



February 25, 2022

Farmingdale School Security Update

Dear Farmingdale Families,

The safety and security of our students and staff have always been the greatest priority at Farmingdale School. The Farmingdale Security Task Force is comprised of a variety of stakeholders, including school administrators, teachers, parents, and state law enforcement, who work together to enhance the safety of our school. In early February, the Task Force met with the objectives to address new security drill legislation, propose security updates for the facility and grounds, and evaluate the work already accomplished by the school in pursuit of safety.

A new Drill Law has recently been passed in New Jersey which requires school districts to maintain the integrity of a drill while not causing unnecessary panic. Schools are to clearly communicate to students and staff at the end of a drill that the event was only a drill and that no current danger exists. All messaging delivered during and after a drill must be developmentally- and age-appropriate, and students must not be exposed to content or imaging that would induce a traumatic response. The law further stipulates that by the end of the school day in which a drill is conducted, districts shall provide written notification to parents of enrolled students that a drill took place. We began this on February 23, 2022 and will continue to do so each month via email through our One Call System.

Since our Task Force's inception in 2018, the school has undertaken several initiatives to improve the security of the learning environment. Some of these were large-scale projects, such as the relocation and construction of a more secure entry and main office, but there have been many other improved policies and structural amenities that modernized our facility to meet current standards. As protocols are ever-evolving, discussions regarding future enhancements are underway to determine their necessity or feasibility.

We are grateful for our engaged community members who support these safety initiatives and who volunteer their time for the schoolwide benefit. We continue to look ahead to keep our facility up-to-date, complying with new legislation and always exploring how best to stay prepared for emergencies.

In education,
Mrs. Conroy
Superintendent