



CHELSEA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: Board of Education

From: Douglas Whitsel

Re: Safety and Security Board Report, January 2025

Date: 1/7/2025

Dear Board of Education,

Happy New Year! I trust that everyone had a joyful and restful holiday season. As we step into the new year, I am filled with optimism about the progress we can achieve in the months ahead.

Over the past month, Ross, Ryan, and I have collaborated extensively to prepare the security audit presentation we will be sharing with you this evening. This presentation will outline several recommendations that we believe will significantly enhance the security of the Chelsea School District (CSD) while preserving the unique and vibrant Chelsea culture that defines our community.

A notable implementation last month was the introduction of NARCAN into the district. This life-saving tool has the potential to prevent fatalities in the rare event of an opioid overdose within our schools. Its deployment will align with Board Policy 5330.02 – Opioid Antagonists. Training on the administration of NARCAN will be led by Marijane Nelson and Kelsi Russell, who have been instrumental in ensuring that this initiative is executed efficiently and safely. Their dedication has been invaluable in making this important step forward possible.

The Michigan State Police, Office of School Safety, is offering an exciting new training opportunity: the Michigan K-12 Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (Mi-BTAM) program. This training is grounded in research and best practices developed by the United States Secret Service. Mi-BTAM provides a fact-based, systematic approach to identifying, assessing, and working collaboratively with families and students to address and mitigate thoughts of violence and aggression. Currently I am planning to attend this training in February and I am highly encouraging other staff to participate.

This training aligns closely with the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) process already implemented by the CSD and will enhance our ability to ensure the safety of both students and staff.

Respectfully,

Doug Whitsel, Director of Safety and Security

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