



## Plumsted Township School District

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Gerald North  
Superintendent of Schools

Sean Gately  
Business Administrator

February 23, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the administrators and staff of the Plumsted Township School District, I want to assure you that we have always, and will continue to take proactive steps to ensure the safety and security of our schools. The well-being of your children, who you entrust to our care each day, is our single highest responsibility.

I also want to stress the partnership that is needed with our families and ask that you reinforce with your child that he or she should immediately report anything they see or observe as suspicious or out of the ordinary (on school grounds, in the neighborhood or social media, for example). Help us by reminding your child to keep all school doors locked, and to not prop open doors or open doors for visitors even if they know the person. As parents, we must continually pay attention to our children, their friends, their habits, their online interactions and changes to their personality. The family-school partnership is fundamental if we are to do our best to keep our most prized possessions safe.

This week the administration has met with our local police to talk about how we can improve and increase communication and safety throughout our schools. We will continue to work with the local police, the county prosecutor's office and the New Jersey State Police to develop and review practices for our schools.

Currently, we have four full-time security guards employed by the district. I will be recommending that we hire a fifth guard for the New Egypt Primary School. All of the guards are retired police officers or state troopers who are allowed to be certified to carry a weapon. Plumsted Township Board Policy 7446 allows me to recommend to the Board of Education that these individuals be allowed to carry a weapon in school and on school property. I will be making that recommendation at the February 28, 2018 meeting. Additionally, we will have a presentation about further safety and security recommendations that the Warrior 2022 Committee has brought forward.

Lastly, I welcome any recommendations and/or ideas that individuals with expertise in any safety and security field would like to share. Please feel free to contact me at [northg@newegypt.us](mailto:northg@newegypt.us) or 609-758-6800 x4206.

Sincerely,

Gerald North