

# Pleasantdale School District 107

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School safety is the top priority in Pleasantdale School District 107. As such, our administrative team and staff take all necessary measures to ensure the safety and well being of our students and staff. The following report is given annually to provide the Board of Education and the Pleasantdale Community with an update on safety and security measures in our schools.

To ensure that our students and staff are prepared for a crisis, our schools perform regular safety drills. These drills include fire, tornado, lockdown, bus evacuation, and earthquake drills. Additionally, the local fire protection districts and our police departments supervise at least one fire and lockdown drill each year. To date, we have held drills on the following dates:

	Fire Drill	Tornado Drill	Lockdown Drill	Bus Evacuation	Earthquake Drill
PES	9/21/16 11/7/16	TBA	10/12/16	10/3/16	10/20/16
PMS	9/13/16, 9/27/16 <sup>1</sup> , 4/19/17	9/20/16, 4/5/17	10/18/16 <sup>1</sup>	8/26/16	10/20/16

Our district also enjoys a wonderful relationship with our first responders. Each year the administration and a representative from the Board of Education meet with the Chiefs from the local fire and police departments. The goal of this meeting is to review our district crisis plan and to discuss the response of these agencies in a potential crisis.

Based on this year's conversation, the administration met with representatives from Tri-State Fire Protection and the Willow Springs Police Department at Pleasantdale Elementary School to observe morning drop-off and suggest improvements to our traffic pattern. Additionally, the district is investigating the installation of a gate off of Howard Street which will allow first responders quicker access to our property in the event of an emergency.

Our relationship with our first responders extends to our students, as well. We are fortunate to offer the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program at our middle school. Additionally, we have a Burr Ridge police officer that serves as our school resource officer. At both schools, our students interact with first responders and learn about safety during our Chat with the Chiefs program.

Another aspect of school safety includes requiring all visitors to be buzzed into the main offices and have a personal interaction with a school secretary before being admitted to the school. The visitor process also includes each visitor signing in and wear a visitor's badge. Beginning this year, we have required all staff members to wear a district-provided photo ID which allows first responders to

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<sup>1</sup> Drill observed by first responders

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## Mission

*Ensure that each student is a passionate learner empowered with the Academic and social skills to responsibly choose and excel in life pursuits.*

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quickly identify district employees and adds an additional layer of security. Finally, we have upgraded the locks on our classroom doors so teachers can more quickly lock their doors in the event of a lockdown emergency.

In the coming year we will be seeking ways to improve traffic flow at the elementary school and strive to minimize the time it takes for first responders to get to our buildings in emergencies. Additionally, we are working with the Pleasant Dale Park District, the Village of Burr Ridge, and the Cook County Department of Transportation to install a traffic device at the pedestrian crossing at Wolf Dr. in front of the Middle School. We have been successful in getting the speed limit reduced on Wolf Rd. from 40 to 35. This helps slow drivers down in front of the school which creates a safer environment.

## Main Takeaways:

- School still remains the safest place for students.
- The district practices regular annual safety drills.
- The positive relationship we have with our first responders helps us to keep students and staff safe and ensures we are prepared in the event of an emergency.
- Our procedures for school visitors align with best practice.
- We have implemented additional safety measures this year and will continue to do so to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

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