

Jackson Local Schools

Striving for Excellence



August 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

School and student safety continues to be a top priority for the District. We regularly review our current state of security and look to industry best practices to make improvements.

Cyberspace is the world of information through the Internet. Our youth are growing up in a cyberworld and are regularly engaging smartphones, social media, and online gaming. Just like the real world, the experiences children find in cyberspace can be both positive and negative.

As we begin another school year I wanted to share with you some important new initiatives the District will be implementing to improve physical security, emergency communications, and student well-being.

In cooperation with the Jackson Township Police Department, **a School Safety Officer (SSO) will be assigned to each of the District's school buildings.** The SSO will be in the building for the entire school day and is contracted for the entire school year.

We will be **installing a unified emergency mass notification communication and crisis system throughout the District called Alertus.** This system seamlessly integrates with and sends potentially life-saving alerts across our organization's existing infrastructure and technology.

The District will also **be partnering with the nationally recognized Sandy Hook Promise organization.** They will be training our staff and students how to recognize signs, especially in social media, of an individual who may be a threat to themselves or others and say something to a trusted adult. They will also provide and train our students on the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS) which allows students to submit secure and anonymous safety concerns to help identify and intervene upon at-risk individuals BEFORE they hurt themselves or others. Sandy Hook Promise provides all training, resources, and the SS-ARS at no cost.

We will also **be providing additional mental health services** featuring professional mental health clinicians, **access to a K-12 Digital Citizenship curriculum** for students and parents, as well as **incorporating the use of handheld metal detector wands** as directed by school board policy.

The strong partnership between our schools and our parents is vital if we are to keep children safer. You can do your part by monitoring your child's social media presence, monitoring your child's video game usage, securing prescription drugs within the home, securing family firearms and if you See Something, Say Something.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to me at 330-830-8000.

Sincerely,

Chris DiLoreto
Superintendent

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