

FIRE ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session Agenda
Tuesday, October 25, 2022
4:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

- ITEM 1 **Action Items** – *Recommended for Approval*
- a. 2022-23 District Wide School Safety Plan
 - b. 2022-23 Building Level Emergency Response Plan - *confidential*
- ITEM 2 **Discussion**
- a. Maximum Income Limit for Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities
- ITEM 3 **Adjournment**

DISTRICT WIDE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

FIRE ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. Box 428
Ocean Beach, NY 11770



2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Revised: September, 2022

OVERVIEW

Fire Island is a 32-mile-long barrier island approximately 4-7 miles south of Long Island. There are 17 communities on Fire Island, with approximately 4,100 homes, including two incorporated villages, which have their own governing bodies. Of the 4,100 homes approximately 350-500 people reside on Fire Island year-round. Primarily a vacation and recreation environment, visitation on a peak season weekend day can be as high as 100,000 within the park areas and the communities combined. The Fire Island Union Free School District is the only educational organization within the district. The school provides educational services from pre-K through the sixth grade for resident children as well as tuition-paying non-resident students. Secondary students are tuitioned to a variety of mainland school districts. Due to the lack of a road system on the Island, the District operates its own transportation system in the form of 4-wheel drive school buses.

Section I: General Considerations and Planning Guidelines

A. Purpose

The Fire Island Union Free School District has developed this District-wide School Safety Plan pursuant to Commissioner's Regulation 1555.17. At the direction of the Fire Island U.F.S.D. Board of Education, the Superintendent of the F.I.U.F.S.D appointed a District Wide School Safety Team and charged it with the development and maintenance of the District-wide School Safety Plan.

B. Identification of District Wide School Safety Team

The F.I.U.F.S.D. has appointed a District-wide School Safety Team consisting of, but not limited to, representatives of the School Board, teachers, administrators, parent organizations and other school personnel. The members of the team and their positions or affiliations are as follows:

- Superintendent/Principal
- Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations
- District Clerk
- School Nurse
- School Maintenance Crew Chief
- Head Bus Driver
- West District Fire Coordinator
- County Police
- Village Police
- Village Fire Department
- Board of Education Member
- Teaching Staff Member
- Parent

C. Concept of Operations

The District Wide Safety Plan will be limited to use only on Fire Island at the Woodhull Elementary School buildings and grounds, located at Surf Road, Ocean Beach. The plan is developed to provide a safe school environment in the rural setting of the Fire Island community in which it is located.

The District Wide Safety Plan is linked directly to the individual Building Emergency Response Plan updated for the Woodhull School building. Protocols reflected in the District Wide Safety Plan and New York State SAVE legislation have guided the development and implementation of the Building Emergency Response Plan.

The plan is designed to pool together resources in and around the community in the event of an emergency. The plan institutes the use of an in-school Emergency Response Team and delineates a process of notification (thru Chain of Command) of the superintendent, local and county officials. All are available to assist as per existing protocols.

Whenever possible, any incident that occurs within the district will be managed under the Incident Command System (ICS)

D. Plan Review and Public Comment

This plan shall be reviewed and maintained by the District Wide School Safety Team and reviewed on an annual basis on or before July 1 of each year.

Pursuant to Commissioners Regulation, Section 155.17 (e) (3), this plan will be made available for public comment at least 30 days prior to its adoption. The District-wide School Plan may be adopted by the School Board only after at least one public hearing that provides for participation of school personnel, parents, students and other interested parties. The plan must be formally adopted by the Board of Education.

While conforming to the District Wide Safety Plan, the Building Emergency Response Plan shall be confidential and shall not be 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

Full copies of the District-wide School Safety Plan and any amendments will be submitted to the New York State Education Department within 30 days of adoption. This plan will be reviewed periodically during the year and will be maintained by the District-wide School Safety Team. The required annual review will be completed on or before July 1 of each year. After its adoption by the Board of Education the plan will be available at the Woodhull Elementary School, Surf Road Ocean Beach.

SECTION II: Risk Reduction, Prevention and Intervention Strategies

A. Prevention/Intervention Strategies

Program Initiatives

The District Wide School Safety Plan provides the framework for the Building Emergency Response Plan. The Fire Island Union Free School District proactively implements a variety of preventative programs to reduce the risk of violence. The following list some of these initiatives and/or their provider:

- Teacher-Teacher Mentor Program
- School Psychologist
- Dignity Act Training (DASA)
- Character Education
- School Code of Conduct
- Collaboration with local and state authorities

Training, Drills and Exercises

Safety drill and exercises will be conducted periodically as required by law. These drills and exercises include but are not limited to:

- Fire Drills
- Evacuation Drills
- Lockdown Drills
- Lockout Drills
- Emergency Go-Home Drills
- Shelter In Place Drills
- Periodic Tabletop Exercises to include local and county officials

The effectiveness and efficiency of these drills will be reviewed and addressed by the School Superintendent and the Building Response Team.

Implementation of School Security

Security measures adopted by the District include:

- Security cameras around the exterior of the school building
- All doors are locked to the outside
- Installation of a “man trap” at the main entrance of the school building
- Visitors are “buzzed in” after identifying themselves at the main entrance security window
- After identification, visitors are required to sign in in the main office
- Staff members are equipped with proximity tags for access to the building

Vital Educational Agency Information

The District maintains information on:

- School population
- Number of staff

- Transportation Routing
- Telephone numbers of key officials

B. Early Detection of Potentially Violent Behaviors

The Fire Island Union Free School District will implement procedures for dissemination of informative materials regarding the early detection of possible violent behavior, including but not limited to: identification of family, community and environmental factors to administrators, teachers, parents, and other persons in parental relation to students of the school district or board and other persons deemed appropriate to receive such information.

C. Hazard Identification

The District Wide School Safety Team, in conjunction with local officials, has identified areas outside the school proper that may impact the school during an emergency. Considerations included:

- Weather/Environmental hazards
- Presence of hazardous materials transported on the single main road on the island
- Limited resources available for safe harboring of students and staff off school grounds
- Proximity to District property
- Potential for emergency based on national trends

Specifics to these hazards are maintained within the Building Emergency Response Plan

D. Suicide Prevention

The District recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among young people and will take a proactive approach in preventing deaths by suicide. Pupil personnel staff will develop a specific set of guidelines and procedures to assess the risk of and intervene in response to youth suicidal behavior.

SECTION III: Response

A. Notification and Activation – Internal and External Communications

In the case of an emergency within the District, whether it is a violent incident or other emergency, the school incident commander will contact the Superintendent as soon as possible. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to contact local law enforcement authorities who are listed in the Building Emergency Response Plan. Additionally, notification of the incident or emergency may be made throughout the District via telephone, email, fax, District website and/or the media.

Protective Action Options

During certain emergency situations, one of a variety of protective actions needs to be employed. Summaries of the options are listed below. Detailed plans associated procedures for the school building will be incorporated into the Building Emergency Response plan.

- **School Cancellation** will be used when information regarding a potential crisis is received with enough lead time to alert all staff and students, such as weather-related incidents for which ample warning may be provided.
- **Early Dismissal** will be used when school is in session if there is time to return staff and students to their homes and more than 15 minutes remain in the school day.
- **Evacuation/Relocation** will be used when school is in session and it has been determined that the school does not provide a safe environment for staff and students.
- **Sheltering** will be used when school is in session and it is determined that early dismissal and evacuation are not safe options. This response is to be implemented whenever a situation exists that makes staying inside safer than being outdoors. Examples might be hazardous weather conditions or toxic environmental releases.
- **Holding In Place** is suitable for a variety of responses. It offers the ability to isolate and control movement and/or relocate building occupants by room or to areas in other parts of the building determined to be safe.
- **Lockout** will be used in response to incidents of actual or potential threat from outside the building.
- **Lockdown** will be used in response to incidents of actual or potential threats of violence.

B. Situational Responses

Multi-Hazard Response

The Fire Island Union Free School District's Emergency Response Plan provides details to the actions in emergencies that may include the following situations:

- Threats of Violence
- Intruder
- Hostage / Kidnapping
- Bomb Threat/ Explosive
- Hazardous Material
- Epidemic/Pandemic
- Natural /Weather Related

and others as determined by the District Wide School Safety Team

Responses to Acts of Violence: Implied or Direct Threats

Acts of violence by students, staff members or visitors to the school will not be tolerated. In the event of an implied or direct threat (threats are alarming statements or behaviors that give rise to concern about subsequent behavior) of violence by a student, staff member or visitor to the school, the Superintendent should be informed immediately by the threatened individual or a staff member who becomes aware of the threat. The Superintendent or designee will determine what steps may be taken based on the nature of the incident. The steps may include further investigation, threat assessment, activation of the Building Response Team, and/or notification of local authorities.

Response Protocols

The Woodhull School Building Emergency Response Plan provides detailed information regarding protocols and responses to bomb threats, hostage taking, intrusions and kidnapping. The following protocols are provided as example:

- Shelter in Place
- Lock Out
- Evacuation
- Hold in Place

Arrangements for Obtaining Advice and Assistance from Local Government

Depending on the nature of an incident, the District may obtain assistance from local government agencies. The Superintendent or designee may contact 911 to obtain emergency services to assist in managing the incident at hand.

Procedures for Obtaining Advice and Assistance from Local Government Officials

The District has identified resources for advice and assistance from the following agencies:

- Ocean Beach Police Department
- Suffolk County Police Department-Marine Bureau
- Ocean Beach Fire Department
- The National Park Service
- Suffolk County Executive
- Islip Town Office of Emergency Management
- Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management
- Eastern Suffolk BOCES
- CDC/NYS Department of Health/Suffolk County Department of Health

District Resources

The following inventory represents resources available to the Emergency Response Team to manage an incident within the District. The list is updated on an as needed basis to incorporate additions to the inventory.

- 11 four wheel drive buses – 14-22 students/7-16 adults capacity, mobile radio equipped
- Two seven passenger 4-wheel drive GMC Suburbans with mobile radios
- One 2 passenger 4-wheel drive pickup truck
- 1 electric golf cart with trailer
- 2 cellular phones
- 2 portable automatic defibrillators
- 80 laptop computers with wireless internet connectivity

Procedures to Coordinate the Use of School District Resources and Manpower during Emergencies

The Building Response Team will make decisions and provide assistance during emergencies.

Protective Action Options

The Building Emergency Response Plan details plans for the following actions in response to an emergency where appropriate:

- School Cancellation and Early Dismissal: The Superintendent will make the determination and notify the school community. In the case of Early Dismissal, the Principal will remain available until all students are returned home.
- Evacuation: The Superintendent or designee will determine the level of threat, contact the transportation manager, clear all evacuation sites prior to evacuation, and evacuate students and staff to prearranged evacuation sites. When at the sites student and staff population will be accounted for. The Superintendent or designee will provide parents with appropriate information and details regarding the event. Appropriate school personnel will be retained until all students have been returned.
- Sheltering Sites (Internal and External): The Superintendent or designee will determine the threat and the location for sheltering based on the nature of the incident, account for all students and staff, determine other occupants in the building, and take appropriate safety precautions. The Superintendent or designee will provide information and current status of the situation to parents and other inquiring parties. Appropriate personnel will be retained until all students have been returned.

SECTION IV: Recovery

A. District Mental Health Services

The District will assist in the coordination of Disaster Mental Health Resources in the support of post-incident response in the Woodhull School.

B. Re-evaluation of Emergency Response Plan

Following an incident, the District will reevaluate current violence prevention and school safety activities and identify ways the Emergency Response Plan can be improved.