



A Message from Osceola School District concerning Student Safety

Due to the recent spike in school violence incidences, Osceola School District understands the need to inform parents about our current school safety procedures. Osceola School District, which includes all faculty and staff, has the first priority of doing everything reasonably possible to protect your children against any threat that may arise while they are in our care.

We have always taken a proactive approach in making sure our campuses are safe and students can learn in an environment free of fear. We want to share preventions we are currently providing to honor our commitment to the safety of your children.

- The district facilitates continuous drills. Each campus conducts a variety of emergency preparedness drills, including, severe weather, fire drills and active shooter/lockdown drills. Each drill is different and unique to the situation.
- Emergency Door Safety Locks have been installed in all rooms. These locks were purchased to provide a quick and easy barrier against classroom intruders.
- Behavior Interventionist and School Counselors are on staff to work with students to resolve behavioral issues before they escalate. These preventative measures include:
 - Administering one-to-one intensive behavior intervention to students.
 - Actively participating in behavior intervention meetings and professional development.
 - Monitors, observes and reports behavior of students.
 - Assists students and parents by providing proper examples, emotional support and general guidance.
 - Communicates with teachers regarding programs and materials to meet student needs.
 - Assists students in developing self-help and self-advocacy skills as directed.
 - Supports Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) initiatives.
 - Provides assistance with de-escalating student behaviors.
- Osceola School District collaborates with the City of Osceola Police Department to assign 2 full-time trained School Resource Officers (SRO) in the district to work with each campus to provide security and reassurance for our students. These officers work hand in hand with school administrators to maintain a safe learning environment.
- A Crisis Communication System is in place to quickly and accurately provide essential information to first responders, staff and faculty and parents. The Crisis Communication System includes:

- The 911 PANIC Button System is in place and tested to ensure all teachers, staff, emergency responders and administrators are notified quickly in the event of a crisis. School leaders can designate an emergency by a push of one button, which immediately begins a multi-point emergency call. Additionally, in-district Emergency Responders have been identified to be notified and respond to any campus emergency.
 - Intercom systems are in place on all campuses which provide a means of emergency communication within a building. This is in addition to the 911 Panic Button System.
 - This year the district implement 2-way hand- held radios for each campus. Each office has a radio as well as each principal, dean and others. We are connected to the Osceola Police Department repeater system which allows us to talk campus to campus and also directly to the police department. Each principal can talk directly to the superintendent's office. The superintendent can monitor radio traffic on each campus.
 - In turn, School Messenger can inform parents and families of any emergency situation within moments. Also, our active Official Osceola School District Facebook page can provide quick and accurate information to parents and stakeholder.
- Over 130 Security Cameras are installed across the district. These digital cameras monitor activity inside and outside of buildings.
 - Entry and exit from our schools is monitored. Front doors in elementary schools are locked at all times. Parents and others coming into the schools must stop at the main office to check in.
 - All adults who work with our students are required to pass a background check.
 - Metal detectors and bag checks are periodically used at the high-school to prevent potential issues.

We trust you will agree we have the infrastructure including people and processes in place throughout Osceola School District to keep your children safe. If an emergency arises, our faculty, staff and students are aware of how to respond timely and accurately. With that said, we know our parents and community are also key to keeping our students safe. We ask you to always report any unsafe conditions or concerns to the school principals and always call 911 in the event of an emergency.

In Osceola School District, your children's safety has always come first. Thank you for entrusting them to our care.


Michael H. Cox

Superintendent, Osceola School District