

July 10, 2018

Dear SCS Families,

The safety and well-being of our students continues to be a top priority at Sheridan Community Schools. Our longstanding safety and security procedures and protocols are continuously reviewed and adapted to improve our school safety measures. In light of recent events so close to home, we feel it is important to share with you some of our safety policies and security measures.

#### **Resource Officer**

SCS employs a full-time onsite resource officer, who is a member of the National Association of School Resource Officers, and a member of the Sheridan Police department. Our SRO participates in required training by both entities as well as the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy

#### **School Safety Specialists**

Each school corporation in the state is required by law to have one certified school safety specialist. SCS has five specialists who participate in state-sponsored ongoing training on national and state best practices.

#### **Safety Committees**

We have both building level and corporation-wide safety committees consisting of administrators, faculty, school resource officer and local and State police. Committees meet on a regular basis throughout the year to evaluate latest trends, tools, and procedures. We also have SCS representatives that participate in the Hamilton County Safe Schools Commission.

#### **Safety Drills**

School safety drills are performed throughout the year, including tornado drills, fire drills, earthquake drills, and lockdown drills. This has included functional and full scale exercises as well as training with local first responders. Situational drills are practiced at various times (between classes/lunch/arrival/d dismissal).

Bus safety drills are performed during the year, with emergency bus evacuation drills practiced once per semester.

#### **Facilities**

We continue to work to improve our safety and security of our buildings. We have added new entry systems at Sheridan High School and Sheridan Elementary this year, matching the entry protocol in place at Sheridan Middle School:

- The exterior doors at the main entrance of the SHS and SES will be locked which is different than previous years.
- As visitors come to the buildings they will need to ring a buzzer system and give their name through a camera\intercom in order to gain entry.
- SMS entry system technology has been upgraded and all buildings have the same access system and procedures

All exterior doors and will be locked during the school day.

In addition to the new entry systems, new security camera systems have also been installed in our buildings this summer. Those new camera systems have increased functionality for our administrators and School Resource Officer.

We care deeply about our children and community, and school safety is a key element. We will continue to focus on safety initiatives, ongoing training, and the use of the latest technology tools and advancements in security to keep our students safe. We appreciate your cooperation as we work together to keep our schools safe.

Dr. Doug Miller  
Superintendent-Sheridan Community Schools