



Meade County Schools Safety Information

Dear Meade Parents, Guardians, and Community Members:

Our hearts continue to be saddened in the wake of the recent school shooting in Marshall County, Kentucky. We want you to know that we remain dedicated to keeping every child safe at Meade County Schools every day. We have a holistic approach toward school safety that includes planning for an emergency response, as well as diligently managing everyday routines safely. Please be aware of some of the safety measures we have in place.

Student Relationships: We want every child to have a positive relationship with at least one adult. The research tells us that if children have a trusted adult whom they will reach out to in times of trouble, schools are safer. They will share information that will guide us to help them as individuals and they will share information that will help us identify potential dangers. Preventing dangerous situations from happening before they actually happen is our goal. Please ask your child if they have a trusted adult in their school. If they do not, let us know so we can help your child establish one.

Building Security: If a dangerous situation does arise, the research tells us that quickly getting children to a secure location is the next critical step. Each school has a plan to do so, and each school practices its plan. School staff talks through the different student issues in their building (recess, PE, lunchtime, class change, etc.) to ensure that they can move children to a safe area quickly and account for all students efficiently.

Each building also has a secured entrance that funnels all visitors to the front office to register with a staff member. Visitors sign-in with a computer system that checks the sex offender database. Visitors are then granted limited access to the building as they take care of school business.

School Resource Officer: We maintain a partnership with the Meade County Sheriff's Department which enables us to have a full-time officer shared among our schools. The SRO helps school staff with mentoring, teaching DARE, and supervising, and serves as a liaison to local law enforcement.

District officials have been meeting with local law enforcement, EMS, Fire officials, Meade County Emergency Management leaders, along with others to ensure a coordinated response from safety officials in the event a need arises.

Drop-off/Pick-up times: Measures are in place to ensure that these times are safe and orderly so that children are properly accounted for and they are reunited with only approved family members. Additionally, our bus drivers do a fantastic job transporting our children safely. The national research shows that school busses are by far the safest way for children to be transported to school.

Reunification: On any given day, students are signed-out to parents and other approved adults. On a typical day this will happen in the school office perhaps for a routine doctor visit. However, in an emergency situation it may happen in a secure, off-site location. Either way, our office staff takes the extra time to ensure that children are appropriately signed-out to only approved adults. Your understanding in this process helps keep all children safe. If possible, allow yourself a little extra time when checking your child out for an appointment. If you make changes in your contact information, please notify your school.

Security cameras: We have security cameras in every building and on all of our busses that can be monitored on-site and remotely by our school staff. The district is continually increasing the number of cameras to enhance supervision and to promote a safer environment.

Regular drills/practices: Our schools conduct regular drills so that all children can be safely evacuated from a bus or a building during an emergency. We also practice moving children to designated safe zones in the event of a weather related or lockdown incident. Students and staff take these drills seriously. It is amazing to watch hundreds of children moving to safe areas in mere minutes.

Please know that we are working tirelessly to make every school in our district as safe as possible. Your child is the most precious gift that we share. You can partner with us in this effort by continuing to supervise and mentor your children. Never hesitate to contact us with any thoughts on safety that you might have. We are here to listen and to help!

Sincerely,

Dr. John D. Millay
Superintendent