



## WALLENPAUPACK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**Keith E. Gunuskey**  
Superintendent

**Jay Starnes, Ed. D.**  
Assistant Superintendent

**Kerriann Horan**  
Business Administrator

**Lindsey Shaheen**  
Board Secretary

October 28, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Safe, caring, and orderly schools are a few of the top priorities of our school district. Throughout the school year, we practice various safety drills to ensure that our students, faculty, and staff are well-prepared to respond to emergency situations.

All our schools hold fire drills monthly and weather drills in collaboration with the county emergency management offices. We take all school safety drills, or any crisis or threat to our school, very seriously.

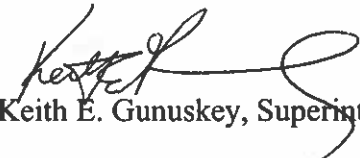
Lockdown simulations are a routine part of the school safety procedures that are practiced regularly throughout the country. Lockdown procedures are normally initiated as a response to an unknown person on campus or some other local concern. During a lockdown, the teachers are to secure students in their classrooms or teaching areas while other safety procedures take place, to determine the level of the threat and the appropriate response. Once a safe environment has been established the lockdown is lifted.

On November 1, 2024 we will conduct a district wide lockdown drill. Building administrators and School Police Officers will discuss the simulation with your children before we begin, to let them know that it is only a drill, however, this simulation may cause some anxiety for your child. Our intent is to establish appropriate safety procedures in case of any potential event and to minimize the emotional impact of safety drills.

One of the most important steps a parent can take to prepare their children for an emergency is to reinforce the significance of listening to adults. We urge you to speak with your son or daughter in advance of the drill in the event they have any questions or concerns.

If you need additional information, please contact your child's building principal. As always, thank you for your continued support of our school district.

Sincerely,

  
Keith E. Gunuskey, Superintendent