

Layers of Security in K-12



Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation



WE ARE A K-12 public school corporation located in northern Indiana. The Community is considered suburban, and the corporation encompasses 135 square miles. During the 2015-2016 school year, Penn-Harris –Madison School Corporation educated 10,720 students at Penn High School, our three middle schools, and our eleven elementary schools.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES are an integral part of P-H-M’s Triangle of Success that connecting our students, teachers, and parents.

LAYERS OF SECURITY at P-H-M, we have an ongoing commitment to school safety and have taken a leadership role in education and training. We have held active shooter training drills as well as participated in national Safe School Initiative Studies. Our staff are trained in Crisis Management Procedures and our schools are safe, caring communities where students can learn and grow.

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE incorporates a three (3) layer approach to student and staff safety. According to Dr. Jerry Thacker “You can’t educate children unless they feel safe and secure... school safety is the School Corporation’s #1 priority”. The Penn High School graduation rate has steadily increased over the past 10 years to 97.7 percent. Providing a safe and secure learning environment creates a culture of safety and impacts student learning.

OUR STEPS: School Districts around the country are attempting to find solutions for potential threats to students, staff and patrons. Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation (P-H-M) is no different. At P-H-M, school safety as our #1 priority. Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation has worked with first responders, architects, fire marshals, vendors, school administration and stakeholders to provide a layered approach to school safety and security. By leveraging technology and establishing layers of security to protect staff and students, P-H-M is giving the schools an advantage in an active shooter or other threatening incidents. The goal is to prevent or slow down a threat and increase response time resulting in life safety. Key components include entrance security, corridor and classroom security. Additional components include layers of communication creating interoperability with first responders and how communications play a key role in crisis matters.

The ‘Security Layers in K-12 Schools’ will be featured in the School & University Publication as shown above in August 2016 for Outstanding Design in Commons Areas.

IN OUR OWN WORDS Dr. Jerry Thacker “You can’t educate children unless they feel safe and secure... school safety is the School Corporation’s #1 priority”. The Campus Security & Life Safety Magazine indicates P-H-M as “Standing Above the Rest” November 2013.

For more information about our school or corporation, email: mseger@phm.k12.in.us