



NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Newtown Security Committee

The Newtown Public Schools, in cooperation with the Newtown Police Department, has established a Security Committee to address immediate and long-term goals associated with building safety, personnel training, physical security measures, and recommendations for district security policy. The committee consists of members from local law enforcement, district administration, building administration, information technology, facilities, security, Newtown Federation of Teachers, educational assistants, teachers, and the Newtown Board of Education.

Members of the committee have visited each of the schools and have worked collaboratively with building principals to address immediate security needs. Procedures for emergency events, building access, and substitute teachers have been reviewed and updated to reflect increased levels of accountability and responsibility. As an example, all buildings already have a single controlled point of entry during the school day and this has been extended to include before and after the school day as well. Specific building access procedures for non-school groups have been distributed, updated expectations for parents and students will be sent home, and appropriate signage will be put in place.

Additional security personnel are being screened and selected so that at least one trained individual is at each school in the district. Newly hired security personnel will be trained internally before being deployed to their permanent post. As the additional personnel are activated, the presence of law enforcement officers at the buildings will be adjusted, resulting in the full-time presence of one police officer and at least one trained security officer at each building during regular school hours. This deployment is expected to take place shortly after the winter break.