

# MPS Security Overview

November 17, 2025

BOE Meeting



Middletown Public Schools  
*Cultivating the Brilliance in Each Student*

## Access Control Systems



MPS Faculty and staff gain access to our buildings by using their ID badge

(electronic card access system) with approved access credentials and permissions.

Every MPS building is equipped with video intercom/remote "buzz-in" systems for visitors.

This system also ensures every person entering our buildings is properly vetted and is an approved visitor.

# Security Cameras



Exterior and Interior cameras are present in all MPS buildings to ensure a safe and secure learning environment for every student and staff member. Security cameras are installed across all Middletown Public Schools facilities. These cameras serve as a vital component of our comprehensive safety plan by:

- **Deterring** unauthorized activity and behavioral incidents.
- **Monitoring** common areas, entry points, and exterior perimeters.
- **Assisting** in the swift and accurate investigation of any incidents that may occur.

The placement and operation of these cameras strictly adhere to all district policies, prioritizing student privacy while maximizing site security. This investment underscores our commitment to maintaining a safe educational setting where students can focus on learning.

The Middletown Police Department and our SRO's have access to our cameras.

## Lock Sets and Key Access

Every school uses a system and protocols that allow teachers and staff to lock and secure their classroom quickly.



## MPS Campus Safety Staff and SRO's & All Schools Safety Team



- MPS currently has CSO'S working at Beman Middle School (6) and Middletown High School (6).
- MPS also has SRO'S ( School Resource Officers) assigned to all of our schools.
- City of Middletown Schools Safety Committee , which include school administration, law enforcement, City Officials, Health Director, and fire/EMS officials. These meetings are used to review drills, analyze incidents, and refine our emergency protocols.
- Professional Development

# Alertus

Alertus is our primary mass emergency notification system. When activated Alertus immediately gives notice to the building to go into Lockdown protocol. This is done by using the schools PA system, desktop notifications, mobile communication, and visual beacons (strobes) to instantly inform all students, faculty, and staff of a lockdown. This system is our first line of communication for immediate action. Alertus is directly connected to our Middletown Police Department. Alertus notifications go directly to our SRO's, MPD, and district safety team for immediate response.



# Scholarchip

Scholarchip Visitor Validation System requires every visitor to scan a government-issued ID before being granted access. The system instantly checks visitors against national sex offender registries and any custom district exclusion, ensuring we know exactly who is in our buildings at all times.



# Sandy Hook Promise - Say Something Anonymous Reporting System



The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System allows anyone to submit secure, anonymous safety concerns to help someone who may hurt themselves or others. **This is for MHS and Beman only.**

The Say Something program teaches students and staff a three step process to protect themselves, their classmates and their schools from harmful acts. The steps are: Recognize The Signs, Act Immediately, Take It Seriously and Say Something to a Trusted Adult or through an Anonymous Reporting System.

With the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System (*Say Something* ARS), students become Upstanders who report warning signs and threats to Trusted Adults by text, app, phone, or website. Tips are vetted and triaged by highly-skilled crisis counselors in our accredited, bilingual National Crisis Center. Local school/law enforcement response teams are promptly alerted to life-safety reports to ensure swift intervention in critical safety issues. Additional training for school district personnel and local law enforcement and emergency services is required.

Student training and refresher training will be completed by December 1st, 2025.



## Securly Aware



Securly Aware is an advanced technology on all student devices that enables early intervention by analyzing students' online activities for signs of anxiety, depression, cyberbullying, self-harm, and potential violence.

Provides 24/7 alerts and rapid emergency notifications



# All Hazard Plan - Submitted October 31, 2025

The state of the **CT Schools All-Hazard document requirement** is that it is a **mandated, active, and regularly updated requirement** for all local and regional Boards of Education in Connecticut.

This requirement is primarily governed by **Connecticut General Statutes § 10-222m and § 10-222n**.

Here are the key aspects of the requirement:

- **Mandate:** Every local and regional Board of Education must develop, maintain, and implement an **All-Hazards School Security and Safety Plan** for each school under its jurisdiction.
- **Approach:** The plan must follow an **"all-hazards" approach**, meaning it addresses a full spectrum of emergencies, including natural disasters (e.g., severe weather, fire) and human-caused incidents (e.g., active threats, medical emergencies).
- **Annual Submission/Review:** Boards of Education are required to **annually review, update as necessary, and submit** their plan (or an update form if no changes were made) to the **Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) / Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) Regional Coordinator** by **November 1st** of each year.
- **Template:** The plan must follow the format of the **All-Hazards School Security and Safety Plan Templates** released and revised by DESPP/DEMHS in consultation with the Department of Education (SDE).
- **Vulnerability Assessment:** A **security and vulnerability assessment** must be conducted for each school at least **every two years**, and the plan must be based on the results of this assessment. **MPS complete audit in June of 2025.**
- **Involvement:** The development and review of the plan must involve local officials, including law enforcement, fire, public health, and emergency management directors.

# Fire and Safety Drill Requirements

The State of Connecticut has **specific and mandated requirements** for both fire drills and emergency response drills (crisis response drills) in all public schools, as outlined in **Connecticut General Statutes § 10-231**.

Here is a breakdown of the current drill frequency requirements:

## Fire Drill:

- Must be held no later than thirty (30) days after the first day of each school year.
- Schools must conduct at least seven (7) fire drills per year.

## Crisis Drills (Safety/Security):

- Schools must hold two (2) crisis response drills per school year. **MPS Performs 3 Crisis Drills per year.**
- At least one of the two must be a staff-only drill held no later than thirty (30) days after the first day of the school year. This drill is for training their staff on their roles.
- The other drill must involve the whole school (students and staff)
- The format for these drills must be developed in consultation with the appropriate local law enforcement agency and follow specific protocols developed by the local Board of Education.
- Crisis response drills must be trauma-informed and incorporate basic protocols like lockdown, site evacuation, and secure the perimeter responses, utilizing the Incident Command System.
- For the whole school drill, parents/guardians must be given the option to opt their student out of participating and advance notice may be provided.
- Active assailant simulations or simulated violence with highly sensorial elements (fake assailants, gunfire sounds, etc) are prohibited in drills involving students. (This is a key recent legislative update aimed at reducing psychological harm.)

## Annual Reporting:

Local Board of Education are also required to annually submit a report to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) regarding the types, frequency and feedback related to both the fire drills and the crisis response drills. This report is due by June 30th.

# Questions?

