-level behavioral assessment team or, if available, a county or regional threat assessment team. Where such teams are utilized, the district-wide school safety plan shall describe the school, district, or county team and its purpose, and annual staff training on safety and emergency procedures shall include information regarding the purpose and procedures of such team.

²⁸155.15(c)(1)(xiv)(3) Tabletop exercises may be utilized by school and district safety teams as a training resource and may include a discussion-based activity for staff in an informal classroom or meeting-type setting to discuss their roles during an emergency and their responses to a sample emergency situation.

- District Consultants
6. Training for school staff working in an incident control capacity may include:
 - Individual and group de-escalation techniques
 - Non-violent conflict resolution skills and
 - Peer mediation
 7. 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.
 8. Training may be available during staff development sessions, on conference days and via on-demand web-based training modules.
 9. Procedures relating to building security including utilization of staff and security equipment are as follows:²⁹
 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 Regulation³⁰.
 7. Extended day and other school safety programs - The district school buildings and facilities provide a valuable resource to our students and community after

²⁹ 155.17(c)(1)(xi)(a) policies and procedures relating to school building security, including, where appropriate: (a) the use of school safety or security officers and/or school resource officers. Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, and every school year thereafter, every school shall define the areas of responsibility of school personnel, security personnel and law enforcement in response to student misconduct that violates the code of conduct.

³⁰ 155.17(c)(1)(xi)(a)/2801-a A school district or charter school that employs, contracts with, or otherwise retains law enforcement or public or private security personnel, including school resource officers, shall establish a written contract or memorandum of understanding that is developed with stakeholder input, including, but not limited to, parents, students, school administrators, teachers, collective bargaining units, parent and student organizations and community members, as well as probation officers, prosecutors, defense counsels and courts that are familiar with school discipline. Such a written contract or memorandum of understanding shall define the relationship between a school district or charter school, school personnel, students, visitors, law enforcement, and public or private security personnel. Such contract or memorandum of understanding shall be consistent with the code of conduct, define law enforcement or security personnel's roles, responsibilities and involvement within a school and clearly delegate the role of school discipline to the school administration. Such written contract or memorandum of understanding shall be incorporated into and published as part of the district safety plan.

the conclusion of the school day. The following are strategies 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 aimed at improving communication among students, between students and staff, and between administration and parents or persons in parental relation.³¹ These programs may include the establishment of youth-run programs, peer leaders and mentors for students, 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.³²

Each building has established a mechanism for the anonymous reporting of school violence and harassment and has communicated this to students and parents.³³

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.

³¹155.17(c)(1)(xvi) strategies for improving communication among students, between students and staff and between administration and parents or persons in parental relation regarding reporting of potentially violent incidents, such as the establishment of youth-run programs, peer mediation, conflict resolution, creating a forum or designating a mentor for students concerned with bullying or violence and establishing anonymous reporting mechanisms for school violence;

³² 155.17(g) Instruction. Each public school superintendent and each chief school administrator of an educational agency other than a public school shall take action to provide written information, by October 1st of each school year, to all students and staff about emergency procedures.

³³ 155.17(c)(1)(xvi) strategies for improving communication among students, between students and staff and between administration and parents or persons in parental relation regarding reporting of potentially violent incidents, such as the establishment of youth-run programs, peer mediation, conflict resolution, creating a forum or designating a mentor for students concerned with bullying or violence and establishing anonymous reporting mechanisms for school violence;

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:³⁴

General Guidelines for Drills

Trauma-Informed Approach: All drills conducted during the school day with students present will be conducted in a trauma-informed, developmentally, and age-appropriate manner. Props, actors, simulations, or tactics mimicking a school shooting, incident of violence, or other emergencies are

³⁴155.17(c)(1)(xiv) procedures for review and the conduct of drills, tabletop exercises, and information about emergency procedures and drills, including information about procedures and timeframes for notification of parents or persons in parental relation regarding drills and other emergency response training(s) that include students. At their discretion, schools and districts may participate in full-scale exercises in coordination with local and county emergency responders and preparedness officials.

strictly prohibited.³⁵ (Effective 7/31/24) The New York State Fire Code requires that the fire alarm be used in an evacuation (evacuate) drill, and it is not considered a prop.

Annual Training: Drills will be conducted only after annual training in emergency procedures has been provided to students and staff.

Varied Scheduling: Drills will be scheduled on different dates, days of the week, and during different times of the school day.³⁶

Exclusions for Unplanned Events: Unplanned evacuations or false alarms do not count as a required drill. Evacuations made necessary by the unplanned activation of the fire alarm system or by any other emergency shall not be substituted for a required evacuation (evacuate) drill.³⁷

Student/Staff Notification: At the time that drills are conducted, students and staff shall be informed that the activities being conducted are a drill. Provided, however, that students and staff shall not be informed in advance of evacuation (evacuate) drills. (Effective 7/31/24)³⁸

Parental Notification: Parents or persons in parental relation will be given advance notice of each drill being conducted within one week prior to the drill.³⁹ (Effective 7/31/24) Procedures for notifying parents or persons in parental relation will include:

1. **Official Letter or Email**

- Timing: **Within one week** before the drill.
- Include the following information:
 - General time frame of the drill
 - (e.g., Sometime the week of [month/date], [school name] will have a [drill type] drill
 - Type of drill (e.g., fire drill, lockdown drill)
 - Purpose of the drill
 - Importance of the drill for student safety
 - Contact information for questions or concerns

2. **Automated Phone Calls and Text Messages**

- Timing: **Within one week** before the drill.
- Use the school's automated messaging system to send a notification.
- Include the following information:
 - General time frame of the drill
 - a. (e.g., Sometime the week of [month/date], [school name] will have a [drill type] drill

³⁵ 155.17(c)(1)(xiv)(1) Drills conducted during the school day with students present shall be conducted in a trauma-informed, developmentally, and age-appropriate manner and shall not include props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting or other act of violence or emergency.

³⁶ 155.17 (c)(2)(vii)(c) be completed on different dates, days of the week, and during different times of the school day; and

³⁷ 401.7 [New York State Fire code](#) (pg 59)

³⁸ 155.1(c)(1)(xiv)(2) At the time that drills are conducted, students and staff shall be informed that the activities being conducted are a drill. Provided, however, that students and staff shall not be informed in advance of evacuation drills.

³⁹ 155.17(c)(2)(vii)(d) parents or persons in parental relations shall be given advance notice of each drill being conducted within one week preceding any such drill.

- Type of drill (e.g., fire drill, lockdown drill)
- Purpose of the drill
- Importance of the drill for student safety
- Contact information for questions or concerns

3. Printed Notices

- Timing: **Within one week** before the drill.
- General time frame of the drill
 - (e.g., Sometime the week of [month/date], [school name] will have a [drill type] drill
- Send printed notices home with students.
- Include the following information:
 - General timeframe of the drill
 - Type of drill (e.g., fire drill, lockdown drill)
 - Purpose of the drill
 - Importance of the drill for student safety
 - Contact information for questions or concerns

4. Post-Drill Follow-Up

- Timing: Immediately after the drill.
- Send a follow-up letter or email to parents/guardians summarizing the drill, what went well, and any areas for improvement.
- Reassure parents that the drill was conducted safely and effectively.

Required Drills

Evacuation (Evacuate) Drills: Eight (8) evacuation (evacuate) drills will be conducted each year, with six (6) completed between September 1 and December 31. Four (4) of these drills must involve the use of fire escapes on buildings where fire escapes are provided or other secondary means of egress such as different corridors, hallways, stairways, and exit doors.⁴⁰⁴¹ Students will be instructed in the procedure to be followed in the event that a fire occurs during the lunch period or assembly. This instruction may be waived if a drill is held during the regular school lunch period or assembly⁴²

Lockdown Drills: Four (4) lockdown drills will be conducted annually, with two (2) completed between September 1 and December 31.

Emergency Dismissal Drill: One (1) emergency dismissal drill will be conducted to test early dismissal procedures, occurring 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 an evaluation of this drill. This drill also allows the District to test the usefulness of the communications and transportation system during emergencies.⁴³

⁴⁰ 155.17(h)(i) Four drills shall be through the use of the fire escapes on buildings where fire escapes are provided or through the use of identified secondary means of egress, such as through different corridors, hallways, stairways, and exit doors. Drills shall be conducted at different times of the school day

⁴¹EL §807.1 four of the required drills must be through use of the fire escapes on buildings where fire escapes are provided or through the use of identified secondary means of egress

⁴²155.17(h)(ii) Pupils shall be instructed in the procedure to be followed if an emergency occurs during a lunch period or assembly, provided however, that such additional instruction may be waived where a drill is held during the regular school lunch period or assembly.

⁴³ 155.17(h)(3) Emergency Dismissal drills shall test the usefulness of the communications and transportation system during emergencies.

Additional Evacuation (Evacuate) Drill Requirements

Summer School: At least two (2) additional drills are required in buildings used for summer school, with one (1) drill held during the first week.

After-School Programs, Events, and Performances: For after-school programs, events or performances conducted within a school building that include persons who do not regularly attend classes in the building, the principal or other person in charge of the building must require the teacher or person in charge of the after-school program, event or performance notify attendees of the procedures to be followed in an emergency.⁴⁴

Optional Drills

Shelter-in-Place/Shelter and/or Secure Lockout Drills: While not required, each school in the District may conduct Shelter-in-Place/Shelter and/or Secure 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.

Full Scale Exercises: The district may opt to conduct functional exercises with emergency response agencies to involve staff, students and parents in realistic drills. Exercises that include props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting or other act of violence or emergency may not be conducted on a regular school day and when school activities such as athletics are occurring on school grounds. Such exercises may not include students without written consent from parents or persons in parental relation.⁴⁵

The district does not plan to conduct functional exercises with emergency response agencies that involve staff, students, and parents in drills using props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting or other act of violence or emergency. If this policy were to change in the future, any such exercises would not be conducted on a regular school day or when school activities such as athletics are occurring on school grounds. Additionally, no students would participate in these exercises without written consent from parents or persons in parental relation.

Training and Review Processes

Training for Students: Prior to the first annual drill, staff shall review emergency response procedures and drill requirements with students during class time, providing an opportunity for students to ask questions about any unclear procedures.

⁴⁴ 807.1-a for after-school programs, events or performances conducted within a school building and include persons who do not regularly attend classes in the building, the principal or other person in charge of the building must require the teacher or person in charge of the after-school program, event or performance notify attendees of the procedures to be followed in an emergency.

⁴⁵ 155.17(c)(1)(xiv)(4) Schools and districts that opt to participate in full-scale exercises in conjunction with local and county emergency responders and preparedness officials that include props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting or other act of violence or emergency shall not conduct such exercises on a regular school day or when school activities such as athletics are occurring on school grounds. Such exercises may not include students without written consent from parents or persons in parental relation.

Building-level Emergency Response Planning Team and District Administration Team Training: Each Building-level Emergency Response Planning 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.⁴⁶

Drill Review and Protocol Updates: In addition to post-drill debriefings conducted by each building-level emergency response planning 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.⁴⁷

Local Emergency Responder Involvement: The appropriate Fire and Police Departments may, upon mutual agreement with the District, participate in some or all evacuation (evacuate) and lockdown drills, offering feedback on the effectiveness of building evacuation during a fire and the overall effectiveness of lockdown procedures.

Special Provisions

Building Occupants with Special Needs: Prior to the commencement of each school year, the Building-Level Emergency Response Planning 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.

Communication

Staff Information: Information about drills will be included in the teacher’s manual or handbook as mandated by Education Law §807.2.

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 15th 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.⁴⁸

⁴⁶ 155.17(c)(1)(xiv)(3) Tabletop exercises may be utilized by school and district safety teams as a training resource and may include a discussion-based activity for staff in an informal classroom or meeting-type setting to discuss their roles during an emergency and their responses to a sample emergency situation.

⁴⁷ 155.17(h)(3) Emergency Dismissal drills shall test the usefulness of the communications and transportation system during emergencies.

⁴⁸ 155.17(c)(1)(xiii) policies and procedures for annual multi-hazard school safety training for staff and students, provided that the district must certify to the commissioner that all staff have undergone annual training by September 15, 2016 and each subsequent September 15th thereafter on the building-level emergency response plan which must include components on violence prevention and mental health, provided further that new employees hired after the start of the school year shall receive such training within 30 days of hire or as part of the district’s existing new hire training program, whichever is sooner;

The District will provide advanced training for each Building-level Emergency Response Planning Team and District-wide Safety Team annually. Effective July 1, 2025, the training will include a description of the roles and responsibilities of the Building-level Emergency Response Planning Team, the building-level Incident Command System including the roles and responsibilities of designated staff, and the building level-emergency response plan procedures for implementing the following required emergency response terms: shelter, hold, evacuate, secure lockout, and lockdown. The required training shall also include the procedures for conducting drills, including whether classrooms will be released from lockdown by law enforcement or school or district administrators during drills, and the district and building policies, procedures, and programs related to safety including those which include components on violence prevention and mental health.⁴⁹

Additional training includes but is not limited to:

- De-escalation training
- Warning signals for violence and mental health concerns
- Non-violent conflict resolution
- Student School Emergency Response Procedures Training

PROACTIVE BUILDING SECURITY MEASURES

1. The District buildings use limited points of entry. All doors are locked. Signs are in place directing visitors to sign-in at the reception desk at each school. 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 INFORMATION⁵⁰

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

⁴⁹Please note, the terminology in this paragraph has been pulled directly from the law language, and therefore the terminology remains shelter, hold, evacuate, secure lockout, and lockdown.

⁴⁹155.17(2)(xiii) <https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/424p12d2.pdf>

⁵⁰ 155.17(2)(ix) Except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, the chief executive officer of each educational agency located within a public school district shall provide to the superintendent of schools information about school population, number of staff, transportation needs and the business and home telephone numbers of key officials of such educational agencies.

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 ⁵¹

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, bus drivers and monitors, 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.

⁵¹ 155.17(c)(1)(xii) policies and procedures for the dissemination of informative materials regarding the early detection of potentially violent behaviors, including but not limited to the identification of family, community, and environmental factors to teachers, administrators, school personnel including bus drivers and monitors, parents [and] or other persons in parental relation to students of the school district or board, students and other persons deemed appropriate to receive such information;

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>
Ramapo Police Department	845 357-2400
Village of Suffern Police Department	845-357-2300
Rockland County Sheriff’s Office	845-638-5400
New York State Police	845-344-5300

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

Identification of Potentially Dangerous or Hazardous Sites:

Building	Employees	Total Students	Transportation Requirements
Suffern HS	157	1498	42 buses
Suffern MS	114	890	31 buses
Cherry Lane ES	82	423	13 buses
RP Connor ES	68	399	12 buses
Sloatsburg ES	53	250	8 buses
Montebello ES	69	344	12 buses
Administration	38	0	2 buses

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 aqueducts, streams, ponds, rivers (flooding)
 - Steep areas near school
 - Unprotected exterior gas/electric, air conditioning supplies or equipment
 - Playground equipment s

SCHOOL SAFETY PERSONNEL ALLOCATIONS, HIRING, DUTIES, AND TRAINING⁵²

PRIVATE SECURITY

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

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.

⁵² 155.17(c)(1)(xvii) a description of the duties of hall monitors and any other school safety personnel, the training required of all personnel acting in a school security capacity, and the hiring and screening process for all personnel acting in a school security capacity;

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. Staff is trained to report to the main office any person they observe who is not wearing a badge.
- 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-Security Guard

- contracted personnel at each elementary and middle school
- most greeters are former military or law enforcement
- buildings are staffed during regular school hours
- primarily responsible for enforcement of the visitor protocols
- perform perimeter patrols
- detection of hazards
- deter and report unlawful activity
- provide escorts for parents and students when needed
- members of building-level emergency response planning teams

School Security Monitors

- most monitors are former military or law enforcement
- 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.sufferncentral.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.⁵³

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 (EVACIATE)

- 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

⁵³ 155.17(c)(1)(xviii) in the case of a school district, except in a school district in a city having more than one million inhabitants, a system for informing all educational agencies within such school district of a disaster;

- 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.

SHELTER-IN-PLACE/SHELTER 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 shelter-in-place/shelter 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 SITUATIONS⁵⁴

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

⁵⁴ 155.17(c)(1)(xv) the identification of appropriate responses to emergencies, including protocols for responding to bomb threats, hostage-takings, intrusions and kidnappings;

RESPONSES TO IMPLIED OR DIRECT THREATS OF VIOLENCE⁵⁵

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 brochure, 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 has 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 VIOLENCE⁵⁶

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.

⁵⁵ 155.17(c)(1)(i) policies and procedures for responding to implied or direct threats of violence by students, teachers, other school personnel, including bus drivers and monitors as well as visitors to the school, including threats by students against themselves, which for the purposes of this subdivision shall include suicide;

⁵⁶ 155.17(c)(1)(ii) policies and procedures for responding to acts of violence by students, teachers, other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors and visitors to the school, including consideration of zero-tolerance policies for school violence;

3. The Building-level Emergency Response Planning Team consisting of trained staff and school personnel may assist with an Evacuation (Evacuate), Secure Lockout, Shelter-in-Place/Shelter, Hold-in-Place/Hold, 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 Building-level Emergency Response Planning Team 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 or emergency closure are detailed in each building-level emergency plan. The use of the District's mass communication system is typically utilized.⁵⁷
6. Aggressively dangerous and violent students, teachers, other school personnel, bus drivers and monitors, 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 Planning Teams. These individuals and appropriate means of contact are documented in each Building-Level Emergency Response Plan.⁵⁸
10. The district has a zero-tolerance policy for acts of school violence.

⁵⁷ 155.17(1)(ix) policies and procedures for 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 or emergency school closure

⁵⁸*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 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.

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	
Information Technology	Director Technicians	This group is needed to maintain the internet capability including remote learning and working from home.
Custodial and Maintenance	Director Asst. Director Senior Custodians Custodians Maintenance Mechanics Grounds	This group is needed to maintain the cleanliness and continued functioning of the building & grounds.
Administration	Superintendent & Asst. Superintendents	Required to ensure continuity of the response efforts.
Building Administration & Clerical Support	Building Administrators & Clerical Support *	Required to ensure continuity of the response efforts.

Faculty and Staff	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.
Security	Security Coordinator & Security Assistants	To ensure the safety/security of the campuses.
Transportation	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
Food Service	Food Service Director & Food Service Workers	To prepare and distribute meals to students.
Health Services	Director of Health Services and staff as deemed necessary	To assist with testing requirements, reporting and contract tracing.
Business Operations	Accounting, Payroll, Accounts Payroll, Purchasing	Where necessary to ensure the continued operation of the District.

2. 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**, 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 Suffern 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 Suffern 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 EMERGENCY⁵⁹

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

⁵⁹ 155.17(c)(1)(vii) except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, the identification of district resources which may be available for use during an emergency;

The District will, as appropriate, utilize all available manpower during an emergency. Within each building, schools may use the Staff All Call response protocol, which 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 Planning 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.

⁶⁰ 155.17(c)(1)(viii) except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, a description of procedures to coordinate the use of school district resources and manpower during emergencies, including identification of the officials authorized to make decisions and of the staff members assigned to provide assistance during emergencies;

- **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 remote instruction 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. This may include the preparation of packets, books and other and other instructional resources to support instructional goals and objectives.

COMPUTER AND CONNECTIVITY ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

The District will ensure that students have the necessary equipment at home to participate in remote instruction.⁶¹ 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.⁶² 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.

⁶¹ 155.17(xxi)(a) ensure computing devices will be made available to students

⁶² 155.17(f)(2) Beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, each chief executive officer shall report to the Commissioner, no later than June 30 of each school year, on a form and format prescribed by the Commissioner, the results of the survey on student access to computing devices and access to internet connectivity

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.

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SECTION IV COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS

Obtaining assistance during emergencies from emergency service organizations and local government agencies⁶³

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 Law⁶⁴

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. The Red Cross
 2. Suffern Fire Department
 3. Tallman Fire Department
 4. Sloatsburg Fire Department
 5. Hillburn Fire Department
 6. Suffern Police Department
 7. Ramapo Police Department
 8. Rockland County Sheriff's Department
 9. Orange and Rockland Utility Co.

⁶³ 155.17(c)(1)(v) except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, a description of the arrangements for obtaining assistance during emergencies from emergency services organizations and local governmental agencies;

⁶⁴ 155.17(c)(1)(vii) except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, the procedures for 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;

Contacting Parents, Guardians or Persons in Parental Relation to the Students of the District in the Event of a Violent Incident or an Early Dismissal⁶⁵

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.⁶⁶ 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.

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⁶⁵ 155.17(c)(1)(ix) policies and procedures for 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 or emergency school closure;

⁶⁶ 155.17(c)(1)(x) policies and procedures for contacting parents, guardians or persons in parental relation to an individual student of the district in the event of an implied or direct threat of violence by such student against themselves, which for the purposes of this subdivision shall include suicide;

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 but not limited to:

- Google Drive with shared folders
- GSuite (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Classroom, Sites)
- Gmail
- Google Classroom
- Seesaw

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-level Emergency Response Planning Team, other school buildings may be called to support the Building-level Emergency Response Planning 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

Hillburn Central Administration Building

45 Mountain Avenue
Hillburn, NY 10931
Phone: 845-357-7783

Suffern High School

49 Viola Road
Suffern, NY 10901
Phone: 845-357-3800

Suffern Middle School

80 Hemion Road
Suffern, NY 10901
Phone: 845-357-7400

Cherry Lane Elementary School

1 Heather Drive
Suffern, NY 10901
Phone: 845-357-3988

Richard P. Connor Elementary School

13 Cypress Road
Suffern, NY 10901
Phone: 845-357-2858

Montebello Elementary School

50 Montebello Road
Suffern, NY 10901
Phone: 845-357-4466

Sloatsburg Elementary School

11 Second Street
Sloatsburg, NY 10974
Phone: 845-753-2720

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.

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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.

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT

THIS INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) made as of this _____ day of _____, 2023 between the Suffern Central School District having its offices at 45 Mountain Avenue, Hillburn, NY 10931 (the “District”) and the Town of Ramapo having its offices at 237 Route 59, Suffern, NY 10901 (the “Town”).

WHEREAS, pursuant to NY Education Law §2801-a and Commissioner’s Regulation §155.17, a school district that employs, contracts with, or otherwise retains law enforcement or security personnel, including school resource officers, is required to establish a written contract or memorandum of understanding: (1) defining the relationship between the school district, school personnel, students, visitors, law enforcement, and/or security personnel; (2) defining law enforcement and/or security personnel’s roles, responsibilities and involvement within a school; and (3) clearly delegating the role of school discipline to the school administration; and

WHEREAS, the Town has agreed to provide the District with a police officer to serve as a school resource officer; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NY Education Law §2801-a and Commissioner’s Regulation §155.17, the District and the Town have entered into discussions regarding the role of the school resource officer, including, but not limited to, the areas of responsibility of school personnel, security personnel and law enforcement in response to student misconduct that violates the District Code of Conduct and have received stakeholder input regarding same;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the terms and conditions herein contained and other valuable consideration, the District and the Town agree as follows:

1. The District shall secure the services of the Town and Town shall provide to the District coverage by a school resource officer of the Town of Ramapo Police Department (the “Department”) from September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as the “Term”) to be assigned as follows:
 - A. A school resource officer shall be assigned to Suffern High School (the “High school”) on a full-time basis and generally during those hours that the High School is in regular session. The officer of the Department who shall serve as school resource officer shall be selected by the Chief of Police of the Department (“Chief of Police”) or his/her designee, in his/her sole and absolute discretion. Should the District be dissatisfied with the police officer who has been assigned as the school resource officer or determine that said police officer can no longer serve as the school resource officer for the District, the Superintendent of Schools may request that the Chief of Police assign a different police officer as the school resource officer. Upon receipt of such request, the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, may request a meeting with the school resource officer and the Superintendent of Schools to resolve any problems which may exist. Within ten (10) working days of the request for removal, if the problem cannot be resolved or a meeting is not called, then the school resource officer shall be removed from the District and a replacement shall be provided or, if a

replacement cannot be provided by the Town, either party may immediately terminate this Agreement.

- B. During the school resource officer's daily tour of duty, the school resource officer may be off campus performing such tasks as may be required by such school resource officer's assignment, including without limitation, traveling among the District's other school buildings.
 - C. The school resource officer shall notify the District of any planned absences from work at the earliest possible time.
 - D. Notwithstanding the school resource officer's assignment to the District on a full-time basis during the general hours that the High School is in regular session, it is hereby expressly recognized and agreed by the District that the same school resource officer providing services under this Agreement may be called away from his/her duties under this Agreement from time to time as necessary to respond to duties and responsibilities in the Town and that the Chief of Police or his/her designee may temporarily reassign the school resource officer during these periods.
2. The school resource officer will help provide for the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors, protect school property, and maintain order in and around the High School and will work in collaboration with the District to address crime and disorder problems, gangs, and drug activities affecting or occurring in or around the school, as well as develop or expand crime prevention efforts for students. The functions of the school resource officer will be to provide services to help maintain a safe campus environment that is conducive to learning, including, but not limited to: enforcing New York State laws, rules and regulations; acting with reasonable promptness and cooperatively when responding to major disruptions and flagrant criminal offenses at school; acting as a liaison with police and other emergency personnel; providing intervention between students and/or staff using appropriate techniques to calm and control situations when prudent; working to help prevent juvenile delinquency through contact and positive relationships with students; working closely with the District's administrators and developing and/or implementing classes in crime prevention, drug abuse prevention and safety; keeping school administration advised on the status of any circumstance or situations that may create a potential for harm to persons, or damage to, or loss of property to the extent reasonable under the circumstances in the reasonable discretion of the school resource officer; assisting in school-wide emergency response planning; and serving as a good role model for students.
3. The function of the school resource officer is to help promote a safe and secure campus environment for students, staff, and visitors. District staff members may request the assistance of the school resource officer in addressing violations of the District's Code of Conduct where such intervention is necessary for the safety of students, staff, visitors, or District property. However, the school resource officer shall not be responsible for the discipline of students. It is understood and agreed that the District and its administration are responsible for disciplining students. While the school resource officer may take appropriate action to prevent or stop criminal activity or to assist in preventing or stopping violations of the District's Code of Conduct by students upon the request of District staff members as set forth above, for the purposes of school discipline, the school administration shall determine

and mete out the appropriate discipline. Nothing herein shall restrict the school resource officer's ability to take appropriate legal action against students who have engaged in criminal conduct.

4. The rights, responsibilities, and expectations for behavior for students, the expectations for the District's staff (including the administration) in relation to students, and the expectations of behavior for visitors/members of the public while on District property are set forth in the District's Code of Conduct. The school resource officer shall be cognizant of such rights, responsibilities, and expectations in providing services to the District and shall act in accordance with the District's Code of Conduct. However, it is understood and agreed that the school resource officer may enforce any and all local, state, and federal laws, notwithstanding any conflicts with District policies or its Code of Conduct.
5. The Town agrees that the school resource officer shall comply with any and all Federal, State and/or local laws and regulations related to the confidentiality of student information and records, including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and New York State Education Law Section 2-d.
6. The parties understand and agree that the school resource officer may be exposed to student and/or personnel information that may be deemed confidential and protected under Federal and New York State Confidentiality Laws including, but not limited to, FERPA, New York State Education Law Section 2-d, HIPAA and issues pertaining to Alcohol and Substance Abuse. The Town and the school resource officer agree to maintain the confidentiality of any such information in compliance with Federal, State and/or local laws and regulations. Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the District hereby designates the school resource officer as the District's "law enforcement unit" for the purposes of enforcing any Federal, State, or local law and maintaining the physical security and safety of the schools to which they are assigned in partnership with the District.
7. It is understood and agreed that the school resource officer is not an employee of the District and shall not be considered as having employee status with the District by virtue of this Agreement for any purpose, including but not limited to, the application of the Fair Labor Standards Act, provisions related to minimum wage and overtime payments, the Federal Insurance Contribution Act, the Social Security Act, the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, the New York State Unemployment Insurance Law or Workers' Compensation Law. The school resource officer shall not be entitled to any rights or benefits afforded to the District's employees from the District, including, without limitation, disability or unemployment insurance, workers' compensation, medical insurance, sick leave, retirement, or any other employment benefit. The District shall not be liable for any claims brought by the school resource officer, if any, for unpaid wages or overtime premiums.
8. The Town acknowledges and agrees that the school resource officer has had fingerprinting and a criminal history record check and maintains the necessary clearance to work as a school resource officer in the District.
9. It is understood and agreed that the school resource officer shall remain an employee of the Town and shall be under the overall supervision of the Chief of Police and/or his/her designee

and shall follow all policies and procedures of the Department. The District acknowledges that the school resource officer shall remain responsive to the chain of command of the Department.

10. Oversight of the school resource officer program shall be performed in collaboration between the High School Principal, Superintendent of Schools, and the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
11. The District and the Town agree that this Agreement may be terminated upon thirty (30) days' written notice to the other party at said party's designated address.
12. Neither the Town nor the District may assign, transfer, or convey any of its respective rights or obligations under this Agreement or subcontract any portion of the services set forth herein.
13. All notices of any nature referred to in this Agreement shall be in writing and sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage pre-paid, by hand or overnight delivery, or sent by facsimile (with acknowledgement received and a copy of the notice sent by overnight courier), to the respective addresses set forth above or to such other addresses as the respective parties hereto may designate in writing. Notices to the Town shall be sent to the attention of the Town Supervisor. Notices to the District shall be sent to the attention of the Superintendent of Schools.
14. This Agreement contains all terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties as to the subject matter hereof. No waiver, alterations, or modifications of any provisions of this Agreement shall be binding unless in writing and signed by the duly authorized representative of the parties sought to be bound.
15. This Agreement shall be binding upon both parties when fully signed and executed and upon approval of the appropriate governing bodies where required.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their respective duly authorized officials on the day and year as set forth below.

TOWN OF RAMAPO

SUFFERN CENTRAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT


Michael B. Specht
Supervisor

DATE

12/15/23

Dr. Erik Gundersen
Superintendent of Schools

DATE

SUFFERN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Business Office

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 18, 2024
To: Dr. Erik Gundersen
From: Arlene Noonan 
Re: **Security Guard Services Contract Extension**
RFP #: SGS06232022

I recommend that the following resolution be adopted.

RESOLVED, that the attached security guard services contract with **Century Protective Services, Inc.** be extended for the 2024-2025 school year. Any increase, if applicable, will be based upon the NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rate Schedule.

CONTRACT EXTENSION

This Contract Extension dated June 4, 2024 to the Contract dated July 6, 2022 between Suffern Central School District (the "School District"), a public school district with its offices located at 45 Mountain Avenue, Hillburn, New York 10931 and Century Protective Services, Inc., a corporation with its principal place of business located at 150 Grand Street, White Plains, New York 10601.

WHEREAS, the parties entered into a contract awarded by the Board of Education of the School District on July 6, 2022 for the provision of security guard services for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (the "Contract"); and

WHEREAS, the parties extended the Contract for the provision of security guard services for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 by a Resolution adopted by the Board of Education on August 1, 2023 with the following conditions qualified and specified:

1. During the extended term (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024), the Contractor shall pay the security personnel it employs to provide services to the School District at a pay rate not less than the greater of (a) the applicable New York State prevailing wage and (b) the hourly wage rate paid by the Contractor to each employee during the 2022-2023 school year.
2. During the extended term (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024), the School District shall pay the Contractor a pay rate that is thirty (30%) percent above the wage rate(s) the Contractor pays to the security personnel it employs to provide services to the School District.
3. Except to the extent explicitly modified or changed by this Contract Extension Agreement, all terms of the parties' Contract as awarded for the 2022-2023 school year and the School District's Request for Proposal #SGS062322022, Security Guard Services shall remain in full force and effect, including but

not limited to the School District's right to cancel the extended contract upon at least thirty (30) days prior written notice.

WHEREAS, the parties desire to extend the Contract for the provision of security guard services for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

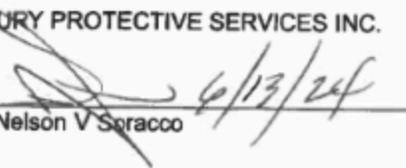
NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE MUTUAL PROMISES, CONDITIONS AND COVENANTS CONTAINED HEREIN, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The term of the Contract shall be extended for one additional year for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.
2. During the extended term (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025), the Contractor shall pay the security personnel it employs to provide services to the School District at a pay rate not less than the greater of (a) the applicable New York State prevailing wage and (b) the hourly wage rate paid by the Contractor to each employee during the 2023-2024 school year (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024).
3. During the extended term (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025), the School District shall pay the Contractor a pay rate that is thirty (30%) percent above the wage rate(s) the Contractor pays to the security personnel it employs to provide services to the School District pursuant to Paragraph "2" of this Contract Extension Agreement.
4. Except to the extent explicitly modified or changed by this Contract Extension Agreement, all terms of the parties' Contract as awarded for the 2022-2023 school year and the School District's Request for Proposal #SGS062322022, Security Guard Services shall remain in full force and effect, including but not limited to the School District's right to cancel the extended contract upon at least thirty (30) days prior written notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Contract Extension agreement to be executed as of the date written above.

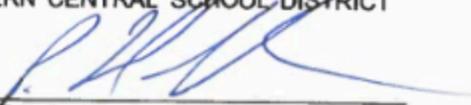
CENTURY PROTECTIVE SERVICES INC.

By:


Nelson V Soracco

SUFFERN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

By:


Erik Gundersen, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

APPENDIX 4 – DISTRICT RESOURCES – CONTACT INFORMATION

TITLE	NAME	OFFICE PHONE
Superintendent of Schools	Dr. Erik Gundersen	845-357-7783 Ext. 11229
Asst. Superintendent for Finance and Business Operations	Dr. William Castellane	845-357-7783 Ext. 11241
Asst. Superintendent, Human Resources	Mr. Larry Mautone	845-357-7783 Ext.11223
Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum	Dr. Kevin McCahill	845-357-7783 Ext. 11231
Director of Pupil Personnel Services	Ms. Dominique Marable	845-357-7783 Ext. 11283
Director of School Safety and Special Projects	Mr. Patrick Breen	845-357-7783 Ext. 11273
Transportation Supervisor	Mr. Junior Berridge	845-357-7783 Ext. 11227
Bus Dispatch Office – Head Bus Driver	Chestnut Ridge	845-357-0904
District Clerk	Ms. Heather Campbell	845-357-7783 Ext.11224
Public Information	Ms. Jenny Mirmelstein	845-357-7783 Ext.11239
Director of Facilities	Mr. John Palma	845-357-7783 Ext. 11264
Assistant Director of Buildings & Grounds	Mr. Matt Bollato	845-357-7783 Ext.11264
Athletic Director	Andrew Guccione	845-357-7783 Ext. 41329
Cafeteria Services	Janet Ginocchio	845-357-7783 Ext. 11247
Town and Village Officials		
Airmont Mayor	Nathan Bubel	845-414-5522
Hillburn Mayor	Joseph P. Tursi	845-570-0050
Montebello Mayor	Lance N. Millman	845-368-2211
Ramapo Town Supervisor	Michael B. Specht	845-357-5100
Sloatsburg Mayor	Darrell Frasier	845-753-2727
Suffern Mayor	Michael F. Curley	845-357-2974
Local Fire and Police Departments		
Hillburn Fire Dept.	dispatch	845-357-9260
Sloatsburg Fire Department	dispatch	845-753-5575
Suffern Fire Department	dispatch	845-357-6066
Tallman Fire Department	dispatch	845 357-6066
Ramapo Police Department	Ramapo P.D. (dispatch)	845-357-2400

Suffern Police Department	Suffern P.D. (dispatch)	845-357-2300
Ambulance -Spring Hill Ambulance Corp	Dispatch	845-354-0618
Rockland County		
County Executive	Ed Day	845-638-5122
Emergency Management	Christopher Kear	845-364-8800
Rockland County Sheriff's Dept.	Dispatch	845-638-5401
New York State Police	Dispatch	845-353-1100
County Health Dept.	Rockland Office	845-364-2500
Red Cross Emergency Services	203-869-8444	
Orange and Rockland Utilities (Rockland Electric Company and Pike County Light and Power Co)	Customer Service Gas Emergency Hotline Power Outage	1-877-434-4100 1-800-533-5325 1-877-434-4100

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APPENDIX 5 – SECTION 155.17 REGULATION COMPLIANCE REFERENCE

- **155.17(b)(14)** District-wide school safety team means a district-wide team appointed by the board of education, the chancellor in the case of New York City, or other governing board. The district-wide team shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of the school board, teacher, administrator, parent organizations, school safety personnel, and other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors. At the discretion of the board of education, or the chancellor in the case of the City of New York, a student may be allowed to participate on the safety team, provided however, that 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.
- **155.17(c)(1)(i)** policies and procedures for responding to implied or direct threats of violence by students, teachers, other school personnel including bus drivers and monitors, and visitors to the school, including threats by students against themselves, which for this subdivision shall include suicide;
- **155.17(c)(1)(ii)** policies and procedures for responding to acts of violence by students, teachers, other school personnel and visitors to the school, including consideration of zero-tolerance policies for school violence;
- **155.17(c)(1)(iii)** appropriate prevention and intervention strategies, such as: (a) collaborative arrangements with State and local law enforcement officials, designed to ensure that school safety officers and other security personnel are adequately trained, including being trained to de-escalate potentially violent situations, and are effectively and fairly recruited; (b) nonviolent conflict resolution training programs; (c) peer mediation programs and youth courts; and (d) extended day and other school safety programs;
- **155.17(c)(1)(iv)** policies and procedures for contacting the appropriate law enforcement officials in the event of a violent incident;
- **155.17(c)(1)(v)** except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, a description of the arrangements for obtaining assistance during emergencies from emergency services organizations and local governmental agencies;
- **155.17(c)(1)(vi)** except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, the procedures for 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;
- **155.17(c)(1)(viii)** except in a school district in a city having a population of more than one million inhabitants, a description of procedures to coordinate the use of school district resources and manpower during emergencies, including identification of the officials authorized to make decisions and of the staff members assigned to provide assistance during emergencies;
- **155.17(c)(1)(ix)** policies and procedures for 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;
- **155.17(c)(1)(x)** policies and procedures for contacting parents, guardians or persons in parental relation to an individual student of the district in the event of an implied or direct threat of violence by such student against themselves, which for the purposes of this subdivision shall include suicide;
- **155.17(c)(1)(xi)** policies and procedures relating to school building security, including, where appropriate: (a) the use of school safety or security officers and/or school resource officers. Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, and every school year thereafter, every school shall

define the areas of responsibility of school personnel, security personnel and law enforcement in response to student misconduct that violates the code of conduct. A school district or charter school that employs, contracts with, or otherwise retains law enforcement or public or private security personnel, including school resource officers, shall establish a written contract or memorandum of understanding that is developed with stakeholder input, including, but not limited to, parents, students, school administrators, teachers, collective bargaining units, parent and student organizations and community members, as well as probation officers, prosecutors, defense counsels and courts that are familiar with school discipline. Such written contract or memorandum of understanding shall define the relationship between a school district or charter school, school personnel, students, visitors, law enforcement, and public or private security personnel. Such contract or memorandum of understanding shall be consistent with the code of conduct, define law enforcement or security personnel's roles, responsibilities and involvement within a school and clearly delegate the role of school discipline to the school administration. Such written contract or memorandum of understanding shall be incorporated into and published as part of the district safety plan; and (b) security devices or procedures. District-wide school safety teams shall consider, as part of their review of the comprehensive district-wide safety plan, the installation of a panic alarm system;

- **155.17(c)(1)(xii)** policies and procedures for the dissemination of informative materials regarding the early detection of potentially violent behaviors, including but not limited to the identification of family, community, and environmental factors to teachers, administrators, school personnel including bus drivers and monitors, parents or other persons in parental relation to students of the school district or board, students and other persons deemed appropriate to receive such information;
- **155.17(c)(1)(xiii)** policies and procedures for annual multi-hazard school safety training for staff and students, provided that the district must certify to the commissioner that all staff have undergone annual training by September 15, 2016 and each subsequent September 15th thereafter on the building-level emergency response plan which must include components on violence prevention and mental health, provided further that new employees hired after the start of the school year shall receive such training within 30 days of hire or as part of the district's existing new hire training program, whichever is sooner;
- **155.17(c)(1)(xiv)** procedures for review and the conduct of drills, [and other exercises to test components of the emergency response plan, including the use of] tabletop exercises, and information about emergency procedures and drills, including information about procedures and timeframes for notification of parents or persons in parental relation regarding drills and other emergency response training(s) that include students. At their discretion, schools and districts may participate in full-scale exercises in coordination with local and county emergency responders and preparedness officials;
- **155.17(c)(1)(xv)** the identification of appropriate responses to emergencies, including protocols for responding to bomb threats, hostage-takings, intrusions and kidnappings;
- **155.17(c)(1)(xvi)** strategies for improving communication among students and between students and staff and reporting of potentially violent incidents, such as the establishment of youth-run programs, peer mediation, conflict resolution, creating a forum or designating a mentor for students concerned with bullying or violence and establishing anonymous reporting mechanisms for school violence;
- **155.17(c)(1)(xvii)** a description of the duties of hall monitors and any other school safety personnel, the training required of all personnel acting in a school security capacity, and the hiring and screening process for all personnel acting in a school security capacity;

- **155.17(c)(1)(xviii)** in the case of a school district, except in a school district in a city having more than one million inhabitants, a system for informing all educational agencies within such school district of a disaster or emergency school closure;
- **155.17(c)(1)(xix)** the designation of the superintendent, or superintendent’s designee, as the district chief emergency officer whose duties shall include, but not be limited to: (a) coordination of the communication between school staff, law enforcement, and other first responders; (b) lead 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; (c) ensure staff understanding of the district-wide school safety plan; (d) ensure the completion and yearly update of building-level emergency response plans for each school building; (e) assist in the selection of security related technology and development of procedures for the use of such technology; (f) coordinate appropriate safety, security, and emergency training for district and school staff, including required training in the districtwide school safety plan and building-level emergency response plan(s) (g) ensure the conduct of required evacuation and lock-down drills in a trauma informed, developmentally, and age-appropriate manner that does not include props, actors, simulations, or other tactics intended to mimic a school shooting or other act of violence or emergency in all district buildings as required by section 807 of the Education Law; and (h) ensure the completion and yearly update of building-level emergency response plans by the dates designated by the commissioner.
- **155.17(h)(1)(3)** One Emergency Dismissal drill shall be conducted to test emergency response procedures that require early dismissal, at a time not to occur more than 15 minutes earlier than the normal dismissal time.
- **155.17(c)(1)(xx)** ensure the development of protocols for responding to a declared state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease that are substantially consistent with the provisions of section 27-c of the Labor Law; and
- **155.17(c)(1)(xii)** beginning with the 2023-2024 school year and every school year thereafter, an emergency remote instruction plan. For purposes of this subparagraph remote instruction shall have the same meaning as defined in section 100.1(u) of this Chapter. Emergency remote instruction plans shall include: (a) policies and procedures to ensure computing devices will be made available to students or other means by which students will participate in synchronous instruction and policies and procedures to ensure students receiving remote instruction under emergency conditions will access internet connectivity. Each chief executive officer of each educational agency located within a public school district shall survey students and parents and persons in parental relation to such students to obtain information on student access to computing devices and access to internet connectivity to inform the emergency remote instruction plan; (b) expectations for school staff as to the proportion of time spent in synchronous and asynchronous instruction of students on days of remote instruction under emergency conditions with an expectation that asynchronous instruction is supplementary to synchronous instruction; (c) a description of how instruction will occur for those students for whom remote instruction by digital technology is not available or appropriate; (d) a description of how special education and related services will be provided to students with disabilities, as defined in section 200.1(zz) of this Chapter, and preschool students with disabilities, as defined in section 200.1(mm) of this Chapter, as applicable, in accordance with their individualized education programs to ensure the continued provision of a free appropriate public education; and (e) for school districts that receive foundation aid, the estimated number of instructional

hours the school district intends to claim for State aid purposes for each day spent in remote instruction due to emergency conditions pursuant to section 175.5 of this Chapter.

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