ACTIVE SHOOTER THREATS

The US Secret Service released the results of its most recent study of active shooter events, which looked at 41 school attacks between 2008 and 2017. Since all perpetrators exhibited concerning behavior and signaled their intent to attack to at least one other person, the report determined that encouraging students to report concerns to trusted adults is vital. In addition, providing training to staff and parents to report those concerns is of the utmost importance.

The findings reinforced the idea that the best way to prevent a school shooting is to stop the person while they are planning the attack, or better yet, before they reach a crisis. Each school should develop a multidisciplinary threat assessment team to help decrease the number of acts of targeted violence in schools. At a bare minimum, the team should include administrators, mental health clinicians, and School Resource Officers, among other trained individuals.

It is also important to distinguish normal from concerning behaviors. This will help make the determination as to whether to contact local law enforcement.

Once a school's threat assessment team is in place and an assessment is complete, begin to work on risk management options. Plan what you are going to do with any information gathered. Encourage
the staff, faculty and students to participate in making your school a safe place for everyone by encouraging them to report any threat they become aware of immediately. Many violent acts have been thwarted because someone reported the threat.

RSS is able to provide threat assessment training at different levels and to a variety of groups. These training programs can occur in district or on one of the PNW BOCES campuses. Additionally, providing staff with opportunities such as the Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events Training, which is being held on December 12 at PNW BOCES, can help.

For a full listing of our services click below:

Visit our catalog

BUILDING CONDITION SURVEY (BCS)/ANNUAL VISUAL INSPECTION (AVI)

Below is an excerpt from an email received from Facilities Planning regarding the BCS and AVI.

2020 Building Condition Survey and 2020 Visual Inspection

- To address the changes to the statutory requirements for the Building Condition Survey (BCS) and Visual Inspection, the Department has assigned districts/BOCES to five cohorts (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024) to complete the BCS, and to two cohorts (2020 and 2022) to complete the Visual Inspection.
- Assignments are now available on the Office of Facilities Planning website here.
- Questions can be directed to the Office of Facilities Planning at 518-474-3906 or emscfp@nysed.gov

5-Year Capital Plan

- The Office of Facilities Planning has received questions regarding whether capital construction projects will be approved if received from districts or BOCES that have not completed a Building Condition Survey information.

WEATHER PREDICTION AND REPORTING

OnmiWeather's Annual Weather and Warning Service can help you protect your staff and students.

Notifications are provided as needed, and service includes unlimited call-in phone access to its meteorologists.

Sign up for their Winter Storm Advisory Service.

OmniWeather winter storm advisory service helps you make the right decisions at the right time when facing winter weather threats - helping you to protect and make the best use of your resources.

For more info, contact:

Cynthia Braden
Sr. Office Asst.
(914) 248-3692
cbraden@pnwboces.org

HOLIDAY SAFETY

One of the challenges of the holiday season...
We want to clarify that project review/approval requires submission of the Executive Summary from the district or BOCES Five-Year Capital Facilities Plan required by Commissioners Regulations 155.1(a)(4). Our process does NOT require a submission from the BCS.

- The regulation requires that the capital plan be updated annually.
- In order to be approved, the Executive Summary submitted as part of a request for building permit/state aid approval should include the scope of work for the project being submitted to the Office of Facilities Planning.
- More information regarding the Five-Year Capital Plan Summary can be found on the Office of Facilities Planning website here.
- Questions can be directed to the Office of Facilities Planning at 518-474-3906 or emscfp@nysed.gov

BCS must be performed by a team that includes at least one licensed architect or engineer. ALL normally occupied structures must be inspected.

AVIs must be performed by a team that includes the School District Director of Facilities, Dept. of State Code Enforcement Official and Member(s) of the Health and Safety Committee.

Regional Safety Services would like to thank Assistant Superintendent John McCarthy for his unwavering support. Snapshot on Safety owes much of what it has become to his critical and creative eye. Good Luck in your retirement, John.

Points of interest from our November meeting of the Regional Safety Committee:

- is keeping students and staff safe without being seen as a Scrooge.
- When you are planning holiday concerts and activities, make sure exits of the building are clear of desks, tables, trees, etc. This is especially important when additional visitors are in the building. Blocked exits in an emergency can lead to injury and even death. And be sure to keep fire codes in mind when putting up holiday decorations.
- If you have questions or concerns about your decorations, send us a photo or ask us to stop by. We can help you find the balance between festive and safety.

INFORMATION FROM THE CDC

WINTER EVENTS

In addition to assisting our districts with emergency
Westchester County DOH representative Natasha Court provided guidance on permit regulations for boilers burning No. 2 fuel oil in Westchester County. See Westchester DOH Air Quality Page.

Louis Berger discussed the process for lead testing in the 2020 calendar year.

Click here for the PowerPoint Presentation on Lead in Water from the NYS DOH.

Frank Guglieri presented information on the Secret Service Active Shooter report.

Meetings are held every other month. The next meeting is January 30, from 8 am to 10 am, in Building 1 on our Fox Meadow Campus.

December 12
- Civilian Response to Active Shooter Training

January 30
- Regional Safety Committee Meeting
- Emergency Response Planning - using protective actions and increasing complexities of drills - Lunch 'n' Learn

February 11
- Table top Lunch 'n' Learn

February 27
- Emergency Planning - Medical/Mental Health Team Development Lunch 'n' Learn

For a full listing of our meetings and events click on the link below.

2019 - 2020 Calendar of Events
PLANS TO STAY IN THE KNOW

SUPERINTENDENTS

James M. Ryan, Ed.D
District Superintendent

Lynn Allen, Ed.D
Assistant Superintendent

Todd Currie
Assistant Superintendent

John McCarthy
Assistant Superintendent

BOARD MEMBERS

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