



Worthington Schools

Safety and Security Update

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SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS



AREAS OF FOCUS

- District and school safety plans.
- Student mental health.
- Safe and secure facilities.

CREATING A SAFE and CONNECTED SCHOOL CLIMATE

- Assess the school's emotional climate.
- Emphasize the importance of listening in schools.
- Take a strong but caring stance against the code of silence.
- Work actively to change the perception that talking to an adult about a student contemplating violence is considered wrong.
- Find ways to stop bullying.

CREATING A SAFE and CONNECTED SCHOOL CLIMATE

- Empower students by involving them in planning, creating and sustaining a school culture of safety and respect.
- Ensure that every student feels that he or she has a trusting relationship with at least one adult at school.
- Create mechanisms for developing and sustaining safe school environments.
- Provide safe places for students.
- All climates of safety ultimately are “local.”

DISTRICT and SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS

- District Crisis Manual
- Digitized Building Maps
- Building Crisis Plan – one page format
- Individual Building Crisis Teams/Practice
- Planned Building Drills
- Individual Building Culture/Climate Surveys
- Safe Schools Hotline
- Custodian's Safety Audit
- Crisis Recovery Plan

IDENTIFY STUDENTS WHO ARE HIGH RISK **and** HAVE A PROCESS TO ASSESS THREAT POTENTIAL

- Social withdrawal
- Serious loss or personal failure
- Excessive feelings of isolation
- Excessive feelings of rejection
- Being a victim of violence
- Being picked on and persecuted and bullied
- Low academic performance
- Expression of violence in writings/drawings
- Uncontrolled anger
- Patterns of impulsive or chronic hitting
- History of discipline patterns and aggressive behavior
- Intolerance for differences
- Drug and alcohol use
- Affiliation with gangs
- Infatuation and access to firearms and explosives

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

- School counselors from Worthington Schools
- Therapeutic counselors from North Community Counseling
- ADAMH – Funding source
- Safe and Drug Free School Coordinator
- One Leg at a Time
- Individual Building Culture/Climate Surveys
- Safe Schools Hotline
- Crisis Recovery Plan

SAFE and SECURE FACILITIES

- **Results of meetings with:**
 - Local law enforcement
 - District safety and security committee
 - PTSA Council

SAFE and SECURE FACILITIES

■ **Facility Audit Results:**

■ **External Audit**

- Building entrances
- Parking lot lighting
- Building barricades
- Windows
- Doors
- Parking lot monitoring
- Distance measuring

■ **Internal Audit**

- Visitor tracking
- Surveillance System
- Number of classrooms
- Number of hallways
- Populated areas
- Doors
- After school activities
- Emergency lighting

SAFE and SECURE FACILITIES

- **Staff Training:**
 - Surveillance training
 - Verbal de-escalation
 - Building sweeps

NEXT STEPS

- Consistent and on-going review of building safety plans.
- Available and effective mental health resources.
- Review and consideration of facility audits.