



## *Lockport City School District*

### *School Security Message*

*March 2018*

The school shooting in Florida last month reminds us of the importance of school security here in the Lockport City School District and the community of Lockport. No doubt, the safety of all students and staff continues to be a top priority in our district.

A Lockport City School District School Safety Team meeting was held on Monday, February 26, 2018. Representatives from parent, teacher, administration, and support staff units along with local law enforcement and safety specialist representatives were present.

Below you will read about some of the security measures that are in place within the district, along with suggestions for what else can be done to ensure safe schools for all people.

As part of a recent capital project approved by the residents of Lockport, the main entrances in our school buildings have been redesigned, and the remaining exterior doors of buildings are locked during the school day. Retired police officers serving as armed security officers have been assigned to Lockport High School, Lockport High School West at Charlotte Cross, and North Park Junior High School. Through a partnership between the district and the Lockport Police Department, a school resource officer works at the high school. Security cameras are placed throughout the district. An anonymous tip line is available on the district website and our mobile app. Polling locations for budget voting have been removed from our K-8 school buildings. School safety plans for emergency situations are reviewed each year and approved by the Board of Education. Required emergency drills are conducted annually throughout the school year. A school safety consultant advises the district on considerations for improving security measures. There is a strong and positive relationship between the district and local law enforcement agencies. The Board of Education has a very active facilities committee, under the leadership of Trustee Thomas Fiegl, which continually reviews, discusses, and recommends strategies to enhance security procedures.

In addition to these measures, we remind all people associated with the district to be alert to your environment and report anything that looks or sounds suspicious. With an increase in the frequency of school threats in many districts, please be assured that we take all reports seriously and work immediately with law enforcement. When reporting a concern on the anonymous tip line, please be as detailed as possible, including names of individuals of concern. Parents should regularly monitor their children's social media accounts, and use care and caution themselves about posting information that may not be accurate. All visitors to our schools are required to present identification upon entering the buildings.

The Lockport City School District Board of Education is committed to constantly reviewing and improving school security. While increased security can be very inconvenient, it is critically necessary. Our collective efforts will allow us to promote and support the safety of all people in the Lockport City School District. Thank you deeply for your cooperation.