



CHELSEA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: Board of Education

From: Douglas Whitsel

Re: Safety and Security Board Report, September 2025

Date: 9/02/2025

Dear Board of Education,

As we begin a new school year, I want to share in the excitement that comes with welcoming students and staff back into our buildings. Alongside the energy of a fresh start, we are also moving forward with several important safety and security enhancements designed to strengthen daily operations and improve emergency preparedness across the district.

Recently, we have started receiving the new handheld radios that are part of our district-wide communication upgrade. These radios will provide reliable, durable, and easy-to-use communication tools for staff, ensuring greater coordination during both routine activities and emergency situations. In addition, our buses are now equipped with upgraded radio systems, allowing for clearer and more consistent communication between transportation staff and district personnel. The system will continue to be fine-tuned to meet the district's standards.

Another noteworthy item is the implementation of the Verkada Visitor Management System at our remaining school buildings. This system will standardize how we monitor and process visitors district-wide, providing a safer and more controlled environment for our students and staff. Once fully implemented, all buildings will benefit from consistent procedures and enhanced security oversight. The feedback we have received from the staff and community has been vital to our implementation and it has been overwhelmingly positive.

These updates mark another important step in our ongoing commitment to school safety. I look forward to keeping the Board informed as these initiatives continue to progress and as we identify new opportunities to strengthen our district's preparedness.

Respectfully,

Doug Whitsel, Director of Safety and Security
Chelsea School District