



MILLBURN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
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Dr. Christine Burton

• *Superintendent of Schools* •

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Millburn Township Schools and the Millburn Police Department are committed to a partnership that is designed to keep the children of Millburn safe and secure at all times. We regularly review and then publicize our “Stranger Alert Procedures” (see below) to further strengthen that commitment and solidify the process by which we can empower the community with information that will enable all of us to help protect our children from potential danger.

Towards the goal of preparation and prevention, students are regularly reminded by school personnel of basic safety procedures. Teachers and other staff members at every school educate and remind students about such fundamental safety practices as what to do if you encounter a stranger, where to go for help, etc. Parents are welcome and encouraged to have similar discussions with their children. If you are looking for information to use in that regard, click here for [“Safety Tips for Parents and Students.”](#)

Should an incident occur, the following “Stranger Alert Procedures” have been formulated to provide for a quick and comprehensive response. We review them annually and update/revise on an as-needed basis thereafter. Our goal is to make the community aware of potentially dangerous situations in a way that does not cause undue anxiety or fear for our students and their families, while at the same time doing everything we can to ensure the safety of all Millburn residents.

STRANGER ALERT PROCEDURES

1. The Millburn Police Department can be notified of potentially dangerous stranger situations by a number of sources. These sources include (but are not limited to) parents, community members, school officials, and law enforcement officials from neighboring communities. In all cases, it’s important to not pass along speculation or hearsay and instead share only facts (when reporting anything to the police AND in conversations after an alert is sent home—see below).

2. When notified, the Police will take the report and investigate promptly and thoroughly and then consult with the Chief of Police to determine if the school community in Milburn should be notified.
3. Should notification be called for, the Chief of Police then contacts the Superintendent of Schools and shares information with her concerning the description of the potentially dangerous stranger (and any other pertinent information about the incident).
4. The Superintendent of Schools then shares the information with other district personnel and sends home to all parents/guardians a “Stranger Alert Letter” via the district’s electronic communication system SchoolMessenger).

Last but certainly not least, the power of a parent/guardian in these situations (reassuring your child and reminding him or her about safe behaviors) cannot be exaggerated. A positive relationship with the schools, police and community all working together as one voice is the best precaution we can take, and we very much appreciate the support that you give to us to make that partnership a reality.

Christine Burton
Christine Burton
Superintendent of Schools

Mike Palardy
Mike Palardy
District Security Coordinator

Brian Gilfedder
Brian Gilfedder
Chief of Police