

# Northview Public Schools

## School Safety Measures

Thank you for reading last week's communication. For your reference, the previous three messages, as well as other helpful resources, can be found at [www.nvps.net](http://www.nvps.net).

- April 11: What we are doing to prevent school violence
- April 16: How we are teaching our students to report information regarding school violence
- April 23: Improving school safety through strong community partnerships
- April 30: The "whole child" approach to school safety
- May 1: Community Safety Summit (see sidebar)

## Whole Child / Whole Community - "It Takes a Village"

Over the past several weeks as we've communicated around this topic, one idea has emerged as central to all of our efforts: *The success of any community in providing a safe, secure environment for its children depends upon everyone working collaboratively*—school staff, teachers, administrators, students, parents, business leaders and professionals and all other members of the community.

It is true that today's schools cannot stand alone in the effort to provide a safe environment for students. Northview's outreach to professional mental health experts in support of our students, families and staff through the various programs I wrote about previously exemplifies our commitment to this truth.

Meeting the needs of the whole child to help him/her develop into a healthy, successful, responsible and productive member of the community requires the engagement and support of all members of that community. It also requires providing a safety net for any gaps that may exist in the interface between home, school, work and the recreational environment. Further, a good safety net requires constant communication and collaboration between each of these stakeholder groups.

Another tenet of Northview's efforts is the enlisting of business partners to promote the interest and support of mentors and other significant adult involvement with students as they mature toward community participation.

As our children move from home to school to work or play, we must provide seamless transitions, expecting that accountability follows from one environment to the next and that the culture that they experience from morning to evening is coherent and sensible. Working toward a world that is stable and secure promotes hopefulness and courage as our young adults move beyond the community and into the larger world. It also helps each of us navigate the moments of chaos and uncertainty that inevitably occur along the way. Engaging our students in discussions and listening to their ideas both empowers them and amplifies the cross-generational bond within our community.

### Community Safety Summit

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Jon Savage, retired Deputy Chief of Police at GRPD and Secure Education Consultants VP of Operations

#### PANELISTS:

Representative Chris Afendoulis

Kent County Sheriff Deputy Andy Kozal

Fox 17 Anchor Derek Francis

NHS Principal Mark Thomas

Education Specialist J. VandenHeuvel

NHS Parent Melissa Baker-Boosamra

NHS Student Jake Domagalski



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Northview believes in supporting not only our students, but also their families as the most critical element of any safe and secure community. We recognize that all families endure individual challenges at different points in time. We invite you to join us with your questions, comments and concerns as we come together on Tuesday, May 1 for the Community Safety Summit. We hope to see you there!