

February 3, 2022

Monthly Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

3.B.1) d. Be SMART secure firearm storage educational campaign

Attachments:

1. 2019 Resolution: National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Duluth Public Schools
2. MN firearm storage statues
3. ISD 709 Newsletters
4. Lake Oswego School District: Secure Gun Storage Resolution
5. Fairfax County Public Schools
6. Los Angeles Board of Education
7. Memorandum of Understanding, Midland, South Carolina



RESOLUTION
DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE
NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY IN THE DULUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

This resolution declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Duluth Public School District to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence.

WHEREAS, every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other high-income developed countries; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is a high priority of the School District; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with responsible gun ownership; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should be now celebrating her 22nd birthday; and

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya – and the 100 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated June 7, 2019, the first Friday in June, as the 5th National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 7th, the first Friday in June in 2019, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 7, 2019 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Duluth School Board declares the first Friday in June, June 7, 2019, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Duluth Public Schools. We encourage all schools to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence.

INFORMATION ABOUT MINNESOTA PARENT/GUARDIAN LEGAL DUTIES CONCERNING SAFE GUN STORAGE

Minnesota Statute 609.666 Negligent storage of firearms. Subd. 2. Access to firearms. A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor who negligently stores or leaves a loaded firearm in a location where the person knows, or reasonably should know, that a child (person under age 18) is likely to gain access, unless reasonable action is taken to secure the firearm against access by the child.

Minnesota Statute 609.378 Neglect or Endangerment of a Child. Subd. 1(c). Persons guilty of neglect or endangerment. A person who intentionally or recklessly causes a child under 14 years of age to be placed in a situation likely to substantially harm the child's physical health or cause the child's death as a result of the child's access to a loaded firearm is guilty of child endangerment and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one year or to payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both.

If the endangerment results in substantial harm to the child's physical health, the person may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.

Duluth ISD 709 takes steps to ensure that campuses are safe from the threat of gun violence. Any student found in possession of a firearm on campus is subject to immediate out-of-school suspension, immediate notification of police, parent/guardian notification and expulsion proceedings.

October 10, 2019

ISD 709 News

Spotlight: Squeamish?

Denfeld & Duluth East Medical Occupation students learned all about medical lab careers, thanks to a visit from professionals at [Essentia Health](#). The visit included drawing blood, handling brain, tumor and other tissue samples, looking for diseases under a microscope and more. They learned what people in medical labs do, what kind of education is required and how they are an important part of any health care team.

[#Inspire709](#) [#HandMeThatBrainTissue](#)
www.ISD709.org/Denfeld
www.ISD709.org/Duluth-East
www.isd709.org/career-and-technical-education



Cold, Snowy Weather Strategies

It's never too early to start preparing for cold temps or snowy conditions that may result in school closing for the day or starting two hours late.

All families, especially those with elementary age students, should have a contingency plan for their children in the event of weather-related school closings or a Two Hour Late Start.

[Learn More](#)



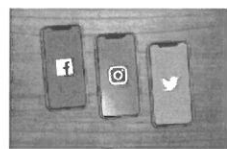
Follow Us For ISD 709 School News:

[Facebook](#)

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[#Inspire709](#)



Firearm Safety Reminder

Did you know:

- 4.6 million American children live in homes with guns that are both loaded and unlocked.

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- Nearly 260 children 17 and under gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else—sometimes fatally.
- Every year, nearly 600 children 17 and under die by suicide with a gun.



The Be SMART framework is designed to help parents and adults normalize conversations about gun safety and take responsible actions that can prevent child gun deaths and injuries.

Secure all guns in your home and vehicles

Model responsible behavior around guns

Ask about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes

Recognize the role of guns in suicide

Tell your peers to be smart

Safety is always an adult responsibility. Kids will be kids. They won't always make smart decisions about their own safety. Assume that curious or impulsive kids may find and touch an unsecured gun, even if they've been told not to. If a child handles a gun, a bad decision can quickly become a fatal one.

Protect kids by storing guns locked, unloaded and separately from ammunition, and by making sure children are never in the presence of unsecured guns.

[Be SMART Website](#)

October School Board Agenda Items - [Detailed Information Online](#)

(This is not a comprehensive list of Board agenda items)

>>**Facilities Management & Capital Projects Status Report**

>>**Assistant Superintendent and Director of Curriculum Reports**

>>**Policy Updates**

>>**North Star Data:** At the Education Committee meeting the Board received detailed information regarding Minnesota's North Star accountability system data and district strategies.

>>**Superintendent Search:** At the HR Committee meeting the Board discussed proposals received from outside consultants interested in assisting with the superintendent search. Three proposals were received, the Board opted to extend their deadline to see if two more firms would submit proposals.

[View School Board Meetings on YouTube](#)

Pathways2Teaching Founder Visits Duluth

Dr. Margarita Bianco visited Duluth this week to observe our Pathways2Teaching (P2T) classes and attend the Minnesota Association of School Administrators presentation.

Representatives from Duluth Public Schools, including Sumair Sheikh, presented information about the district's P2T journey.

Dr. Bianco is an associate professor in the School of Education and Human Development at the University of Colorado Denver and Founder of the Pathways2Teaching program. She is the recipient of several awards including the Outstanding Researcher Award from the Council for Learning Disabilities, University of Colorado Denver's Rosa Parks Diversity Award, the 2011 University of Colorado President's Diversity Award, and most recently the University of Colorado's 2012 Teaching Excellence Award.



From the Greyhound Reader:

Duluth East German Exchange Program

Twenty-four students from Albstadt, Germany, travelled with their teachers to Duluth through the German American Partnership Program (GAPP). Duluth East students took on the role of host and welcomed GAPP students into their homes and families.



The German students explored Duluth and visited the North Shore, State Capitol and the Mall of America. More importantly, there were also able to experience true American life with their host families and make great connections with friends.

In June 2020, Duluth East students will have an opportunity to visit their German partners during a three-week stay in Germany and will visit Berlin, Munich and Austria. For over 18 years, Duluth East High School has had an ongoing exchange program with Progymnasium Taifingen in Albstadt, Germany.

The Duluth East High School German Department, with teachers Frau Hinzman and Frau Lull, is pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to the Duluth East Community for another great year. *Thank you, Emily Lull and Duluth East Greyhound Reader for the photo and info.*

www.ISD709.org/Duluth-East

Food for Thought Student-Run Restaurant Open to Public

ISD 709 high school students offer a classical menu for the public Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at Duluth East.

Reservations and orders are required at least 24 hours in advance!

They become part of the lesson plan as students learn introductory and advanced techniques in line cooking, culinary skills and the intricacies of service.

[Check online for details](#)

[ISD 709 Career & Technical Education](http://www.ISD709.org/Career-Technical-Education)



Lincoln Park Smart Cats!

Congratulations to students in the Lincoln Park Middle School Knowledge Bowl Team ... they took second place in their first tournament this month!

[#Inspire709](#) [#waytogo](#) [#smartcats](#) [#wildcatpride](#)

www.ISD709.org/Lincoln-Park



Maroon & Gold Day

Students at Stowe Elementary celebrated Maroon & Gold Day at school (just like the big kids at Denfeld do)! Big school spirit in these future Hunters.

www.ISD709.org/Stowe-Elementary



Spotlight: ALC at Hawk Ridge

ALC Wilderness Elite Students Soar

Students from Duluth Area Learning Center visited [Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory](#) to experience the raptor migration. They learned how to use binoculars, how to identify birds in flight and were able to help release a Red-tailed hawk and several Sharp-shinned hawks. They learned about the science involved in banding, types of data collected, how to catch birds and what researchers learn from banding birds.

The students are part of ALC's Wilderness Elite Program. ALC teachers Mike Descombaz, Todd Mickolajak, and Phil Thouin, along with Integration Specialist, Jamie Bennett accompanied the group.

Many thanks to those supporting this outstanding learning opportunity: Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, [Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation](#), [Esperanza Fund](#), the Office of



Education Equity, Duluth Public Schools and Duluth Area Learning Center staff, who always jump at the chance to offer our students impactful, high-quality educational experiences. Thank you Jamie Bennett and Phil Thouin for the photos and info.
[#Inspire709](#) [#LearningInFlight](#)
www.ISD709.org/area-learning-center/index



Duluth East High School Theatre Presents the Musical:

CHICAGO

ONE WEEKEND ONLY!

Show Dates: October 24-26 7:00 PM, October 27 1:00 PM

Duluth East High School

301 N. 40th Avenue East, Duluth MN

Ticket Prices: \$15 Adults, \$10 Students

Tickets sold at the door only. Sales begin 1 hour before curtain, doors open 30 minutes before curtain! Show runs 1 hour and 45 minutes with a 15 minute intermission.

Some minor adult language and content

In roaring twenties Chicago, Roxie Hart murders faithless lover Fred Casely and convinces her hapless husband, Amos, to take the rap...until Amos finds out he's been duped and turns on Roxie!

Convicted and sentenced to death row, Roxie and another "Merry Murderess" Velma Kelly vie for the spotlight and the headlines, ultimately joining forces in search of the American Dream: fame, fortune, and acquittal. This sharp-edged satire features a dazzling score that sparked the original staging and choreography by Bob Fosse.



Duluth Area Learning Center Blood Drive

(You're invited & all your family and friends, seriously, *invite everyone!*)

When?

Wednesday, October 23rd from 7:30AM to 2:30PM

Where?

Bus parked in 3rd St. & Lake Ave. parking lot

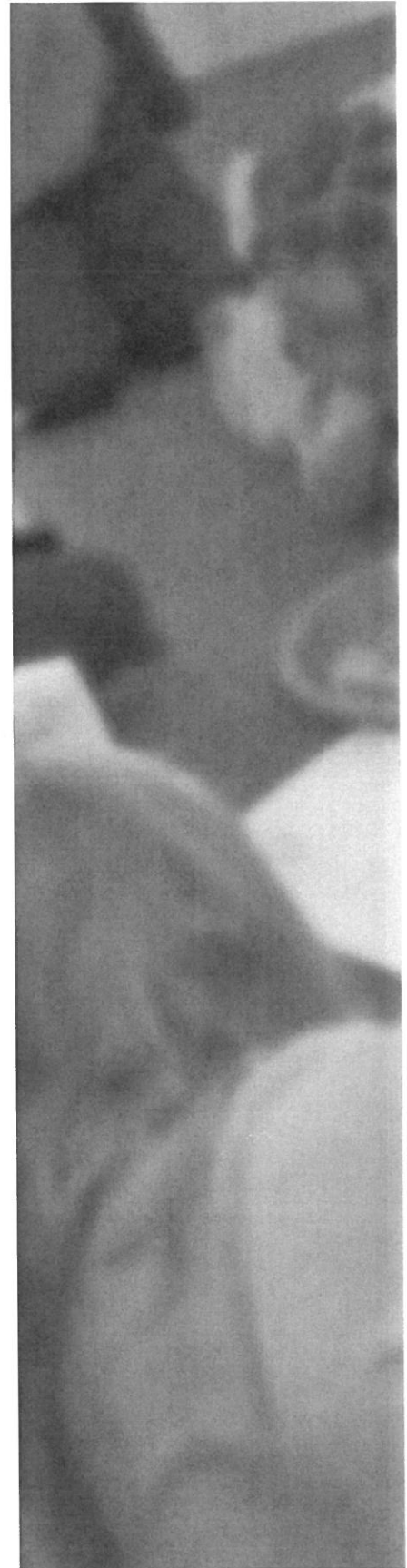
HUGE BONUS: For every unit collected, \$10 goes towards a scholarship for an ALC student (minimum of 50 units required between our 3 blood drives).

Last year's two blood drives (one canceled due to weather) resulted in 63 units collected and \$630 in scholarship money!

Click [HERE](#) to schedule online or contact Jackie Dolentz at (218) 336-8704, ext. 1008 or jacqueline.dolentz@isd709.org

SAVE THE DATES for future blood drives (same time and location):

- 01.30.20 (Thursday)
- 04.30.20.19 (Thursday)





Stay Connected

Facebook @ISD709News

215 N. 1st Avenue East, Duluth ...

218-336-8700

info@ISD709.org

ISD709.org





Homecroft October News

10.11.19

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October 2019

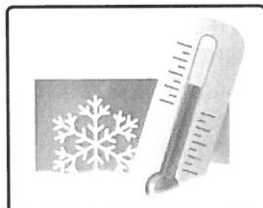
We are closing a busy week at Homecroft Elementary School. Parent/teacher conferences were held on Tuesday and Thursday, and we will have another night in the upcoming week on Tuesday, October 15th. If you have not scheduled a time to meet with your child's teacher, we encourage and welcome you to come in for a visit.

Picture day is here! Students are getting their pictures taken as this is being typed. If you missed ordering pictures, you still can by visiting [Lifetouch Picture Order](#). Our school code is EVTW4T49F. Retake day will be November 15.

Parents/Guardians are reminded that there is No School next Thursday/Friday, October 17 & 18th due to MEA. Enjoy the long weekend!

HOLIDAY PROGRAM CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT: Due to a scheduling conflict with Lester Park, our holiday program will be **Thursday, December 19th**. We apologize for the change, but wanted to provide you with ample time to plan ahead. Students will have the dress rehearsal on Dec. 18th.

Please **Save the Date: Veteran's Day Program, Homecroft Elementary School, Monday, Nov. 11th**. More information will be coming home as we get closer to November.



LSYC Fall Prelude

- More information and registration is at <http://www.lsyouthchorus.org/prelude>.
- Students from other sites are encouraged to participate at a site near them.
- Let us know how we can support you or if

BE SMART

With the onset of fall, many venture to the woods to hunt for grouse, deer, and other critters. We urge everyone to be SMART this fall and please read the following firearm safety reminders.

Did you know:

Got Snow?

Cold, Snowy Weather Strategies

It's never too early to start preparing for cold temps or snowy conditions that may result in school closing for the day or starting two hours late. All families, especially those with elementary age



- Fall prelude is underway, but registrations are open.
- https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VuYON3V_44h6IYVCOkGk44OhW2mXc13/view

are both loaded and unlocked.

- *Nearly 260 children 17 and under gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else—sometimes fatally.*
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[Be SMART Website](#)

weather-related school closings or a Two Hour Late Start.

[Learn More](#)

Wellness Policy and Snack Time



set by the USDA nutritional guidelines. Just a reminder that students are allowed to bring a snack to school but we encourage that it be fruit, vegetables, granola bars rather than chips, pop, candy, etc. Please check with your child's teacher to learn more about the snack procedures in their individual classroom.

Right.

If you would like more information on our wellness policy please visit...<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6Jc3S65Ott8ZThVV3VGVFp0bms/view>

If you would like to know the snack encouraged by USDA please visit...<https://www.fns.usda.gov/healthierschoolday/tools-schools-focusing-smart-snacks>



PBIS School Wide Behavior update

We are focusing on and celebrating our behavior expectations of being Respectful, Responsible, and Safe each week. During morning announcements, we highlight the specific area of focus each day, such as cafeteria, playground, etc. and share with students timely and relevant information/expectation for each area. This is reiterated in the classroom by the teacher and further guidance is provided and modeled. Students who are exemplar in being Respectful, Responsible, and Safe will earn a Buzz Badge to wear on Friday. A certificate with recognizing their accomplishments will be displayed in our main entry display case as well.

We will rotate through our three areas of focus each month. If you have questions about this or anything school wide behavior related, please be in touch.

Save the Date!! Fall Carnival October 30th & 31st

Our PTA needs your help in hosting our annual Fall Carnival. We need.....

- 10 to 12 volunteers will be needed for the evening of Wednesday the 30th for carnival set up
- 40 volunteers will be needed Thursday the 31st for a half day or full day
- More information and sign up will be sent out soon!!
- Please consider helping out at the largest PTA event of the year!!!



What if there is a change for the end of the day?

We recognize that there are times when you might need to pick up your child early from school or need to change their placement for the end of the day.

We ask that you contact the school early in the day if you need to make a change to your child's after school routine. It is best if you directly contact your child's teacher with a note in the morning. Please do not depend on voicemail or email communication with the teacher as they may not get a chance to check these forms of communication while working with



Homecroft Elementary School Information

@gohomecroft

4784 Howard Gnesen Road, ...

218-336-8865

thomas.cawcutt@isd709.org

isd709.org/homecroft-eleme...

Update

ISD 709 News 12/10/21

From Superintendent John Magas

Dear Families:

As we prepare for an extended Winter Break, I'm once again grateful for the dedication of our community partners. As we added two days to the break, December 22 and January 3, to support safety, they saw a need and rallied to help provide additional child care, COVID testing and booster opportunities. I've witnessed this outpouring of care many times since starting with the district. Duluth is truly an incredible place to live and work.



The break will be an opportunity to ensure student, staff and family COVID safety, as well as operational safety due to staffing constraints. It may also be a time of respite, acknowledging the stress and challenges both families and staff are facing due to the pandemic, recognizing the efforts to go above and beyond in challenging times. This courage and resilience is an inspiration to me and another example of why I'm proud to be part of this community.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Thanks for all you do as we continue to navigate the challenges of this school year.

Sincerely,

John Magas

If you have questions or thoughts about what's going on in our school district, email: ReturnToLearn@ISD709.org

2021-22 Winter Break Extended

During a special meeting held in the Denfeld Media Center, the Duluth School Board approved a resolution extending the 2021-22 Winter Break by two days ([view the resolution](#)).

The two districtwide closure days added are Wednesday December 22 and Monday January 3. There will be no school for students, and school and district offices will be closed.

The extension will address staff and student safety, including the impact of staffing shortages on district operations.

The Duluth school district is working with community partners to provide food and mental health support, as well as child care associated with the extension. The district is also partnering with Essentia Health to offer staff and student booster clinics prior to break as well as COVID testing for staff and students on January 3, 2022.



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Free COVID Booster Clinics December 21

Duluth Public Schools and Essentia Health are providing COVID booster shot clinics at Denfeld and Duluth East High Schools prior to the Winter Break. The clinics are for students 16 years and older and all interested ISD 709 staff:

Tuesday, December 21 2:00PM - 4:30PM

- Denfeld High School Auditorium, 401 N. 44th Avenue West
- Duluth East High School Career Center, 301 N. 40th Avenue East

SIGN UP BY THURS 12/16 4:00PM!

[Details and Registration](#)

Free COVID Testing January 3

Duluth Public Schools and Essential Health are providing COVID testing for ISD 709 staff and students at two community sites after the upcoming Winter Break. Essentia will provide a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test. This is not a rapid test, and it can take up to two days to get test results.

We're working to set up testing for Monday January 3, 2021 at two locations, one on the west side of Duluth, one on the east side. Details will be shared as soon as they're finalized.

Free To ISD 709 Families: Childcare

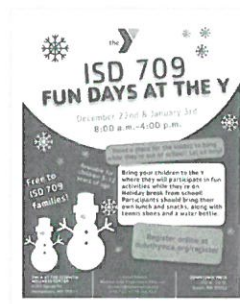
ISD 709 Fun Days at the Y

December 22nd & January 3rd, 8:00AM - 4:00PM

Registration Required, *Space is Limited.* duluthymca.org/register

Bring your children to the Y where they will participate in fun activities while they're on Holiday break from school! Participant should bring their own lunch and snacks, along with tennis shoes and a water bottle.

Questions? cbowen@duluthymca.org or 218.722.4745 ext 522



COVID Vax For Ages 5 and Older

Free COVID Vaccinations Available for Ages 5 years and Older:

- Contact your pediatrician, health care provider, local pharmacy or family medicine clinic about appointments.
- [Visit mn.gov/vaxforkids](http://mn.gov/vaxforkids) for COVID vaccines for children and teens.
- Use [Minnesota's Vaccine Locator Map](#) to find a vaccine provider near you.
- Check for [vaccine appointments using the CDC's Vaccine Finder](#). You can search for appointments by vaccine type (e.g., Pfizer) and find pharmacies offering pediatric vaccinations.
- Minnesota Department of Health COVID-19 Public Hotline: 1-833-431-2053
- St. Louis County Vaccine Opportunities: stlouiscountymn.gov/vaccineregistration

[The Minnesota Department of Health has created a resource with information about COVID-19 vaccines for people under 18 years old.](#)

[The MN Dept of Health's About COVID-19 Vaccine web page](#) includes information on the vaccine and what to expect before, during and after vaccination.

[The What You Should Know About COVID-19 Vaccines document](#) provides answers to many questions families may have.



From Assistant Superintendent Anthony Bonds

Dear Families,

Last week, the Oxford High School community in the Oxford Township of Michigan was rocked by tragedy as the result of the senseless shooting of students and staff by a 15-year-old high school student. My heart and prayers go out to those students, staff, families, and the entire community.



As the proud father of two amazing daughters, I am tearing up at the thought of one of them being injured or traumatized by such an incident or the thought of me being on the receiving end of a call saying one of them has been injured or killed. Even though they are young adults now, when my girls hurt, I still hurt. It is the papa bear in me so I can only imagine the pain and hurt those families are going through.

Since the Columbine shooting in 1999 - coincidentally the year I took a leadership position as a high school assistant principal - school districts have strived to prepare staff to respond to these kinds of emergencies. As I watched the classroom video footage from Oxford, it was impressive to see how the teacher and students responded when the gunman attempted to enter their classroom. It was clear to me that they instinctively knew what to do or they had practiced what to do during a lockdown.

ISD709 currently uses and provides staff with the active shooter training known as ALICE-. Last week, staff were encouraged to review the ALICE training again. Also, school principals have or will meet with their emergency planning team to determine how best to review safety protocols with staff and to practice with students. [Click this link](#), if you would like to learn more about ALICE.

Lastly, please help us keep students and staff safe by properly securing weapons at home. Click this link for additional information: [BeSmart Secure Storage](#).

Thank you for everything you do to create positive, supportive, and safe learning environments.

Educationally yours,

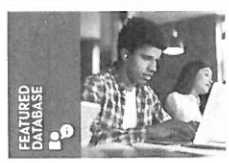
Anthony Bonds

ACT, SAT, PSAT Test Prep

From the Duluth Public Library:

Attention, high school students taking the ACT, SAT or PSAT this coming year! The Duluth Public Library offers free ACT, SAT, PSAT and more test prep programs and free practice tests.

LearningExpress Library <https://duluthlibrary.org/databases/>



Blended Learning Initiative

Duluth Public Schools students are leveraging technology to facilitate their education in a blended learning environment. Blended learning enhances in-person learning by providing each student educational access to digital and online resources. In our



school district, that access is provided through use of a district Chromebook, approved software and online services.

[View the Family Enablement Year One Plan](#)
www.ISD709.org/BlendedLearning

REMINDER - If A School Bus Route Is Cancelled

School bus driver shortages and rising COVID rates make it possible this school year that there may be days where a school bus route must be cancelled at the last minute.

Cancelling a school bus route at the last minute is not a preferred strategy and we hope we never have to take this step. However, Duluth school district schools and staff are preparing for this possibility and to ensure families are prepared as well.

- **The need to cancel a school bus route for a day may be announced the night before or early in the morning (between 5AM to 6:15AM)** much like a snow day.
- **The bus route will be referred to by School Name/AM or PM Service/a Route Number.** In Infinite Campus Parent Portal you can check your child's morning and afternoon route numbers.
- **Families impacted by the bus route cancellation will be notified:**
 - Automated phone call from the school district
 - Email from the school district
 - Text from the school district (if the family is set up to receive texts)
- **Families impacted by the school bus route cancellation can either:**
 - Provide transportation for their child in place of that route or
 - Keep their child home and, as long as they report the absence to the school, it will be considered excused.
- **Families, especially those with elementary age students, should have a contingency plan for their children** in the event of a school bus route cancellation.

Please know that we are all doing our best to work through challenges specific to school bus transportation and greatly appreciate your patience and understanding as we do so. We apologize for any inconvenience changes may cause.

The Duluth school district continues to actively recruit new bus drivers and there are currently new drivers in training. We encourage anyone interested in becoming a school bus driver to apply at www.ISD709.org/Jobs.

We Need Substitutes!

Make a difference by becoming a Duluth Public Schools substitute, our schools need you.

Licensed and non-licensed, a variety of areas.

[Current Job Openings](#)

Questions? Email: noncerthr@isd709.org or call (218) 336-8722

Duluth Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer.



Laura MacArthur Students Explore Navajo Frybread History

Navajo frybread originated 144 years ago, when the United States forced Native Americans living in Arizona to make the 300-mile journey known as the "Long Walk" and relocate to New Mexico, onto land that couldn't easily support their traditional staples of vegetables and beans.

Laura MacArthur 4th grade students in Ms. Pelto's class (led by Mrs. Miller, Native American Advocate and assisted by Cal Harris)



learned fry bread history while making and tasting frybread during Native American Heritage Month. One of several activities to learn about and honor Native American culture.

#Inspire709

www.ISD709.org/Laura-MacArthur

Denfeld Student Receives Music Scholarship

Congratulations to Laelia Sackett, recipient of a Bluebird Foundation music scholarship! Thank you to the Lundeen Family for supporting local music students! .

#Inspire709 #HunterPride

www.ISD709.org/Denfeld



Lincoln Park MS Spelling Bee Success

Congratulations to Lincoln Park Middle School Spelling Bee participants, one of them could be the next @ScrippsBee winner!

#Inspire709 #SmartCats

www.ISD709.org/Lincoln-Park



Outdoor Smores

Students at Stowe Elementary had outdoor fun making Smores. What a treat!

#Inspire709

www.ISD709.org/Stowe-Elementary

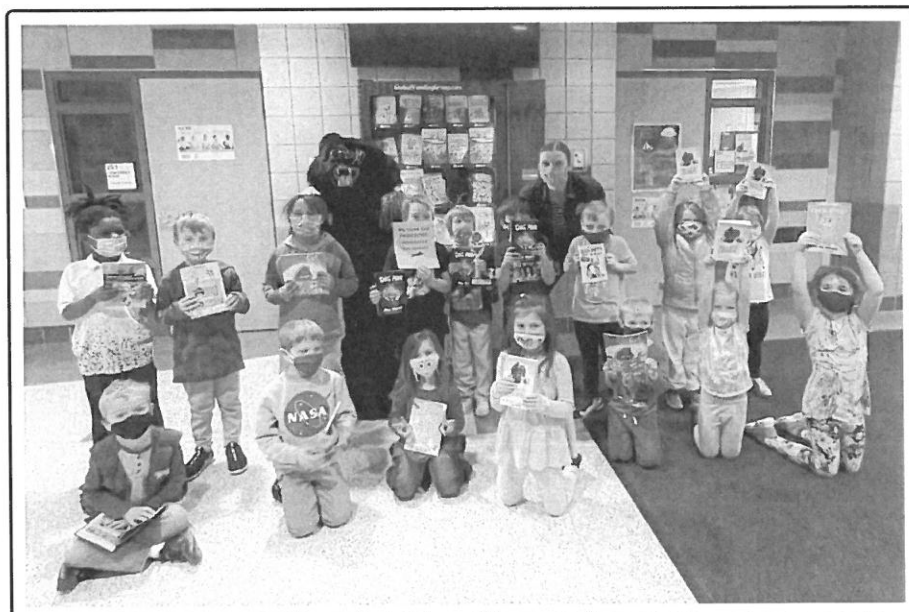


Piedmont Students Earn Books

Students in Mrs. Pernu's 1st Grade class were November attendance winners and all were able to pick out a book from the school book vending machine!

#Inspire709 #ProudPanthers

www.ISD709.org/Piedmont-Elementary





Stay Connected

Facebook @ISD709News

4316 Rice Lake Road, Duluth, ...
218-336-8700

info@ISD709.org
ISD709.org

Administrative School District No.7j
Lake Oswego School District

Resolution No.

Secure Gun Storage

This resolution sets forth one of Lake Oswego School District's highest priorities school safety, in particular a focus on gun violence prevention through a model of leadership, information and education. The school district is striving to provide an inclusive and safe learning community with challenging opportunities that develop lifelong learners and contributing world citizens.

Whereas, evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective strategy to keep schools and students safe;

Whereas, an estimated 4.6 million American children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm;

Whereas, every year, nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else. That's roughly one unintentional shooting per day, and 77 percent of these incidents take place inside a home;

Whereas, another 590 children die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member;

Whereas, in incidents of gun violence on school grounds, 79 percent of active shooters are current students or recent graduates, and 78 percent of shooters under the age of 18 obtained their guns from their own home, a relative's home, or from friends;

Whereas, research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to an 85 percent reduction in the risk of self-inflicted and unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens;

Whereas, the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center recommends the importance of appropriate storage of weapons because many school attackers used firearms acquired from their homes;

Whereas, across the country, lawmakers, community members, and local leaders are working together to implement public awareness campaigns, such as Moms Demand Action for Gun

Sense in America's Be SMART program, which is endorsed by the National PTA and which encourages secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks of unsecured guns;

Whereas, keeping students, teachers and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the shared responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each of our school sites;

Whereas, in order to continue with preventative measures to increase student and school safety we must continue to act; now therefore, be it,

Resolved, that the Board directs the Superintendent and staff to update the District website to include information about the secure storage of firearms;

Resolved further, that the Board directs the District to make parents and guardians aware of the importance of secure gun storage to protect minors from accessing irresponsibly stored guns; and, be it finally;

Resolved, that the Board and the Superintendent will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, health agencies and non-profits to collaborate and increase efforts to inform District parents about secure storage of firearms in their homes.

Adopted this 24th day of February, 2020

Signed:



School Board Chair



School Board Vice Chair

Attest



Superintendent

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Fairfax Co. schools to put out informational advisory on safe gun storage

Matthew Delaney | mdelaney@wtop.com

December 17, 2021, 11:40 PM

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Virginia’s largest school system is using its access to over 170,000 parents to get the word out on the state’s new law about gun storage.

A portion of Fairfax County Public Schools’ board meeting Thursday was dedicated to discussing the new law, which makes it illegal for any person to leave a loaded, unsecure firearm that could endanger a child under 14 years of age.

The law also says it’s illegal for a child under 12 to use a firearm except under supervision of an adult.

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Fairfax Superintendent Scott Brabrand said that the school system is committed to spreading a message about gun safety and storage, and that it will also have an official message on the topic following the upcoming winter break.

Brabrand added that he wants it to become an annual message for the school system to put out to families.

This came after multiple parents spoke during the public comment section.

“I ask about gun storage before sending my kids into other homes,” Fairfax County parent Ashley Misitzis said.

“Sometimes I learned guns are stored securely, unloaded and locked from ammunition. Other times I learn a loaded gun is on the top shelf of a closet or in the drawer of a night stand.”

Misitzis cited research saying that 75% of children know where a gun is located in the home, and a third of them have handled those firearms “often without their parents knowledge.”

Another Fairfax parent, Heather Foglio, who volunteers with anti-gun violence organization Moms Demand Action, reminded the school system of its key role



“Like all public health epidemics, we need to use data and evidence-based practices to prevent future tragedies from occurring,” Foglio said. “Research shows that one of the best ways to protect children and teens from accessing guns is to implement fire arms storage practices.”

Board members Karl Frisch and Laura Jane Cohen echoed their support of the Superintendent Brabrand’s decision to inform families about safe gun storage.

Everytown for Gun Safety, another anti-gun violence organization, said that over 5 million children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm. The organization also said that nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else every year.

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Board of Education Approves Safe Gun Storage Measure (6-18-19)

Citing potential safety threats caused by unsecured firearms, the Board of Education voted unanimously today to educate parents about proper gun storage and their legal obligation to safely secure any firearms in their home.

The resolution authored by Board Member Scott M. Schmerelson requires parents to sign a letter each year acknowledging their understanding of their firearm storage responsibilities and provides that school-site staff be trained in how to detect and prevent gun violence. The measure was co-sponsored by Board Member Dr. George J. McKenna III and Board Vice President Nick Melvoin.

“Families can prevent a tragedy by following the law and making sure that firearms in the home are secured,” Superintendent Austin Beutner said.

“As school board members, we have a profound responsibility to address the all-too-frequent school shootings that we are witnessing in modern America,” Board Member Schmerelson said. “Nearly 70% of student shooters gained access to a lawfully purchased gun from their residence or the residence of a relative, 87% of kids know where their parents' guns are kept and 60% have handled them. Over 80% of teens who commit suicide with a gun used one that belonged to someone in their home, and guns are the third leading cause of death for kids. I am hopeful that the measures called for in my resolution will better educate parents and guardians about their legal obligation to safely store firearms.”

“We know that parents are always a child’s first teacher, but current times dictate that we elevate the conversation about gun safety,” Board Member Dr. McKenna said. “We all have a responsibility to take all precaution to keep our children safe.”

“The safety of our students is one of our top priorities, and awareness about gun storage can save kids’ lives,” Board Vice President Melvoin said. “Even if Congress refuses to legislate on common-sense gun control, Los Angeles Unified will do what we exist to do – educate our families.”

“Safety is our highest priority in Los Angeles Unified, and we have led many efforts within the past two years to deepen our work on student safety,” Board Member Kelly Gonez said. “I look forward to continued partnership with the city around safe passages and other efforts to ensure our students are safe and secure in schools and our communities.”

The measure also received the backing of civic and community leaders.

"It's the legal obligation of every parent who owns guns to store them safely," Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer said. "I applaud Board Member Schmerelson for authoring, and his fellow Board Members for passing, this very important measure to save students' lives."

“Women Against Gun Violence, a non-profit working for over 25 years in Los Angeles County to prevent gun violence, is excited to support the resolution to distribute safe gun storage information to parents and caretakers,” said Donna Finkelstein, a board member for the organization. “Safe gun storage saves lives.”

###

MOU STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

This MOU Strategic Partnership Agreement (the "Agreement") is effective December 9, 2021.

- AMONG: Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, Inc. (Everytown Support Fund)
P.O. Box 4184, New York, NY 10163
- AND: Prisma Health Richland Hospital at
5 Richland Medical Park Drive, Columbia, SC 29203
- AND: Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital at
129 N. Washington Street, Sumter, SC 29150
- AND: Lexington Medical Center at
2720 Sunset Boulevard, West Columbia, SC 29169
- AND: Medical University Hospital Authority d/b/a MUSC Health Columbia Medical Center
Downtown at
2435 Forest Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29204
- AND: Medical University Hospital Authority d/b/a MUSC Health Columbia Medical Center
Northeast
120 Gateway Corporate Boulevard, Columbia, SC 29203
- AND: Medical University Hospital Authority d/b/a MUSC Health Fairfield Imaging and
Emergency
1810 US Highway 321 South, Winnsboro, SC 29180
- AND: Medical University Hospital Authority d/b/a MUSC Health Kershaw Medical Center
1315 Roberts Street, Camden, SC 29020
- AND: Regional Medical Center of Orangeburg at
3000 St. Matthews Road, Orangeburg, SC 29118
- AND: Calhoun County School District at
125 Herlong Ave. St. Matthews, SC 29135
- AND: Calhoun County Sheriff's Office
2811 Old Belleville Rd, Saint Matthews, SC 29135
- AND: Fairfield County School District at
1226 US Highway 321 By-Pass South, Winnsboro, SC 29180

- AND: Fairfield County Sheriff's Office
350 Columbia Road, Winnsboro, SC 29180
- AND: Department of Public Safety – Town of Winnsboro
117 W. Washington Street, Winnsboro, SC 29180
- AND: Lexington County School District 3 at
338 West Columbia Avenue, Batesburg-Leesville, South Carolina 29006
- AND: Lexington County School District 4 at
607 E 5th Street, Swansea, SC 29160
- AND: Town of Gaston Police Department at
131 N. Carlisle Street, Gaston, SC 29053
- AND: Town of Swansea Police Department at
300 West 3rd Street, Swansea, South Carolina 29160
- AND: School District 5 of Lexington & Richland Counties at
1020 Dutch Fork Rd., Irmo, SC 29063
- AND: Orangeburg County School District at
102 Founders Court, Orangeburg, SC 29118
- AND: Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office at
1520 Ellis Avenue, Orangeburg, SC 29118
- AND: City of Orangeburg - Department of Public Safety at
1320 Middleton St, Orangeburg, SC 29115
- AND: Richland County School District One at
1616 Richland Street, Columbia, SC 29201
- AND: Richland County School District Two at
124 Risdon Way, Columbia, SC 29223
- AND: Richland County Sheriff's Department at
5623 Two Notch Road. Columbia, SC 29223
- AND: Sumter County School District at
1345 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150
- AND: City of Sumter Police Department at
335 N Lafayette Drive, Sumter, SC 29150

AND: Sumter County Sheriff's Office
1281 North Main Street, Sumter, SC 29153

WHEREAS every year, nearly 350 children in America under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else.¹

WHEREAS another 700 children under 18 years old in America die by gun suicide each year,² most often using guns belonging to a family member;³

WHEREAS in incidents of gun violence on school grounds in America, 75 percent of active shooters were current or former students,⁴ and 73–80 percent of shooters under the age of 18 obtained the gun(s) they used from their home or the homes of relatives or friends;⁵

WHEREAS firearms are the leading cause of death for American children and teens,⁶

WHEREAS gun violence costs South Carolina \$6.1 billion each year, of which \$297.5 million is paid by taxpayers.⁷

WHEREAS child suicide deaths in South Carolina have increased every year from 2015 to 2019 and 49% of child suicide deaths were caused by discharge of firearms (latest data available 2019),⁸

WHEREAS an estimated 5.4 million American children live in homes with at least one gun that is loaded and unlocked,⁹

WHEREAS there were at least 12 unintentional shootings by children in South Carolina in 2020,¹⁰

¹ Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "Preventable Tragedies: Findings from the #NotAnAccident Index," August 30, 2021, <https://everytownresearch.org/report/notanaccident/>; Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "#NotAnAccident Index," <https://everytownresearch.org/maps/notanaccident/>.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. WONDER Online Database, Underlying Cause of Death. A yearly average was developed using five years of most recent available data: 2015-2019 Children defined as aged 0 to 17.

³ Renee M. Johnson et al., "Who Are the Owners of Firearms Used in Adolescent Suicides?," *Suicide & Life-Threatening Behavior* 40, no. 6 (2010): 609–11, <https://doi.org/10.1521/suli.2010.40.6.609>.

⁴ New York City Police Department, "Active Shooter: Recommendations and Analysis for Risk Mitigation," 2016, <https://on.nyc.gov/2nWHM40>.

⁵ National Threat Assessment Center, "Protecting America's Schools: A US Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence" (US Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security, 2019), <https://bit.ly/2U7vnwa>; John Woodrow Cox and Steven Rich, "'The Gun's Not in the Closet,'" *Washington Post*, August 1, 2018, <https://wapo.st/2TyDnTW>; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention, "Source of Firearms Used by Students in School-Associated Violent Deaths, United States, 1992-1999," *MMWR Weekly* 52, no. 9 (March 7, 2003): 169–72, <https://bit.ly/2RGthlo>.

⁶ Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "EveryStat: South Carolina," <https://everystat.org/#SouthCarolina>. Analysis of CDC, Underlying Cause of Death, One Year Count: 2019.

⁷ Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "EveryStat: South Carolina," <https://everystat.org/#SouthCarolina>, Analysis of CDC Fatal injury 2018 and HCUP nonfatal injury 2017 by Ted R. Miller.

⁸ South Carolina Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children, "2021 Data Reference Book," <https://bit.ly/3ks7qMv>.

⁹ Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "Preventable Tragedies: Findings from the #NotAnAccident Index," August 30, 2021, <https://everytownresearch.org/report/notanaccident/> citing Deborah Azreal and Matthew Miller forthcoming 2021 National Firearms Survey.

¹⁰ Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "#NotAnAccident Index," <https://everytownresearch.org/maps/notanaccident/>.

WHEREAS there have been at least five incidents of gunfire¹¹ and at least 29 incidents where firearms were discovered¹² on school campuses in South Carolina so far in 2021.

WHEREAS research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to a 78 percent lower risk of self-inflicted firearm injuries and an 85 percent lower risk of unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens¹³;

WHEREAS evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective strategy to keep schools and students safe;¹⁴

WHEREAS the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center recommends the importance of appropriate storage of weapons because many school attackers used firearms acquired from their homes;¹⁵

WHEREAS across the country, lawmakers, community members, and local leaders are working together to implement public awareness campaigns, such as Everytown Support Fund's Be SMART program, which is endorsed by the National PTA and by the SC Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and which encourages secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks of unsecured guns;

WHEREAS keeping students, teachers and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each school site;

WHEREAS each of the above-listed Parties is concerned about gun violence and is desirous to enter this Memorandum of Understanding, setting out the terms and conditions of the Partnership.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual agreements contain in this Agreement, the Parties hereto agree as follows:

1. PARTNERSHIP PURPOSE

1.1. The purpose of the Partnership is to work together to reduce firearm-related injuries and deaths in our communities by educating parents and other adults on the principles of Be SMART, an educational program developed by Everytown Support Fund, and by helping eliminate the barriers to securing firearm storage among gun owners.

2. OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

2.1. The Parties acknowledge that no contractual relationship is created among them by this Memorandum. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties agree to be bound by the terms of the License in Section 2.1.7 herein. The Parties agree to work together to ensure success of the

¹¹ Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "Gunfire on School Grounds in the United States" accessed December 4, 2021, <https://everytownresearch.org/maps/gunfire-on-school-grounds/>.

¹² Gun Violence Archive, accessed December 6, 2021, <https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/>. Query of incidents of gun at school, no death/injury - elementary/secondary school in South Carolina between January 1 and December 6, 2021.

¹³ David C. Grossman et al., "Gun Storage Practices and Risk of Youth Suicide and Unintentional Firearm Injuries," *JAMA* 293, no. 6 (2005): 707-14, <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.293.6.70>.

¹⁴ Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "Keeping Our Schools Safe: A Plan for Preventing Mass Shootings and Ending All Gun Violence in American Schools," January 25, 2021, <https://everytownresearch.org/report/preventing-gun-violence-in-american-schools/>.

¹⁵ National Threat Assessment Center, "Protecting America's Schools: A US Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence" (US Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security, 2019), <https://bit.ly/2U7vnwa>.

Partnership and to assign appropriate financial, administrative and managerial resources to the Partnership. The scope of the Partnership shall be defined by mutual consent and will include:

- 2.1.1. Each member of this Partnership agrees to help share the Be SMART message to parents and adults in our communities. Options for sharing the Be SMART message by Partners include, but are not limited to:
 - 2.1.1.1. Update School District Student Handbooks to include information about the secure storage of firearms;
 - 2.1.1.2. Create an appropriate letter, in English and Spanish, from District Superintendents to parents and guardians that explains the importance of secure gun storage to protect minors from accessing unsecured guns, to be included in annual school registration materials, and requiring a signature acknowledging awareness of secure gun storage responsibilities;
 - 2.1.1.3. Share Be SMART information with parents/adults via emails, websites, social media, paper, etc;
 - 2.1.1.4. Require staff to watch the Be SMART training video annually;
 - 2.1.1.5. Allow presentations of the Be SMART program at events (PTO/SIC meetings, Parent University trainings, etc) and/or Be SMART tables at events/festivals.
- 2.1.2. Each law enforcement office in this Partnership agrees to provide firearm safety and storage presentations and gun locks, as available, to gun owners in our communities and to social workers at schools for distribution to those who want/need to secure their firearms.
- 2.1.3. Each trauma center/healthcare facility agrees to provide Be SMART educational materials and/or fund printing of Be SMART education materials, as funding is available, for their patients, the community and distribution at schools and other community organizations.
- 2.1.4. Each trauma center/healthcare facility agrees to provide gun locks, as funding is available, to gun owners in our communities and to social workers at schools for distribution to those who want/need to secure their firearms.
- 2.1.5. Each trauma center/healthcare facility agrees to train at least one (1) staff member to present the Be SMART program in schools in their city or county.
- 2.1.6. Everytown Support Fund agrees to provide these Partner organizations access to a training video about the Be SMART program.
- 2.1.7. Everytown Support Fund hereby grants these Partner organizations a non-exclusive, non-sublicensable, no-fee, revocable license, subject to the quality control of Everytown Support Fund, to use the trademarks shown below on the Partners' websites and/or social media platforms, including as part of public service announcements that will be available at www.besmartforkids.org and/or to be provided by Everytown Support Fund, and in printed publications, all related to the secure storage of firearms.

Licensed Marks:

BE SMART



2.1.8. Everytown Support Fund hereby agrees to develop a Be SMART radio advertisement which can be aired to target audiences across South Carolina.

3. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

3.1. The Parties acknowledge and agree that this Agreement does not create any financial or funding obligations on any Party.

4. NO JOINT VENTURE

4.1. Notwithstanding the terms “Partners” and “Partnership”, the Partners agree that they are not entering into a legal partnership, joint venture or other such business agreement, nor is the purpose of the Partners to enter into a commercial undertaking for monetary gain. No Partner will refer to or treat the arrangements under this Agreement as a legal partnership or take any action inconsistent with such intention.

5. TERM

5.1. This Memorandum shall remain in effect indefinitely until one or more Parties decides to withdraw from the Agreement at any time for any or no reason, by notifying the other Parties of the withdrawal in writing.

6. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY

6.1. No liability is assumed among the Parties because of this Memorandum

7. MODIFICATION OF ENTIRE AGREEMENT

7.1. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement among the Parties relative to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all proposals, written or oral, and other communications among the Parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may be modified, amended or rescinded only by a written agreement executed by all Parties.

8. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

8.1. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns, subject to the limitations set forth herein.

9. GOVERNING LAW

9.1. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of South Carolina.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each Party to this Agreement has caused it to be executed on the date(s) below.

**Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund,
Inc.**

Authorized Signature and Date

Michael Brouillard, CFO

Print Name and Title

Be SMART Volunteers

Signature and Date

Dr. Poornema Ramasamy, MD,

Midlands Be SMART Volunteer Co-Lead

Print Name and Title

Prisma Health Richland Hospital

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Lexington Medical Center

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

**Medical University Hospital Authority d/b/a
MUSC Health Midlands Division**

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Regional Medical Center of Orangeburg

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Calhoun County School District

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Calhoun County Sheriff's Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Fairfield County School District

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Fairfield County Sheriff's Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

**Town of Winnsboro Department of Public
Safety**

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Lexington County School District 3

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Lexington County School District 4

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Town of Swansea Police Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Town of Gaston Police Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

**School District 5 of Lexington & Richland
Counties**

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Orangeburg County School District

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Orangeburg County Sheriff's Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

City of Orangeburg Department of Public Safety

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Town of North Police Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Richland County School District One

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Richland County School District Two

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Richland County Sheriff's Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Sumter County School District

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

Sumter County Sheriff's Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

City of Sumter Police Department

Authorized Signature and Date

Print Name and Title

