



WRENTHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Safety Parent Meeting

February 28, 2017

SRO Steve Hearon & Superintendent Allan Cameron

AGENDA

Emergency response protocols at Delaney and Roderick.

- Why we prepare.
- Evacuation, Stay in Place, Active Intruder.

Opioid addition in Massachusetts.

Legal recreational marijuana.

What schools and parents can do to help keep students safe.

Summary of parent feedback and next steps.

Allan's and Steve's contact information for questions or comments.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES?

- Students follow the examples and directions of adults.
- The more we prepare, the more confident we will be.
- Preparation and judgment will help us to make the best decisions.
- There is no perfect response to any emergency.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES?

WITHOUT PREPARATION



WITH PREPARATION



FOR PERSPECTIVE

From 1998 to 2012 there were:

- 22 active shooter incidents on K12 property in the USA (Department of Homeland Security).
- 0 fire fatalities at K12 schools in the USA (US Fire Administration).

Chances of an elementary school shooting: 1 in 141,463.

Chances of:

- Dying from a car accident: 1 in 113.
- Being injured by a toilet: 1 in 10,000.
- Going to the ER with a pogo-stick related injury: 1 in 115,300.

THREE EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Anyone may trigger any emergency response if they suspect there is an emergency.

- Evacuation: Everyone leaves the buildings.
- Stay in Place: Everyone clears the hallways but teaching continues in classrooms.
- Active Intruder: Teachers make decisions about how to respond based on the circumstances.

EVACUATION

Reasons: Fire, gas leak.

Trigger: Fire alarm or “Evacuate the building.”

1. Exit the building - Leave personal items and shut the door and turn off the lights.
2. Report to assigned location.
3. Take attendance and report to liaisons, who report to principal.
4. Sweepers take extra students to principal.
5. If necessary to remain out of the building and walk to the rally point.

STAY IN PLACE

Reasons: Medical emergency, skunk in the hallway.

Trigger: "Stay in place" or you see a reason to keep hallways clear.

1. Welcome students and staff members into your classroom.
2. Close the door and keep people in the classroom.
3. Take attendance.
 - Contact office with the names of missing or extra students.
4. Bring students in from recess if emergency vehicles are arriving.
5. Continue usual routine.
6. Contact the office if there is a problem.

ACTIVE INTRUDER

Reason: Someone in the building is attempting to harm people.

Triggers: "Active intruder" or you see or hear something dangerous.

- Listen to the PA for details about the nature and location of the threat.
- Teachers and staff members decide how to proceed:
 - Observe the surroundings.
 - Decide on a course of action.
 - Evacuate the building and move to the rally point.
 - Stay in the classroom and barricade the door.
 - Act.

OPIOID ADDICTION IN MASSACHUSETTS

We do not have a problem with opioid addiction in our schools.
However, opioid-related overdoses and deaths are epidemic in MA:

- Among the highest in the country.
- 35% increase in opioid-related deaths from 2014-2015.
- Young people at greatest risk.
 - 25% of all fatalities 18-24 year olds due to opioids.
 - 33% of all fatalities 25-34 year olds due to opioids.

WHAT ARE OPIOIDS?

Opioids are a class of drugs used to reduce pain.

- Medicinal opioids by prescription.
 - OxyContin, Vicodin, Fentanyl, and morphine.
- Illegal opioids.
 - Heroin.
 - Non-prescribed medicinal opioids.

BOTH prescription and illegal opioids are being abused.

HOW DO PEOPLE BECOME ADDICTED?

Often:

1. Someone receives a prescription for an opioid pain reliever.
2. The person misuses the pain reliever and becomes addicted.
3. The person tries to get more of the pain reliever from a prescriber. When that becomes unavailable, the person buys illegal pills.
4. The person realizes heroin is more cost effective and switches.
5. Often, the person commits other crimes to support the habit.

RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

We do not have a marijuana problem in our schools. However, in 2016, Massachusetts voters approved recreational marijuana use.

- If 21 years old or older, may possess up to 1 ounce outside of the home and 10 ounces at home.
- May not smoke marijuana in public or where smoking is illegal.
- May not possess any amount of marijuana on school grounds.

Edible marijuana is of particular concern to children.

MARIJUANA EDIBLES



WHAT ARE WRENTHAM SCHOOLS DOING?

- Teaching all students in age-appropriate manner about healthy decision making and the dangers of smoking, drugs, and alcohol.
- Working with students on pro-social behaviors like self-control, communication, relationship building, and problem-solving.
- Providing academic and social/emotional support.
- Establishing connections with students, their families, and community resources.
- Remaining current with best practices in drug abuse prevention strategies.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

- Talk to your children about healthy decision making and the dangers of smoking, drugs, and alcohol. Parent Tool Kit: <http://www.drugfree.org/the-parent-toolkit/>
- Limit and monitor their use of prescription medication.
- Know their friends and talk with their friends' parents.
- Look for symptoms of drug abuse.
- Ask for help: nurses, principals, counselors, psychologists, teachers, police officers, fire fighters.

SUMMARY OF THE PRESENTATION

1. We have emergency response protocols at Delaney and Roderick so we can help keep our community safe.
 - *Evacuation, Stay in Place, Active Intruder.*
2. Opioid addiction is an epidemic in Massachusetts.
 - *Prescription pain relievers and heroin are problematic in our area.*
3. Recreational Marijuana is legal in Massachusetts for 21+.
 - *Not legal on school property in any form.*
4. Schools and parents can help by talking with children about healthy decisions and the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

SUMMARY OF PARENT FEEDBACK AND NEXT STEPS

Communication

- The principals will review their communication protocols to ensure the parents of instigators and targets of inappropriate bus behavior are notified.
- The district will consider informing all families when a student leaves school grounds without permission. This has happened 2 times during the past 3 years and the students' families were notified. The district has to balance the desire of non-involved parents to be notified with the need to respect the privacy of the students and families involved in the incidents.
- Allan will use benign language in the subject line of emails to families so that he does not cause alarm.

SUMMARY OF PARENT FEEDBACK AND NEXT STEPS

Security

- The principals will ensure the administrative assistants can clearly see visitors before allowing them to enter the buildings.
- The facilities manager and business manager will explore the costs, benefits, and challenges of installing alarms on exterior doors.
- The business manager will order school-specific name badges for visitors.
- The facilities manager will ensure all classrooms can hear the PA.
- The police will continue to be visible.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

School Resource Officer Steve Hearon

- 508-384-2121 (non-emergency)
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