



For Immediate Release

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FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Fullerton, CA) – School safety is not one person’s responsibility, it is everyone’s responsibility. At its core school safety must ensure schools and school-related activities where students are safe from violence, bullying, harassment, and substance use. At the Fullerton School District (FSD), safety is of utmost importance. During the past year, additional safety enhancements have been made at our schools, based on the needs of particular sites. With input from parents and outside safety professionals, the following are of some of the most noticeable safety and security enhancements in FSD.

- Physical Upgrades: Single Points of Entry. Based on recommendations from our community and law enforcement, the District is working to create single points of entry for all visitors coming onto school campuses. Although it may appear differently on each school site, the goal is to direct all visitors through the main office. These enhancements may include fencing and/or cameras used to help achieve the best practice of a single point of entry.
- Visitor and Staff Badges: Working in partnership with the Fullerton Police Department, we have implemented a program that ensures that we know who is on our campus and for what purpose. Effective January 2018, all FSD schools started using a visitor management system called, RAPTOR. This system issues pictured ID badges to all visitors who enter our schools. This program is one example of the steps taken by FSD to ensure that individuals who come in contact with students can do so safely and lawfully. As part of the implementation process, we met with parent groups to inform them about the system is and how it would enhance our overall approach of securing our schools.
- Emergency Training: Emergency training has always been required for all FSD school administrators and staff. We offer earthquake preparedness training and practice drills as part of an annual effort under a program called the Great Shakeout. In response school shootings across the Nation, we have been working with the Fullerton Police Department and *Knowledge Saves Lives*, an organization that provides school-specific simulated drill training. School staff has been actively involved in hands-on training on how to address an intruder on campus. Multiple classes were offered to staff across the District. We have also been conducting school-specific exercises

and will have completed eight (4.5 hour) drills by year-end at various schools. It is our goal to have these drills in all schools throughout our District. Additionally, our bus drivers were trained prior to the start of school on how to handle this type of event while operating a school bus.

- School Safety Monitors: FSD has recently hired School Safety Monitors who will work in our junior high schools to help support the schools' safety plans by working with onsite administrators by providing additional monitoring and supervision our students. Their primary areas of responsibility are to build relationships with students, monitor and report suspicious activity, and to let students know that there are adults on FSD campuses looking out for their safety.
- Website and Social Media Updates: The FSD website (fullertonsd.org) has been updated to make parent resources more easily available. This includes two new section(s) titled, *Safety* and *Emergency Preparedness*. These sections will be updated periodically and are not intended for emergency information – but will provide information on our general safety plans and procedures. We encourage parents to periodically check-in to keep informed on new district safety initiatives. There are two new social media pages dedicated to providing real-time information to Fullerton families in the event of a school or other local emergency. We will also continue to use the Blackboard Connect program (calls home), and in addition realize that many parents use social media to obtain their news and updates. Please follow us on the new social media for this school and local emergency information. On Facebook: ***Fullerton School District Emergency Information*** & on Twitter: ***@FSDEMERCENCY***
- GoHuman: Safe driving near our schools is another area of focus that you will notice this school year. There will be three campaigns on our campuses involving signs that depicting students walking to and from school encouraging safe driving to our motoring public. We hope to partner with other Fullerton agencies and business(s) to get out the message that we want our driving community to set the example and drive safe! Student safety is important both inside our schools and out on our public roads!
- Anti-Bullying: The FSD website and each school website, now include an easy and visible way for anyone to report bullying. There is a new button on all District webpages where anyone can report bullying. The report can even be anonymous.

School safety is everyone's responsibility and FSD's proactive, comprehensive, and appropriate approach includes people (students, teachers, staff, community), school sites, and practices/policies (routines and rules supporting safety). Keeping schools safe allows children to look forward to being in an encouraging environment that promotes social and creative learning. Promoting school safety creates an environment for kids to explore, learn and grow. FSD is committed to keeping schools safe.

The Fullerton School District is located in northern Orange County, California and serves over 13,500 students in grades TK – 8th. The Fullerton School District includes 20 schools, 15 elementary schools, two K-8th grade schools, and 2 middle schools. The mission of the Fullerton School District is to work collaboratively with the community to provide an innovative, high-quality educational program for all students in a safe learning environment. The District motto, "*Great Schools - Successful Kids*" exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society. For more information, call 714/447-7400 or visit www.fullertonsd.org.

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For more information, please feel free to contact Laurie Bruneau/Risk Manager at 714/446-1066