



Board Report for Director of Safety and Security

November, 2024

To: Board of Education
From: Douglas Whitsel
Re: Safety and Security Board Report – November 2024
Date: November 14, 2024

I am pleased to report that this has been a productive month focused on advancing safety and security within the district. Through a combination of training, ongoing conversations regarding school safety, and security audits of our facilities, I have continued to immerse myself in the culture and climate of our school environment. These efforts have provided me with valuable insights and a clearer understanding of the needs and priorities of our district, allowing me to refine the development of a comprehensive and effective security plan.

Below are some key professional development activities I participated in this month:

- Restorative Practices: Two-day training at Eastern Michigan University (EMU)
- United States Secret Service (USSS) Enhancing School Safety Webinar
- Safe and Sound Schools: Multiple webinars
- Upcoming Training: USSS Preventing Mass Attacks

In addition to training, I have made significant progress in expanding my professional network. I have engaged with safety coordinators from other districts, including Ann Arbor Public Schools, Onsted, Southgate, and Lansing Catholic. These discussions have provided valuable insights into effective safety protocols and technologies that have been successful in their respective districts. In the coming weeks, I plan to visit some of these districts to observe firsthand the implementation of certain safety products and systems that could potentially benefit Chelsea.

The ongoing security audits of our district's facilities remain a high priority. I am especially grateful for the collaboration with Ross and Ryan during these audits. Their expertise has been indispensable in helping identify areas where we can further enhance student safety and improve security measures across our schools.

Additionally, engaging with staff and students has been instrumental in shaping my understanding of current safety concerns. I had the opportunity to speak with several staff members during our most recent professional development day, where I addressed questions and concerns about the ALICE procedures. I also look forward to attending the upcoming high school assembly focused on ALICE, which will provide further insights into how well students and staff understand these protocols, as well as offer an opportunity to answer any additional questions.

It has been a privilege to serve the district over the past few months, and I look forward to the continued opportunities for growth and improvement in the area of school safety.



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Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,
Douglas Whitsel