



CHELSEA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: Board of Education

From: Douglas Whitsel

Re: Safety and Security Board Report, June 2025

Date: 6/02/2025

Dear Board of Education,

As we close out the school year, I want to take a moment to highlight several important developments and provide a look ahead at key initiatives already underway for the upcoming year. While much has been accomplished, our commitment to enhancing safety and emergency preparedness continues to evolve with new improvements on the horizon.

Earlier this month, we conducted a detailed walk around with the Chelsea Area Fire Authority to assess optimal placement for the newly procured Knox Boxes. Their expert guidance helped us determine the most strategic and accessible locations for installation at each building. These emergency access devices will allow first responders to enter our facilities swiftly and securely during emergencies, minimizing response time while avoiding damage.

We are also nearing the final stages of implementing the district-wide radio communication system upgrade. This critical enhancement will significantly improve signal reliability, close existing coverage gaps, and provide durable, easy-to-use radios capable of supporting coordination across multiple teams during daily operations and large-scale incidents. We look forward to bringing this item to the Board June 23rd.

In parallel, we have begun development of a new District Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which will align with Michigan's forthcoming requirements for standardized response terminology. This updated EOP will provide clear, consistent language and procedures across all schools, supporting a unified approach to emergency response and improved coordination with public safety agencies.

Respectfully,

Doug Whitsel, Director of Safety and Security
Chelsea School District