



**Greenfield-Central School Safety Symposium
Audience Questions & Answers
November 14, 2018**

Audience Comment: Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the safety of our kids. It's very much appreciated and doesn't go unnoticed! Thank you!

Do all schools from elementary to high school have the same level of security?

Staff at all levels receive the same training in regards to school safety. Each building in the corporation participated in a buildings and grounds audit this fall. As a result of the audit, additional security enhancements were recommended. Specific details of school safety plans are not shared to the public pursuant to Indiana Code. Students at each level receive training appropriate to their developmental level.

What ongoing training do staff receive?

Selected staff attend and are graduates of the Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy. These staff members participate in district-wide safety collaborations, schedule and conduct drills and reflections, facilitate table-top exercises with staff, and lead safety discussions within their buildings. As drills are conducted and adjustments to protocols are made, staff are made aware of those changes. All teachers participated in active shooter training made available this spring. Other non-teaching staff participated as well.

What training are students receiving?

Unfortunately, acts of violence are carried out in society too frequently. When schools conduct Lockdown drills with students, we hope to teach students that they have options available to them in the event they find themselves in proximity to an act of violence. Students are taught protocols to respond to a violent event: barricade in a room to minimize the intruder's access, prepare to defend yourself and others in the event the intruder gains access to your area, run from the intruder and find safety.

Why don't we do more active shooter drills?

State law requires that schools conduct a man-made drill once a semester. Greenfield-Central Community Schools utilizes these drills as an opportunity to practice responses to a violent intruder and other man-made scenarios that students and staff may encounter. The purpose of conducting drills is to ensure that students know how to respond in a number of different scenarios.

When are parents notified about lockdowns and drills?

It is not the current practice of Greenfield-Central Schools to alert parents of school safety drills.

What does the title “SRO” mean?

A school resource officer (SRO) is a full-time, carefully selected, specially-trained law enforcement officer employed by the Greenfield Police Department, in partnership with G-CSC.

What training do police officers get before they are placed in a school?

SROs are trained to handle a wide variety of issues that may occur in a school setting. Officers that serve as SROs follow the Triad of School Policing that consists of the officer serving in three distinct roles: that of an educator, an informal counselor, and a law enforcement officer. An effective SRO spends much of his/her time building relationships with students so the role of law enforcement is more efficient. The SRO is not a school disciplinarian.

Do you plan to have an School Resource Officer (SRO) at each school?

Since last March, the school corporation has increased the number of SROs from two to four. We will continue to evaluate our needs, and we will consider whether or not additional SROs are needed to help us in meeting our school safety/security goals.

How often are lockers searched at random?

In accordance with Indiana Code, a student who uses a locker that is the property of a school corporation is presumed to have no expectation of privacy in: (1) that locker; or (2) the locker's contents. (c) In accordance with the rules of the governing body, a principal may search: (1) a student's locker; and (2) the locker's contents; at any time. (d) A law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the geographic area having a school facility containing a student's locker may: (1) at the request of the school principal; and (2) in accordance with rules of the governing body of the school corporation; assist a school administrator in searching a student's locker and the locker's contents. School administrators may search student lockers when there is reasonable suspicion to do so.

Are bookbags allowed to be carried throughout the school day?

At this point, students in the junior high and high school are able to carry bookbags. Students in the Intermediate and Elementary Schools do not carry bookbags.

Are there plans/intentions regarding guns for teacher use?

Greenfield-Central Community Schools utilizes the expertise of armed, highly-trained members of the Greenfield Police Department and Hancock County Sheriff's Department to maintain a presence in our schools and to respond to a violent threat in our schools. G-C's current position does not allow staff members to possess weapons on school grounds.

Are exterior doors alarmed?

Some exterior doors are equipped with an audible alarm. If a door is propped open for prolonged periods of time, a notification can be sent to the office through our monitoring software. Staff and students are trained to not ever prop a door open or let anyone in a locked exterior door. All school visitors should be directed to the main entrance and the front office.

Where can parent/community members learn about ongoing and future initiatives?

Greenfield-Central teachers and students continue to implement and train on the Standard Response Protocol provided by the iloveguys Foundation (<http://www.iloveguys.org/>). The IDOE requires that each school submits a comprehensive, all-hazard, safety plan each year. Specific details of school safety plans are not shared to the public pursuant to Indiana Code.

What kind of safety protocols are enacted with school buses? Are bus drivers being trained if there is someone who is a threat?

School bus drivers received training on man-made incidents during the fall. They continue to receive training on building positive relationships with students.

What training do classified staff (substitute teachers, instructional assistants, custodial staff, cafeteria staff, bus drivers, office staff) receive?

All staff in G-C schools complete training in anti-bullying, medication administration, exposure to bloodborne pathogens, youth suicide prevention, and mandatory reporting of child abuse. As we continue to improve our school safety protocols and practices, all staff receive updated training.

What security measures are in place for after-hours events?

During the school day, only the door by the front office is unlocked, and that door leads visitors into the office where a second set of interior doors is locked. During after-school events, a limited amount of exterior doors are unlocked. In those situations, a set of interior doors are locked in order to minimize visitors to the main area of the building.

Will there be SROs at after-hours school events?

Greenfield-Central will continue to use SROs and off-duty law enforcement officers at certain events. This has been our practice for many years, and it will continue to be a priority for us.

Will hand-held wands be used at after-hours events?

Handheld metal detectors will be used from time to time when there is reasonable suspicion that an individual (or group of individuals) is carrying prohibited items on school corporation property.

What is the process for letting parents know about threats?

School officials will alert parents to a substantiated threat to school safety. If parents or community members have information regarding an implicit or explicit threat to any school or student, information should be submitted via the Safe Schools alerting system, found on the top of the district's webpage.

What are we doing to support students' mental health needs?

Greenfield-Central has developed a partnership with Hancock Physicians Network's Hancock Counseling and Psychiatric to provide licensed clinical therapists in our schools. The partnership currently places therapist support in our junior high and high school. We plan to expand the service to other buildings as financial support for student mental health through this partnership expands.

Why are we not a zero tolerance school?

The intention of implementing zero-tolerance policies in school was to make schools safer places to learn. However, when it comes to implementing these policies, researchers have not found conclusive evidence that these policies actually make schools safer. In reality, zero-tolerance policies can actually be more harmful to students.

Has the police department looked into and considered the School Shield program? Why or why not?

The Greenfield-Central Safety Team continues to research the many options that exist in order to keep our schools safe. At this time, the School Shield program is one of many under review.

What is our protocol for using the wands we were given by the state?

School personnel use the handheld metal detector wands when reasonable suspicion exists.

What about installing metal detectors at all schools?

Given the number of entrances and the large student population in the school system, logistics and financing has been a major part of the ongoing discussion regarding metal detectors. Additional research must be considered in future conversations in regards to the effectiveness of metal detectors, as they are not 100% effective. The Hancock County Safety Commission, and the Greenfield-Central Corporation Safety Team continue to review a variety of options and proposals regarding physical safety infrastructure.

How are we keeping the building safe from "outsiders" during the day?

All visitors to Greenfield-Central Schools must enter through the main office doors and follow our Safe Visitor procedures. Visitors are required to bring a photo ID and successfully complete a background check. Additionally, all interior and exterior doors remain locked during the school day.

Is anyone proactively monitoring social media?

Our best school safety asset is our community. Anyone who has a concern regarding school safety should call 911 or submit an anonymous tip through our Safe Schools widget on each school's homepage. Parents who become aware of an implicit or explicit threat to a school or student should call 911, submit a tip through the Safe Schools widget, or contact the administration at the student's school. School safety is everyone's responsibility.