METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT of NEW DURHAM TOWNSHIP

207 E. Valparaiso Street, Westville, Indiana 46391-9712 Phone (219) 785-2239 • Fax (219) 785-4584

Administration

Lynn Reinert Johnson Ed. S., Interim Superintendent Alissa L. Schnick, Secondary Principal Brian A. Ton, Elementary Principal Josh Goeringer, Athletic Director/Asst. Principal Board of Trustees
Lynn M. Wilson, President
Mark D. Parkman, Vice President
Vicki Hannon, Secretary
Karen Jedrysek, Deputy Secretary
Wayne Hodge, Member

February 15, 2018

Dear Families,

I know you share my shock and sadness over the events in Florida yesterday. So many innocent children and adults lost their lives. As a parent and grandparent, I know that school safety is of utmost concern. I would like to reiterate the safety procedures that we have in place at Westville.

Our doors are locked during the school day. Employees wear an identification badge and visitors must identify themselves through an intercom and sign in at the office. When a visitor signs in, a picture is taken that is part of the visitor badge which must be worn. Our office staffs do a wonderful job screening entry into the building.

We have a Safety and Security Plan in place that is reviewed and revised annually in conjunction with the Westville Fire and Police. Mr. Ton, our Elementary Principal; Mr. Ott, our Maintenance Director, and Mr. Lanoue, our Resource Officer, are trained annually by the state of Indiana in safety and security. All three are in the Advanced Training Academy. We have procedures in place for building lockdowns and building evacuations, along with mandatory drills. These are practiced with students during the school year as required by the state of Indiana.

All employees who have direct contact and with children must go through an extensive background check. Likewise, any volunteer must pass a limited background check.

We are fortunate to have Mr. Scott Lanoue as our Resource Officer, whose services we share with South Central. Officer Lanoue has direct contact with our police force who can respond to any call at a moment's notice. We also have a county wide radio system available if the situation warrants its use.

Please know that your child's safety and security is our first priority.

Sincerely,

Lynn Johnson, Ed.S. Superintendent