

# Syracuse City School District

## Safety Plan

### *Foreword*

Safety is the cornerstone of all needs, whether it is emotional safety or physical safety, each has the potential to impact a person both positively and negatively. People need to feel safe to merely function within any setting and interact with others. Without the perception of safety they will not be able to function at their highest level possible; their safety needs, both emotional and physical, need to be met, in order for them to achieve to their true potential.

Emotional safety may be the feeling of acceptance within their peer group, having a stable food source, feeling supported within any family setting by family and friends. Being able to reach an appropriate level of comfort and support within one's daily climate, to foster learning.

Physical safety may be the feeling of freedom from risk, danger and/or threats of injury, harm or loss of personal property. The supportive, nurturing environment in which a person can be secure in the fact that steps have been taken to ensure the safety of all.

Within a public school district the perception of safety, both emotional and physical resonates with all stakeholders, whether they are staff, students or visitors. If a student does not feel safe while at school, they may not attend regularly, nor rise to their true potential academically. If a staff member does not feel safe, it may impact their attendance, and their ability to provide the highest level of support to students. If a visitor does not feel safe, they may not attend school functions, parent teacher conferences or school events and miss the opportunity to actively participate within the school community and/or their student's educational process.

Within the Syracuse City School District we are well aware of the many dangers which are present in everyday life within an urban setting. We strive to provide a safe learning and teaching environment for all of our students, staff and community stakeholders.

We have updated our District Safety Plan, in accordance with the New York State Education Department, Regulations Sect. 2801 (a) for the 2016-17 school year.

We are sharing our updated plan with all stakeholders for their reference, knowledge, comment and support of our initiatives to provide a safe learning and teaching environment for all.

*Plan Components*

*Code of Conduct, Character and Support*

*Emergency Response Plan*

*Safety Action Plan 2016-17*

# Safety Action Plan 2016-17

## Objective

## Status

Emergency Drills in buildings, with communication of expectations and roles identified	In progress- DPS printing posters to be placed into common areas with expectations/roles, schedule of drills
Emergency Medical Plans for after school programs	In progress- DPS will work with Health Services to distribute updated procedures, identify trained persons
Anonymous TIPS App for students/staff to report safety/crime concerns which is functional with e-mail and messaging	In progress- DPS collaborating with the Onondaga County District Attorney's Office to share their existing successful platform
School Resource Officers (SROs) law enforcement personnel assigned to all District middle schools  (properly trained to interact with students)	In Progress- DPS School Resource Officer Initiative proposal
Exterior condition of buildings-surveys to identify and prioritize repairs, modifications	In progress- The Facilities Department will be provide access to School Principals to view the work orders entered/pending

<p>Photo Identification cards for students District wide (middle school level)</p>	<p>Further researching existing practices within the middle level buildings and resources</p>
<p>Hand held device to be able to view District security surveillance cameras for Administrators and Safety personnel</p>	<p>Further researching options/costs and supports necessary to launch and sustain</p>
<p>Visitor policy and expectations to be communicated to all parents and visitors</p>	<p>In progress-drafting communications plan and appropriate signage to be deployed at all buildings</p>
<p>Administrative entry searches at Middle Schools, for weapons/safety on a regular, unannounced schedule</p>	<p>On going- DPS determining staffing levels necessary and means to accomplish</p>
<p>Readiness and Emergency Management in Schools (REMS) training for all building level administrators</p>	<p>In progress- DPS developing link for the web page to access and directions for staff to complete</p>
<p>Emergency Response Plan training for all building administrators  (lightning drills-table top exercises)</p>	<p>On going- DPS will collaborate with the Onondaga County Emergency Management Department to develop appropriate training model for the District Leadership Academy and building based staff</p>

Emergency Management App for District cell phones, for building administrators	Further researching- DPS will research compatible apps with OSA management staff
Develop plan to monitor after school building use with a DPS staff member present for safety	Further Researching-budget planning issue
Identify visitor reception/holding area in buildings to prevent unauthorized persons from proceeding directly to classrooms	On going- DPS will work to identify location, site in current buildings, with signage and consultation with the Facilities Department for accessibility
Security cameras at single point of entry to buildings, with better placement to positively identify visitors	On going-DPS will provide a potential solution to be funded by Smart Schools Bond Act pending Board of Education approval
Communications to schools regarding incidents within neighborhoods adjacent to schools, potential safety risks	On going-DPS will evaluate most efficient methodology to provide information
Transportation safety- students encountering potential safety issues in transit to schools	On going-District transportation committee is examining the potential and reported issues, and will provide recommendations