

Pine Grove Area School District

We work every day to make our schools as safe as possible for every person who enters our doors. Our commitment to safety includes the following:

- **School Resource Officer:** During the 2018-19 school year, the district will launch a School Resource Officer (SRO) program on our campus, as a proactive step in the direction of safety. Our SRO is a uniformed Pine Grove Borough police officer assigned as a regular presence on the campus to provide security and crime prevention services and also serve as a problem solver, youth advocate, school and community liaison, mentor and positive role model.
- **School Safety & Security Coordinator:** The district has appointed Mr. Henry Snyder, Director of Buildings & Maintenance as our School Safety & Security Coordinator. Mr. Snyder has been trained as an ALICE Trainer, chairs the CRT task force, and works closely with our local first responders in reviewing and developing safety & security procedures.
- **Safety Drills:** Our students and staff participate in safety drills throughout the school year. We also communicate with the students in an age-appropriate manner why we are doing these drills.
- **Raptor Visitor Sign In:** Every visitor to a district school building during school hours must enter through the main entrance and register at the school office. If a visitor plans on visiting any part of the school other than the lobby, the visitor must sign in using our Raptor system.
- **Volunteer Background Checks:** Certain volunteer positions require a full background check prior to assuming volunteer duties.
- **SpeakOut Reporting System:** The email address speakout@pgasd.com is for students and parents to report concerns which may affect the peace of mind of students or jeopardize the safety of people or school facilities.
- **Emergency Training:** The district requires 100% of district staff to complete basic ALICE training during the school year. ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training prepares individuals to handle the threat of an intruder and lead others to safety. Local law enforcement officials also conduct campus safety assessments with district staff.
- **Emergency Notification:** Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, the district will be using a new notification program called BlackboardConnect in the case of an emergency. This system allows the district provide emergency notifications by call, text, and email. The district also utilizes standard media outlets, social media and the district website to inform stakeholders in an emergency situation.
- **Security Cameras:** The district has dozens of cameras on campus to monitor activity inside and out.
- **Emergency Plans:** We review and exercise our emergency plans several times a year. Programs like DudeSolutions, which provides a web-based system where critical information is stored, updated and accessed by all essential school and safety personnel, make it easier for us to have instant access to critical emergency information.
- **Crisis Response Task Force (CRT):** The Crisis Response Task Force (CRT) is tasked with reviewing district policies and practices on a variety of safety topics. This task force is comprised of administration, teachers, staff, and local first responders. The goals of CRT are to identify key findings, develop a variety of options, and present those key findings and options to the Pine Grove Area Board of Education for consideration in future planning.