



Cynthia Seniuk, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

August 29, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back from what I hope was a restful and relaxing summer with your children. As we embark on a new school year, please be assured that the North Merrick School District makes the safety and security of students and staff our top priority.

We will continue several of the security initiatives and enhancements put into place during the 2017-18 school year. These measures include security camera upgrades; a security guard assigned to each building/school (from a new security company, Wisdom Protective Services); regular communication with, and visitations by, the Nassau County Police Department; and improvements in our visitor procedures. Additionally, each of our schools have engaged students and staff in the necessary preparation for lockdown, lockout, shelter in place and evacuation drills, and will continue to do so.

Starting on the first day of school, we will begin vetting all visitors through the use of driver license scanners in each building. As a result, please be prepared to present your driver's license or state-issued non-driver photo identification. If you do not possess either of these photo IDs, please contact your school principal to establish an alternate protocol as passports are not compatible with the scanners. Also, please continue to call ahead to inform the school that you will be stopping by, along with the reason for your visit.

During the fall, vestibules in each building will be outfitted with locking hardware, security glass, and buzzers to create secondary entryways. Upon the completion of these structures, the Board of Education will revisit the assignment of one security guard in each school. And, finally, all classroom and corridor doors and locks will be replaced with a high security key system.

Our district takes the welfare of our students and staff very seriously, and we will continue to assess our needs in order to create a secure environment in which teaching and learning will flourish.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Seniuk

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