

# ***LUMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT***

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March 27, 2018

The Lumberton Township School District works proactively with the Lumberton Township Police Department, district staff and administrators, the Lumberton Township Committee, district parents, and the community to ensure that students remain safe. In addition to reviewing school safety procedures and holding twice-monthly safety drills, the district has put in place the following:

- **School Resource Officer**: provided by the Lumberton community to the schools for one year, Officer Justin Mortelliti is currently circulating among district schools to review security measures and observe safety drills. Additional district responsibilities include updating the School Crisis Response Plan, assisting in truancy investigations and facilitating substance abuse prevention programs through LEAD. Officer Mortelliti has been instrumental in creating a positive police presence in the schools. Additionally, he has provided a swift response regarding student issues.
- **Enhancement of Existing Security**: Lumberton Superintendent of Schools Joe Langowski has recommended to the Board of Education that it approve the use of income from SRECs (Solar Renewable Energy Credits) to significantly upgrade security cameras. In addition, the district is considering a referendum, which would be necessary to fund construction of and/or upgrades to school vestibules, which would create fortified but welcoming barriers to building entry.
- **Referendum Task Force**: Superintendent of Schools Joe Langowski will be assembling various stakeholders in the Lumberton community to create a Referendum Task Force. The first meeting will be held on Monday, April 30 at 7 p.m. in the Frank J. Logandro Performing Arts Center. Interested members of the public and school community are invited to attend.
- **Ongoing Staff Training**: In addition to supporting two emergency drills each month, every staff member wears an ID slip card that outlines emergency procedures. In addition, staff members are positioned throughout the interior and exterior of each school during student arrival and dismissal; they also ensure that exterior doors are locked once students enter or exit the building. Finally, staff members are provided with periodic reminders and training through in-service sessions and faculty meetings by district administrators and the police in order to ensure all staff members remain current on school security issues.
- **School Climate**: Beginning with the April 26 staff in-service and through next year, the district will partner with Steven A. Bollar, an “educational leader and master motivator” to develop a more positive climate in district schools ([www.standtallsteve.com](http://www.standtallsteve.com)). In addition, the district will continue its work with the Anti-Defamation League and its No Place for Hate initiative (<https://www.adl.org/who-we-are/our-organization/signature-programs/no-place-for-hate>).
- **School Safety Student Assemblies**: The principals of Lumberton Middle School and Bobby’s Run School held informative assemblies on March 12 to remind students about the consequences that come with poor choices, the damage that occurs by spreading rumors, and the importance of coming forward if they see or hear something, “that doesn’t seem right”, and provide reminders to students as needed throughout the year.
- **Mentoring Program**: New mentoring programs will be instituted at Lumberton Middle School and Bobby’s Run School next year. Any member of the Lumberton school community is invited to become involved.

The district works to proactively communicate with parents/guardians, staff members, the media, and the community-at-large to provide accurate information.