

Community Members,

Northwestern's buildings remain secured during the school day. What we have in place has not changed dramatically, but has become more detailed and responses more rehearsed.

We pray that no such cowardly and inhumane violent acts such as what has occurred in Florida toward children occurs in our community.

We also pray that we have the strength of relationships and awareness to recognize, intercede, and support individual students in crisis so we can stop any potential self-harm.

As far as school building security, we have layers of security that include:

- Locked doors and windows.
- Many security Cameras outside our buildings as well as inside our buildings.
- Security cameras at the main entrance linked to a buzzer system whereby the doors are remote unlocked to allow access.
- Name tags and processes for visitors.
- Alice Training. Awareness and training are vitally important.
- Regular armed intruder drills.
- More comprehensive building and district safety plans that are updated annually.
- Each building has a crisis team in place for students in crisis.
- Wayne County Sheriff Deputies regularly patrol around the school campus and stop in at varied times.
- We have also approved specific and trained law enforcement officers to carry concealed and unconcealed weapons on campus and inside buildings. Only board members and administrators are in the know of whom these individuals are. Their identities are kept under wraps for obvious reasons.
- Obviously on duty law enforcement officers can also carry their weapons.
- Since the Florida shooting area law enforcement has stepped-up their school presence.

As always, the very best deterrent in many situations is forging and maintaining strong relationships and communications with staff, students, and parents; addressing mental health and behavioral issues, dealing with any bullying behavior immediately, as well as providing additional counseling supports for students and families as provided with existing staff, Catholic Charities, ANAZAO, families, and local clergy. Northwestern is blessed with a strong culture of faith in a very student-centered, nurturing environment. **I appreciate the awareness and relationships we have of individual students and their needs – through our guidance counselors, administrators, staff-members, and community-wide.**

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*Husky Proud!*