



July 2018

Dear Copley-Fairlawn Families,

The safety and security of our students is our top priority. On March 20, the Copley-Fairlawn City School District hosted a community forum on school safety, where approximately 140 parents, community members, staff members and local law enforcement in attendance commended the district for its past and present response to school safety. Additionally, concerns were voiced over the need for school resource officers, door barricades, additional cameras, metal detectors, and mental health support for our students.

At this meeting, the Copley-Fairlawn City School District introduced Kenneth Trump, CEO of National School Safety and Security Services, a national expert on school safety and security who was brought in to review our practices, tour our facilities and interview students, staff, administration, parents, community members and local law enforcement officials. While we felt that we had a strong system in place to protect our schools against potential violent acts, we took the extra step to bring in an expert to provide us with additional information and recommendations.

Using the information gathered during their review of our district, National School Safety and Security Services provided the district with a report, which we received on June 13, 2018. Due to the sensitivity of school security, we are not at liberty to release the report to the public; however, we believe it is important to share a list of the safety and security items that have been implemented, as well as those that will be implemented.

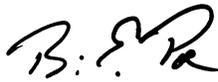
1. The Copley Police Department trained all staff in A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate), an active shooter civilian response training that provides options-based strategic methods against an active shooter event. We hold regular drills under police department supervision in all buildings, as well as our school buses.
2. We added secure vestibule entrances in the summer of 2017 to restrict access to our schools and require visitors to check in at the office. Visitors are monitored prior to entering.
3. We have hired an additional guidance counselor at the elementary level so that one counselor will be in each building to provide support for our students and staff.
4. We increased our part time mental health support for grades 5-12 to a full time social worker position in February of 2018. We are adding an additional social worker for the 2018-2019 school year.
5. Our Guidance staff has attended training on early identification of students who are, or may be, experiencing mental health issues.

6. In cooperation with the Copley Township and the Copley Police Department, we added a full-time resource officer (uniformed and armed police officer) at Copley High School and Copley-Fairlawn Middle School in April of 2018. At the recommendation of National School Safety and Security Services, we will maintain the two positions. We are working with the Copley Police department on how to most effectively fill those positions.
7. Metal detectors were not recommended for our schools.
8. We are adding 24 cameras at the primary buildings this summer.
9. We have offered access to our camera feeds to our police departments.
10. We have purchased door barricades to restrict access to classrooms during a lockdown. These will be in place in all buildings and will be incorporated with our ALICE drills that are monitored by our police departments.
11. Select buildings have been, and will continue to be, utilized by our police departments for active shooter trainings.
12. Multiple staff members in each building have been trained in "Stop the Bleed" emergency trauma response. Trauma/First Aid kits will be purchased for each classroom.

The Copley-Fairlawn City School District appreciates the support of our parents, students, staff, community members and first responders as we continue to improve our safety practices and procedures.

If you have any questions, please contact my office at (330) 664-4800.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Poe".

Brian Poe
Superintendent