

**BPS SAFETY &
SECURITY PLAN
2023 SPRING AND
SUMMER**




Superintendent's Strategic Plan

- BPS Safety & Security Plan aligns with Goal #3 of the Superintendent's Strategic Plan – Prioritizing Safety, Security and Wellness.
- Safety & Security is a priority for the Superintendent, myself and the entire Security Division.
- We continue to collaborate with partners such as BPD, NFTA, Peacemakers and the DA's office, to name a few, to provide safety & security to students, visitors and staff while in BPS buildings.
- The Security Division collaborates with Chief Botticelli and staff; Dr. Keresztes and staff; Dr. Reynolds, Chief of Athletics, Community Schools and Family & Community Engagement and Dr. Brown, Chief of Student Support Services because safety, security and wellness go hand in hand.

Security Personnel

- We currently have 90 Security Officers employed with BPS
- (82) security officers are assigned to high schools
- (2) Supervisors of Security
- (4) Security Officers assigned to the Mobile Units (patrol Elementary Schools)
- (1) Executive Director – Fred Wagstaff
- (1) Chief of Security – Barbara Lark
- (1) Administrative Assistant
- Seven (7) candidates are being processed through Civil Service to be hired.
- Anticipate hiring an additional (30) security officers in 2023-2024.



SECURITY

Summary of Goals

- While I have the pleasure of holding the title of Chief of Security, I do not solely bear the responsibility of keeping the 30,000+ students, visitors and staff safe. It is a joint effort that we must all embrace in order to accomplish this difficult and challenging task.
- Ensuring the safety of students consist of safety measures as they travel to and from school, while they're in school, as they travel home, at after school programs and sporting events, etc.
- I have a dedicated security team with Executive Director Wagstaff assisting me daily to accomplish the goals set forth in the Superintendent's Strategic Plan as well as helping implement initiatives developed by me.
- Since my 5-month tenure as Chief of Security, I have worked to prioritize and implement security systems that enhances our current policies and procedures.
- There are various other safety and security systems and initiatives to be developed and implemented. I plan to work with School Administrators and Law Enforcement to see them through that I am not at liberty to discuss at the present time.

Summary of Goals (continued)

- Attend Principal Meetings
- Attend Parent Congress Meetings
- Work with Dr. Reynolds and staff to create literature on Parent Conduct
- Purchases:
 - Scanners (650) for Security and School Administrators
 - Repeaters – (150) to improve reception in school buildings
 - Wands (150)
 - Static Mats (150) for wandling (reduces interference from materials in the floor)
 - Ordered tourniquets for Security Officers
 - Trainings (see next slide)

Training

- I am working with Chief Botticelli to schedule most all school staff with Emergency Response training in light of the increased targeted school shootings.
- Security Officers received Incident Command Systems (ICS 100) training in February 2023.
- Security Officers received CPR/AED and Stop the Bleed Training in Feb 2023.
- Security Officers will receive National Incident Command Systems (NIMS 700) by July 2023.
- Security Officers received 8 hours of mandatory NYS Security Officer training on 4/3/23 and 4/5/23.
- Security Officers will receive Defensive Tactics and De-escalation training (16 hours) starting 4/22/23 through May 2023.
- Security Officers will receive an additional 24 hours of training at the Central Police Services Training Academy between the regular school calendar and summer school.

Spring 2023

- The Superintendent meets regularly with the BPD Commissioner every month to discuss and monitor safety needs in BPS, in addition to meeting with the Mayor monthly.
- BPS Security, School Administrators, BPD and Peacemakers share intel regarding safety concerns that arise throughout the day.
- Additional security and police personnel are deployed to areas of concern in efforts to prevent and/or contain disturbances.
- BPS Security will continue to receive the assistance of BPD and NFTA to monitor and patrol off site locations where students congregate with the intent to cause disturbances within the community.
- BPS Security just recently implemented an electronic daily activity report which can be sorted by school and incident.

Evolv Scanner Update

- Evolv Scanners are installed and operational as follows:
- (17) High Schools
- (1) Middle School, and
- Central Registration equipped with Evolv Scanners.
- We will train and “go live” at the (2) remaining Middle Schools and pilot (1) Elementary School within the next two weeks.
- Additional Elementary Schools will participate in the pilot program.
- An analysis will be conducted prior to the roll out of Evolv Scanners at the remaining Elementary Schools.

Spring 2023 Arrival:

- Students and visitors continue to be scanned using the Evolv Scanning System.
- BPS Security will continue conducting secondary screening of backpacks and wandung students that prompt alerts. Scanners remain on “F” which is the highest sensitivity setting.
- Security Officer’s schedules have been adjusted to accommodate early student arrivals.
- BPS Security perform routine perimeter checks after arrivals.
- BPS Security perform routine locker checks throughout the day (how many – each officer is supposed to do 25 locker checks per day.)

Spring 2023

Dismissal

- BPS Security partners with BPD, NFTA and Peacemakers to ensure safe passage at Fountain Plaza.
- BPS Security, BPD B-District Detail car and an SRO will be posted at Fountain Plaza.
- BPS Security will increase manpower at Fountain Plaza based on intel gathered from School Administrators and our law enforcement partners.
- An Administrator from the three downtown high schools walk to Fountain Plaza at dismissal to facilitate students boarding trains.
- BPS Security along with School Administrators are outside all school buildings to assist with students boarding buses.
- BPD SRO's and Districts Detail cars are present at dismissals at heavily populated schools as a deterrent.
- School and District Administrators have begun meeting regularly with Charter School leaders, BPD, and NFTA to share information regarding school calendars, dismissals, summer school and intel regarding potential disturbances. Erie County Sheriffs will also be included.

Dismissal (continued)

- Cabinet members, ASL Murray and myself met with Central Library's Executive Director to discuss proactive initiatives to engage students in activities within the Library after school hours.
- BPS Security will monitor the Central Library during school hours for students who may be skipping school.
- BPS Security will monitor outside of the Central Library to ensure students board buses.
- BPS Security will closely monitor the number of one-way bus passes given to students.
- As we receive intel on new locations to be monitored, we are flexible and work with BPD to ensure that support is there. MLK Park has become another area to be monitored.

Middle and Elementary Schools

- There are four BPS Security Officers rotating throughout Elementary and Middle Schools. They patrol the interior and exterior of school building and assist with conflict resolution between students when needed.
- BPS is working with ADA Danielle D'Abate to present cyber bullying presentations to students in order to reduce the number of threats.
- Chief Lark and Executive Director Wagstaff are participating in Career Fairs at PS #43, PS #37, PS #74 and PS #97 where we not only talk about careers in law enforcement and safety and security, but also how students can help keep each other safe but not bullying and threatening.

Sports/Extracurricular Programs

- BPS Security provides security coverage for the following:
- Sports events located at BPS facilities (**track and field (spring)**, football, swimming, basketball, volleyball, and lacrosse.)
- Proms and graduations, school parties, theater events, etc.
- Community School Saturday events.
- BPS will partner with Dr. Reynolds and Parent Engagement to provide literature on Parent Conduct at the May 30th Awards Ceremony at Bennet H.S. and the June 3rd Parent Engagement Summit at All High.
- BPS will distribute literature on Parent Conduct and demo the Evolv Scanner on June 3rd at the Parent, Family, Community Engagement Summit at All High Stadium.

Summer School 2023

Elementary, Middle and High Schools

Dates: July 6 – August 15

Time: 8:00 am – 3:30 pm

BPS Security will provide services to all BPS Schools

- (9) High Schools – only one downtown high school will host summer school
- (14) Middle & Elementary Schools
- BPS will only have one downtown high school host summer school in 2023.

Freshman Orientation

- BPS Security, BPD SRO's and NFTA present trainings and information on Safety and Security at Freshman Orientation at all BPS High Schools.

Topics include:

- Entry and Dismissal
- Bus Conduct
- Code of Conduct
- Hallway Transitions

Most Important

- See Something, Say Something!
- Where to get help in the School

Recommendations to the Superintendent:

Visitor's Policy

- Revise the Visitor's Policy to state that parents need to have a confirmed appointment with the Principal prior to coming to school due to increased inappropriate adult behaviors.
- The revised Visitor Policy will be in effect from April until the end of the school year and will be re-assessed in September/October 2023.
- The Visitor Policy will need to be shared within the District and all families to ensure compliance.
- All visitors are required to be scanned prior to entering the buildings and will be escorted from the door to the office by BPS Security.
- BPS Security will work with Dr. Reynolds and the Office of Parent Engagement to develop a Parent Conduct flyer to be circulated at the Parent Engagement Awards Ceremony May 30th and Parent Engagement annual Summit June 3, 2023.
- I will attend Parent Congress meetings.

Recommendations to the Superintendent:

Increase Security Personnel

- Add an additional clerical position and administrative position to assist with the implementing safety and security systems.

Continue Training

- Early Release Day

Continue Facilities Updates

- Monthly dialogues with Principals to stay abreast of needs.
- Re-organize staff this summer.

Updates to Policies and Procedures

- MST will implement a safety plan after Spring Recess which will be implemented at all school buildings.
 - Signage posted at all outdoor Swipe Pads that says “DO NOT hold the door open for ANYONE, including staff you may know.”
- BPS Security is revising the “No Weapons Policy.”
- 150 Signs have been ordered to be posted at all BPS buildings.
- BPS Security is working with C.O.O. David Hills to upgrade security at school buildings which will be a multi year project.
- Some of the projects can be completed by our tradesman but some will have to be contracted out.

Transportation

- C.O.O. David Hills and the Superintendent will meet with the Executive Director of NFTA regarding the number of specials scheduled for dismissals.