

Harborfields Central School District



Security Forum

April 18, 2018



Objective

- Share what we have done
- Share some results of security audit
- Listen to the community



Outline

- Physical Security
- Student and staff support

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Physical Security Overview





Seraph Report

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The report was developed by SERAPH.

Their goal was to assess physical security, security policies and management systems as they relate to the security of each facility.

They identified positive systems and procedures and also some situations that need additional attention.

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DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

*The Harborfields Central District-Wide School Safety Plan **is in alignment with the State of NY code 8 CRR-NY 155.17.***

The document provides clear guidance and direction for the development of school building level emergency plans that focus on the five missions of emergency preparedness: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery.

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PREVENTION-the capabilities necessary to avoid, deter, or stop an imminent crime or threatened or actual mass casualty incident. Prevention is the action schools take to prevent a threatened or actual incident from occurring.

PROTECTION-the capabilities to secure schools against acts of violence and manmade or natural disasters. Protection focuses on ongoing actions that protect students, teachers, staff, visitors, networks, and property from a threat or hazard.

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MITIGATION-the capabilities necessary to eliminate or reduce the loss of life and property damage by lessening the impact of an event / emergency or reduce the likelihood that threats and hazards will happen.

RESPONSE-the capabilities necessary to stabilize an emergency once it has already happened or is certain to happen in an unpreventable way; establish a safe and secure environment; save lives and property; and facilitate the transition to recovery.

RECOVERY-the capabilities necessary to assist schools affected by an event or emergency in restoring the learning environment.

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STAFF HANDBOOKS

Materials typically covered within staff handbooks are intended as an advisory document to employees regarding common district information, rules, and regulations and not intended to supersede Board policy, administrative regulation, or negotiated agreements.

The HF Staff Handbooks for each respective school within the district address the above components in various formats with references to specific appendices. The content for inclusion provides appropriate clear direction and is adjusted and aligned for staff grade levels working within each specific school environment: Primary, Elementary, Middle School and High School.

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DISTRICT POLICIES (HF)

HF, via the Human Resources Department, disseminates and provides for all professional staff easy access to specific district policies that typically are used on a daily basis.

The policies provide a varied array of functional guidance, well-being/health information, school rules/discipline protocols, education initiatives, ethics, social order expectations, sexual harassment, bullying prevention and emergency procedures.

All are conducive to fostering a positive climate and sensible school operations. The policies promote constructive guidelines for navigating potential challenges while achieving anticipated success in an educational environment.

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SECURITY TEAM

The positive aspect of the district's security team is that it is made up of in-house personnel.

This is positive because it increases the ability of administrators to manage effectively the use of the team throughout the day.

The security team is made up of personnel from many backgrounds. For example, many guards are former Corrections Officers which is a positive because of their training and experience in the handling of aggressive people using verbal skills.

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Areas for Remediation

- *While all building safety plans demonstrate sound management practices, there are areas that need to be updated to meet State and Federal guidelines. **Doing so may also make the District eligible for security related grant opportunities through the Department of Education.***
- *Specific hardware and software upgrades were noted.*
- *Suggested enhancements to day-to-day security protocols and procedures were outlined.*
- *Suggested enhancements to building level emergency drills were provided.*

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Positive Aspects

- *Relationship with the local police is good.*
- *Lighting on the perimeter of the facility is good.*
- *The administration mitigates issues with parents well.*
- *Vendors are monitored and escorted when in the building this is very good.*
- *Groups using the facility after school hours are well behaved and managed.*
- *Movement of the students between classes is orderly which points to strong management by administrators and teaching staff.*
- *Mealtimes are well managed.*

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Positive Aspects

Parents are escorted, this is a good practice.

Police come into the building to join in emergency drills.

*Schools have detailed and extensive set of lock down and shelter drills in place during the school year and **this is a good practice.***

Staff work well in the execution of security protocols such as keeping exterior doors closed.

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Conclusion

This district is well managed overall. Its students are well monitored, and the administrators are generally high quality.

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Overview

Harborfields is special place because of our students and the work that we have done.

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Overview

- **Our schools are safe**
- Safety procedures are reviewed
- Staff handbooks for faculty and staff
- Safety plans in place

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Overview

- The vast majority of our security personnel are retired law enforcement professionals
- All exterior doors are locked with limited entrance in each building
- All classrooms and office doors have a quick locking procedure in security situations

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Overview

- Visitors are not permitted to enter our buildings during the school day without a specific purpose
- Identification of every visitor is checked before entering the building
- Each visitor must wear an identification pass
- Door buzzer system in place at each building

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Overview

- Roaming security guards throughout the day in each building
- Security guards at each entrance at arrival and dismissal
- Ongoing training and review of emergency preparedness, including regular drills, are practiced throughout the school year

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Overview

- Surveillance cameras at all buildings
- A strong partnership with the Suffolk County Police Department plus regular discussions with consultants and security firms.
- Front desk and security personnel are equipped with wireless devices
- Radio communication between security, custodians and administration throughout the day

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Changes this current year

Additional security cars park at designated entrances

- Security guards will be outside at each main entrance
- They will add an additional layer of security
- The initiative will continue to be maintained in the 2018 – 2019 budget

Upgrade ID scanning system

- The installation of the Visitor Management System will allow the greeter and the security guard to rapidly identify, capture, and log visitors, volunteers, employees and vendors. Once cleared, a photo badge is instantly printed designating expiration and final destination. The system is easy to use and completes the process in seconds without any hindrance to the flow of traffic.

Smart Bond Update

- Details to be shared in the next presentation

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Student Support





Overview of Programs

- Research-based Character Education Program
- Caught in the Act
- Character Trait of the Month
- Tornado Listening Caring
- Internet Safety programs/assemblies for students and parents
- Holocaust survivor speaks to students each year
- Anti-Bullying Program
- Natural Helpers Program
- Best Buddies
- No Place for Hate

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Mental Health Audit and Security Assessment





Mental and Security Internal Audit

Mental Health Audit

Question: How familiar are our students with the mental health support services available to them at school?

Plan: We will conduct a survey of all students in grades 7-12. This information will be used to develop future educational programs for our students.

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Mental and Security Internal Audit

Internal Security Assessment

Question: What are the perceptions of our staff with regard to their preparedness to respond to an emergency situation?

Plan: To answer this question, we will conduct a survey of all staff. This information will be used to guide potential improvements to building and district emergency protocols, training, and safety plans.

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Mental Health Curriculum





Mental Health Curriculum

New York State Education Law requires schools to begin providing instruction in mental health on or after July 1, 2018.

The curriculum project will focus on the 9 core elements:

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Mental Health Curriculum

1. The concept of wellness including self-care and personal responsibility for one's own mental health and wellness.
2. The concept of mental health as an integral part of health.
3. The recognition of the signs and symptoms of developing mental health problems.



Mental Health Curriculum

4. Instruction in the awareness and management of a mental health crises such as the risk of suicide, self-harm and other mental health crises.
5. The relationship between mental health, substance use and other negative coping behaviors.
6. The negative impact of stigma and cultural attitudes toward mental illness on treatment seeking behavior and as a contributing factor in discrimination against people with mental illnesses.



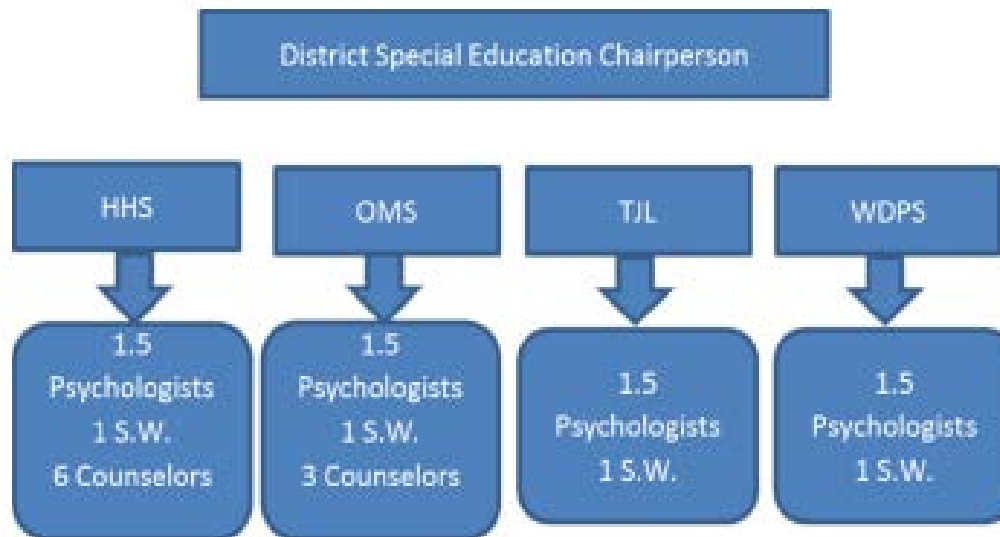
Mental Health Curriculum

7. The concept of recovery from mental illness.
8. The implications of risk factors, protective factors and resiliency on wellness, mental health and recovery.
9. Instruction in identifying appropriate professionals, services and family/social supports for treating and maintaining recovery from mental illness.



Enhancement of Support Service

Addition of Special Education chair to help support the work of the psychologists.



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Long term





Long Term

- **Two essential points that we will never assert:**
 1. Never at Harborfields...
 2. We have the perfect plan...

- **Security is not and should not be just about guards and gates**

- **We must continue in our tradition of excellence**
 1. Educate
 2. Emphasize relationships
 3. Be proactive and relentless in searching for what's best for the students

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Questions?



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THANK YOU

