

## ATTACHMENT NO. IX-A: Update on District Security

Potential motion: Hear the report

Recommended action: None

Over the summer a number of changes to the district's security measures were put in place. We also surveyed other area districts to identify any issues that we had not considered. As of this report, the district is finally compliant with E911 and is working on completing the steps to ensure all of the buildings are fully alarmed. There are still some zoning issues with the phone company's database, but they are in the midst of moving to a new system as well.

The keyless entry system has been fully installed at all building main entrances and selected other entrances as well. Fobs have been distributed to all staff members. The access system has worked well with only a few minor glitches since mid September.

All building secretaries now have aiphone systems to electronically open the main doors to their respective buildings. This allows control of all visitor access in the buildings. All school doors can now be kept locked throughout the day. We are gradually implementing that all visitors will have to leave an ID with the office staff while in the building. Shortly, we will begin to pilot the ID check software that will scan those IDs for people who shouldn't be in the schools such as sex offenders. Emergency "panic buttons" have been installed for all main office secretaries and the respective principals. They will ring in directly with the monitoring company dispatch service indicating an emergency active intrusion alarm. Along with those items PGE has already implemented that parents no longer walk their children to the classroom. We will be expanding that as well, so there shouldn't be any unknown people in the building at any time. It has worked at PGE without incident. Since cameras were not included in this round of security improvements, extra motion & door contacts have been added to the scope of the project in order to provide minimum building coverage. That work is now complete.

Entryway "man trap" staging areas have been set up in both Poplar Grove & Middle Schools. Their completion allows a visitor to enter a building but not gain direct access to the school hallways. Secondary permission to enter must still be granted by the main office staff. One of the remaining issues raised by the security committee in 2012 was to complete mantraps at the main entrance of all schools. We anticipate that this will cost between \$155,000 and \$225,000 to complete such barriers at NBHS, NBUE, Manchester and Capron. Administratively, we recommend doing that. The majority of area schools either had or have recently installed mantraps at their main entrances. Other barriers have been installed in all district buildings to slow down intruder access.

A new master key system has been developed for the district. Lock cores are on order and rekeying is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year. Training needs to be provided to secretaries on the use of the visitor scanners as those are fully implemented. Fire alarm panel monitoring capability is being developed and will be added to the security monitoring contract. Due to compatibility of the new state of the art intrusion system and various vintage fire alarm panels, connectivity issues and monitoring company options are being reviewed at this time.

Some of the Board suggested that we provide security personnel at each building. It appears that Rockford and Harvard are the only districts that currently place a staff member at each school entrance. According to Mr. Hubert's calculations, to do so at the four buildings without mantraps would cost about \$49,871 in salary costs assuming that could be done with a seven hour employee. Benefit costs could be upwards of \$25,000 in addition. If all six buildings were so staffed, the salary cost could exceed \$75,000 per year. Please let us know if you would like us to explore that option.

# North Boone

## Community Unit School District 200

*Steven M. Baule, Ed.D. Ph.D. Superintendent*

August 28, 2014

Dear PGE Parents and Guardians,

Keeping your children safe while at school is our district's top priority!

Listed below are several safety measures currently in place designed to safeguard students and to affect positive student learning in the classroom. As always, I would welcome your comments and would be happy to discuss any ideas or concerns you may have regarding the matter of school safety or emergency preparedness.

Although we have seen an increase in violence in our public schools over the past few years, I still believe the schools in the North Boone School District are the safest place in the community for our students for a variety of reasons. Consider the following:

**Visitor Registry:** All visitors have to register in the office before having any access to the building. **Beginning Tuesday, September 2, 2014**, we will be asking each visitor for a driver's license or state id. This will be kept in the office until you leave. All visitors will be required to wear a badge while they are in the building. When you exit the building, you may pick up your identification card from Mrs. Piskie in the school office.

**Monitoring of School Visitors during Arrival and Dismissal: Beginning Tuesday, September 2, 2014**, parents/guardians will only be allowed to escort their children to the inside office door when arriving to school. At this point, we will have assistants available to walk students to their classroom, if needed. This will allow us to keep all students as safe as possible from the moment they enter the school building. This procedure will also be in place for the end of the day as parents pick up their children. If parents need to see a staff member, they will need to obtain permission from the office.

**Controlled Access:** All exterior building doors are monitored and/or remotely controlled. Students and parents will have a designated entrance to use each day (Door A).

**School Preparedness Drills:** Each school year, staff and students participate in weather, fire and intruder alerts.

**School Climate:** We create a safe, supportive school climate that provides school wide behavioral expectations, character education, and positive interventions and supports.

**Preparedness Training:** We conduct a regular review of plans and simulation drills. We also train staff in how to respond to students' questions and crisis awareness.

**Monitoring of Student Common Areas:** We monitor and supervise student areas such as hallways, the cafeteria, playgrounds, and the parking lot.

Please understand that all of these procedures are implemented to help your child remain as safe as possible in all situations. By adhering to these procedures, we can create a caring school community in which adults and students respect and trust each other. All students will feel connected, understand expectations, and receive the support they need each and every day.

At Poplar Grove Elementary, your children come first. Thank you for entrusting them to our care.

Respectfully,

Kristina M. Crawford, Principal

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