

March 1, 2018

Dear KLSD Community,

While we continue to keep the community of Parkland, FL in our thoughts and hearts, I want to share some additional information specific to security and related events in our community.

Our building and district crisis teams continue to meet to review safety plans and procedures in light of recent events. At the same time, we are consulting with regional safety experts to be sure we are in line with current best practices. Please know that when we talk about school safety, we are talking both about the physical environment that keeps students and staff safe and the social and emotional environment that helps us know every member of our school community well.

Be assured that we are in regular communication with our local police departments. In recent days, the Bedford PD has shared some information about the school-specific trainings they conduct. The Lewisboro PD regularly participates in those same trainings, and has conducted such trainings in conjunction with other emergency service agencies in our own K-L District. Additionally, when concerns that may be of a criminal nature arise about individual members of our community, we are in quick and frequent communication with our police. At the request of our local police, I remind all members of our community that you must never hesitate to contact the police directly if you feel concerned for your safety or the safety of others.

Regarding our facilities, we have made a number of security enhancements in recent years. Those include, but are not limited to, the addition of security greeters at the front entrance of every school and significantly enhanced camera surveillance throughout all our schools. In the coming days and weeks, we will be making some adjustments to further tighten security, with a particular focus on our high school campus. I remind you, however, that we do not share the details of every adjustment in security procedures because doing so, in and of itself, creates a security vulnerability.

Finally, I'm sure many are aware of the nationally publicized March 14 student walkout. Student leaders at both our middle and high schools have approached school staff about this event. Students have the right to express their views in school so long as they are not disrespectful or disruptive to others. It is our intention, therefore, to support those students who wish to participate, while also allowing others not to participate. It is likely that the middle school experience will look a little different than that at the high school. To further heighten security on that day, we have been coordinating with Lewisboro PD who will be present during the walkout. More details about plans for the day will be provided by our two school principals in the coming days.

If you continue to have questions or concerns that are specific to your child's school, please be in touch with your building administrators. If you have District-wide questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

As always, I thank you for partnering with us in educating our students while keeping them safe.

Sincerely,

Andrew Selesnick  
Superintendent of Schools