

**SANTA FE ISD**

# **SAFETY MATTERS**

*Santa Fe ISD Safe and Secure Schools Update*

*September 21, 2018*

Student and staff safety is the top priority for Santa Fe ISD, and the District is always working to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for our students and staff. As a proactive step, Santa Fe ISD Police Department has developed safety and crisis response procedures that include practice safety drills. The campuses conduct these drills as part of regular schedules and avoid disruption to the learning environment.

## **Safety Drills**

Throughout the school year, schools will conduct a variety of practice drills during the school day to ensure that all persons are familiar with their roles and responsibilities for safety and crisis response situations. If a safety situation occurs, the District may utilize parent callouts and the District website [www.sfisd.org](http://www.sfisd.org) to communicate information to parents. The website also has a [Safety Information](#) tab on the right bar on our homepage for additional information. Remember to follow our Twitter page for up-to-date information.

All SFISD campus staff have been trained in safety response and protocols, and will receive additional CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter) and Stop the Bleed training on October 8<sup>th</sup> which is a district wide Professional Development/Training Day and student holiday. Prior to this required training, all Santa Fe ISD Staff and Substitutes have received Safe Schools Active Shooter Training, Crisis Response and Recovery, Health Emergencies, and Bullying: Recognition and Response which is delivered in an online format. All Substitutes received CRASE training in August prior to the start of the school year.

Santa Fe ISD has an Active Shooter response plan that is based on Texas State University's ALERRT Center's Avoid Deny Defend Concept. Students and staff are trained in accordance to this plan and regular drills are conducted. The response plan is based not on individual scenarios but on the response to any given situation.

In addition to monthly fire drills, SFISD campuses conduct safety drills each year for each of the following scenarios:

- Lockdown/Intruder
- Evacuate

- Lockout/Shelter in Place

All campuses will conduct a safety drill during the month of October. Parents will be notified in advance.

### **Fire Alarm Systems; fire drill conducted monthly**

All campuses are equipped with alarm systems that conform to current ADA standards requiring a strobe or horn/strobe in every classroom. The high school system includes a voice system that will play recorded statements regarding exiting the building in place of horns. Roy J Wollam Elementary Kubacak Elementary and Santa Fe Junior High have completed their September fire drills. Santa Fe High School will conduct a voice-activated fire drill on September 26th.

### **FBI Launches Campaign to Educate the Public to #ThinkBeforeYouPost**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Houston Division is launching #ThinkBeforeYouPost, a public awareness campaign to educate the public about the consequences of making hoax threats of violence to schools and other public places, and reminds everyone that hoax threats are not a joke.

Please access this link: [#ThinkBeforeYouPost](#) for more information regarding this campaign.

### **Mental Health and Wellness Services are ongoing**

As we have said over the past four months, we understand that healing and recovering from the May 18 events have not been easy and will take a very long time. Our efforts are intended to support and encourage the transformation of the traumatic experiences into a process of rebuilding for the individuals, families, school district and the Santa Fe community.

We continue to work together with our parents and community to build unity and restore the culture of trust by focusing on providing a positive learning environment for our students.

**Reminder: The Resiliency Center provides free long-term services at no cost to Santa Fe community members.** The Center's caring professionals provide a safe and supportive healing environment dedicated to everyone affected by the incident. As a referral hub, the Center works with partner agencies that provide spiritual care referrals, training, advocacy, legal aid, equine therapy, recreational therapy, and more. The Resiliency Center is open daily, and for more information, contact the center directly at 409-218-7129 or email [cgaylord@ci.santa-fe.tx.us](mailto:cgaylord@ci.santa-fe.tx.us).

### **Questions?**

Please submit any questions you may have to the Santa Fe Strong Interactive Web Portal at: [santafeupdates.com/contact-us](http://santafeupdates.com/contact-us)