



Dorchester County
Public Schools
Every Child A Success!

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Diana L. Mitchell., Ed.D., Superintendent

DATE: March 12, 2018

Superintendent Update Regarding Dorchester County Public Schools Safety

Dorchester County Public Schools is committed to ensuring the safety of all students and staff as they enter our schools and/or facilities. We will continue to collaborate with school administrators, local law enforcement, to enforce the Dorchester County Public Schools Student Code of Conduct. We have taken the following measures to ensure the safety of everyone.

1. On March 7, 2018, DCPS School Officials in collaboration with local law enforcement, School Resource Officers, and personnel from the Sheriff's Department held an "Active Shooter Procedures" discussion with Edward Clarke, from the Maryland Center for Safety, Baltimore, Maryland. Mr. Clarke is an exceptional resource for Dorchester County Public Schools. As a result of this meeting, DCPS School Officials will be participating in the following upcoming trainings in an effort to ensure the safety of all.
 - 2018 Maryland School Safety Initiative Conference – Worcester County
 - Alert Lockdown Inform Counter Evacuate - A.L.I.C.E. Training
 - Safety Summit in Annapolis
 - School Threat Assessment Training
2. DCPS have updated each School's Safety Plan to include fire drills, lock-down drills, shelter-in-place, and evacuation at all levels.
3. The DCPS School Safety Officer participates in a Maryland Statewide School Safety Conference call every Monday at 10:00 a.m. to gain updates regarding school safety. This call is sponsored by the Maryland State Department of Education Center for School Safety.
4. We are constantly reminding our principals and staff to adhere to the "school visitation protocol" and properly question all visitors before opening the door.
5. The school district Safety Officer monitors all school doors throughout the day to ensure that the doors are closed and locked from the outside.
6. On March 7, 2018, the Superintendent, Board Members, Directors, and several principals attended the Dorchester County Council Budget Work session and presented the 2019 DCPS Proposed Budget. The Superintendent requested funding for additional cameras and other safety measures to ensure school safety is at an optimum.

7. As a reminder, if you see something, say something. You may utilize our Let's Talk app, contact your school directly, or contact any member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent. All information is posted on the DCPS website at www.DCPS.k12.md.us.