



PENNSBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT

134 YARDLEY AVENUE • P.O. BOX 338 • FALLSINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA 19058-0338

May 12, 2023

Dear Pennsbury High School Families,

We recognize that the events of this week have been stressful for all of us. We would like to thank everyone for the feedback they have provided. PHS Administration, along with District Administration and local law enforcement, met as a team several times this week to deconstruct what happened to review and improve our security and safety procedures.

In preparation for our students returning to school on Monday, May 15, we would like to share the information below. This information will also be reviewed with students.

School Security Language/Terminology

There are several different situations where restricted movement in a school may occur:

- **Lockdown** - ALICE protocol initiated due to an intruder or significant security breach.
- **Hold** - Used when there is a need for the halls to remain empty, meaning the issue is inside the building. Examples: Student disruption or medical emergency that requires hallways to be clear for a short period of time
- **Secure** - Enacted when a threat or hazard is outside of the school and movement outside of the school building is restricted. Example: Police emergency taking place near the school.

In the event of any of the instances listed above, we will use very specific language when communicating with staff and students. Each action will include language so students and staff clearly understand the situation and how to react. This information will be clearly communicated through continued security and safety training sessions and drills. We will also place signage in the hallways and classrooms so all stakeholders are aware of the proper terminology.

Additional Supports

As we approach the end of the school year, the following will be implemented immediately:

- Falls Township Police will be present at both PHS East & West for the remainder of the school year.
- Regardless of weather conditions, we will run shuttle buses between campuses to transport students who choose not to walk the path.
- Enhanced real-time communication: We will expand the use of our Runva software system to students so we can provide real-time alerts, information, and direct

communication to determine who is safe and who may need help. The District will be sharing information regarding the Pennsbury SD and Reach (to replace Remind) Apps. Details will be shared in the near future.

- Several weeks ago, we added additional security staff on the high school campus. They will continue for the foreseeable future.
- Our commitment to student mental health continues, and we will continue to expand our programs and services to proactively address student behaviors before they start and effectively discipline students when behaviors do occur.
- *Pennsbury uses [Safe2Say](#), an anonymous tip line, to alert us to any individual who may be struggling and/or in danger of causing harm to themselves or others. Every tip is investigated.*

You have our commitment that we will do all we can to make our schools as safe as possible for our students and staff.

Sincerely,

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