

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/guardians, business leaders, professionals and all other members of the community.

Despite everyone's best efforts at crisis prevention, it is a certainty that crises will occur in schools. Good planning will facilitate a rapid, coordinated, effective response when a crisis occurs. Being well prepared involves an investment of time and resources—but it is critical to the health and safety of our staff and students.

Northview Public Schools (NVPS) takes a proactive stance on school safety by implementing the following safety measures.

BLUEPOINT ALERT SYSTEM

In the summer of 2021, NVPS installed a new BluePoint Alert System throughout the district. BluePoint pull stations are used in active threat situations. Much like red fire pull stations, which alert fire departments in fire situations, BluePoint will immediately alert the Kent County Sheriff's Department of a threat to, or within, a school building. This immediate notification will dramatically reduce response time.



When pulled, BluePoint notifies all occupants of a building—employees and visitors alike—to take precautions through strobe lights and audio messaging that reduces panic and confusion. The messaging includes a reminder of the [standard response protocol](#) as well as assurances that police are on their way. Strobe lights reinforce the messaging, especially in high ambient noise areas and outside buildings, warning people not to enter. To learn more about this system, please read this [information](#). All NVPS students and staff have been trained on the BluePoint Alert System.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

NVPS readily seeks out professional support and resources available to us within our community. We are one of eight districts in Kent County to have a full-time School Resource Officer. Deputy Mike Allen is not only a Kent County Sheriff Deputy but is also an active member of the Northview community. Deputy Allen believes the best way to create a safe and secure environment is by building strong relationships with staff, students and the community.

The KCSO encourages families to read their [Parent Letter](#) to help make responding to, and recovering from, an emergency better for everyone.



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Each school building within NVPS maintains an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to be used in crisis situations such as active threats, hazardous materials spills, or weather emergencies. Each building EOP is based on a state-approved template that was the result of collaborations between education and first response agencies and based on guidelines from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Michigan Department of Education. Our building plans were developed in coordination with local law enforcement, fire and emergency managers to address the unique needs of Northview Public Schools and provide a consistent approach to prevention and management of emergency situations that may arise. The Emergency Operations Plan is periodically updated and reviewed by the administration.

SECURE ENTRIES INTO SCHOOL BUILDINGS

An important part of school safety is controlling and monitoring access to our school buildings. Currently all school buildings are locked during the school day and accessible only by computerized key cards or by permission from the front office. Additionally, by fall 2022, all Northview buildings will have an added secure vestibule entryway.

In order for a visitor to gain access they must be buzzed into the secure vestibule by the front office staff and then buzzed in again into the front office. Between the two buzzer-controlled doors is the 'secure vestibule'. Once visitors reach the main office, they must sign in and state the purpose for their visit. Only those visitors who have completed and passed our background check are allowed to volunteer in our buildings.

In addition, each school building has a network of interior and exterior security cameras that are routinely monitored by staff. If there is an incident reported, video footage is reviewed during the investigation.

To learn more about our volunteer process, please visit <https://nvps.net/volunteer-in-our-schools/>

To learn more about our safety and security construction projects, please visit: <https://nvps.net/bond/>



SAFETY DRILLS

In compliance with [Michigan Compiled Law 29.19](#), each of our school buildings conduct the following safety drills each year:

- five fire drills
- two tornado drills
- three lockdown drills

Safety drills are conducted by the building principal in coordination with local agencies to prepare our students for a real emergency.



MERT TEAMS

Each building has specially trained staff members that are ready to respond to medical emergencies. Members of a Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT) are trained in first aid and CPR as well as the use of *AEDs and EpiPens.

MERT teams receive training and run practice drills under the supervision of our Spectrum Health school nurse.

*Automated External Defibrillators — portable, life-saving devices designed to treat people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest



SECURLY



NVPS employs [Securly's](#) signature cloud-based web filter to keep students safe on all district-provided computer devices and while using the district's wireless network.

In addition to filtering student web access points, NVPS utilizes Securly 24 which is an artificial intelligence tool that analyzes, flags and notifies a trained safety specialist when student use of monitored devices shows concerning trends and patterns.



<https://nvps.net>



@NVPSWildcats



@nvpswildcats



@NV_Wildcats

INTOUCH NOTIFICATION

NVPS strives to keep our school community informed. We routinely use our InTouch Notification System to send out timely information to families, such as our weekly family communication. We also use Intouch for emergency situations, such as school cancellations due to inclement weather, etc.

Families are encouraged to follow us on our social media channels. We actively post and publish timely information to keep families in the know!



Our student information system, Synergy, houses student data such as emergency contact information.

We highly encourage families to keep their information up-to-date in the parent portal, ParentVUE. Accurate contact information is vital in the event of an emergency.