



A Collaborative Effort to Provide Students, Staff, and Families the Safest School Environments Possible

# Blue Ribbon Panel on School Safety and Security

Convened April 10, 2018

Name	Position and Affiliation
James A. Cervera	Chief of Police, Virginia Beach Police Department
William T. Dean, Jr.	Deputy Chief of Police, Virginia Beach Police Department
Chad Vincelette	Captain, Naval Air Station Oceana
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Patrick "Ivy" Wroton	Principal, Princess Anne Elementary
Paula Johnson	Principal, Bayside Middle School
Cheryl Askew	Principal, Landstown High School
James Thornton	Department of Human Services
Robert Jamison	Coordinator, Office of Student Support Services
Karin DiMaggio	Coordinator, Psychological Services

# Guiding Questions

1. What does the school division do well in providing for school safety and security?
2. What gaps exist regarding school safety and security that need to be addressed?
3. What new resources can be added or what existing resources can be used in different ways to strengthen school safety and security?

## Information Sources:

- Office of Safety and Loss Control
- Stakeholder input
- Data gathered by Blue Ribbon Panel Members

# What We Do Well

## Safety Protocols, Emergency Preparedness and Response

## Security Infrastructure and Personnel

## Behavioral Mental Health

58%

of comments referenced this category as an area of strength

34%

of comments referenced this category as an area of strength

7%

of comments referenced this category as an area of strength

- ✓ Process for visitor check-in
- ✓ Keeping doors locked
- ✓ Drills
- ✓ Notifications/Alerts
- ✓ Plans/Protocols/Crisis Response

- ✓ Security staff
- ✓ Cameras
- ✓ Electronic entry system
- ✓ Raptor system
- ✓ Buzzer system

- ✓ Availability of school counselors
- ✓ Anti-bullying initiatives
- ✓ Focus on relationships
- ✓ Trained staff
- ✓ Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

# Suggestions

## Safety Protocols, Emergency Preparedness and Response

32%

of comments referenced suggestions related to this category

- ✓ Provide more training to staff and students (particularly importance of not opening doors)
- ✓ Keeping doors locked (would prefer buzzer used at all times)
- ✓ Update/review/practice drills
- ✓ Ways to support anonymous reporting

## Security Infrastructure and Personnel

45%

of comments referenced suggestions related to this category

- ✓ Hire more security staff
- ✓ Metal detectors
- ✓ More cameras/ensure cameras work
- ✓ Buzzer system
- ✓ Security training/qualifications

## Behavioral Mental Health

18%

of comments referenced suggestions related to this category

- ✓ Hire more personnel (e.g., counselors, psychologists, social workers, etc.)
- ✓ Focus on social-emotional learning
- ✓ Training on identifying mental health concerns

# Final Recommendations

- Safety Protocols, Emergency Preparedness, and Response (4)
- Safety Infrastructure and Personnel (4)
- Behavior and Mental Health (3)

# Safety Protocols, Emergency Preparedness and Response

1. Refine and expand training and exercises with regards to emergency procedures
2. Implement a more robust system of preventative security
3. Conduct more frequent and unannounced safety audits
4. Strengthen procedures for controlling access into and within the school facility

# Safety Infrastructure and Personnel

- ★ 5. Reevaluate security personnel program (staffing, hiring, training, and responsibilities)
- ★ 6. Strengthen infrastructure for controlling access to school sites (buildings and grounds; including security desk location and associated equipment)
- 7. Evaluate and increase use and location of cameras and sensors
- 8. Strengthen infrastructure for securing classrooms



# Behavior and Mental Health

- ★ 9. Increase behavior and mental health staffing available to directly support students and aid in the early identification and support of students exhibiting mental health needs
- ★ 10. Increase mental health awareness through training for all staff and stakeholders (staff, students, families, and security personnel)
- 11. Increase community engagement and collaboration with partner agencies