

School Safety

School Committee Presentation

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SPS Commitment to Safety & Wellbeing

Priority 1: Safety and Wellbeing of all SPS Students and Staff

- Policies - district and school level
- Programs and resources for students
- Resources for staff
- Communication and enforcement of policies

SEL at the Core

Ensuring support for students outside of the classroom is only one portion of our district's overall work to support student wellbeing. Our commitment to our students starts in the classroom. Primarily facilitated by our Student Services Department's dedicated, trained staff, our social-emotional support, curriculum, and staff resources are extensive and continuously evolving. SPS supports every student's social and emotional development through SEL curriculum and practices, helping all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.

Proactive/Preparation Safety Measures in place across the district

***Bullying, Harassment, Retaliation policy and procedures:** Can be found in our Parent/Guardian Guide(pg.33-50).

***Student Support Teams(k-8)/Community Meetings:** Weekly

***Districtwide SEL Development Plan underway**

***Districtwide Mediation Team:** 4 Trained district wide mediators, Peer mediators in HS and Middle school trained yearly.

***School Based Social Workers;** Advocates for student and family supports.

***Social Emotional Behavior Response Team**

***Safety Drills/Emergency Response Plans**

***District Wide Threat Assessment Team**

Safety Drills and Emergency Response Team

- Part of SPS comprehensive School Safety Plan
- Work with SPD and SFD to implement school safety drills (i.e. fire drills and lockdown drills) periodically throughout the year.
- School lockdown drills implemented in June 2015.
- MA Task Force on School Safety and Security strongly recommends that all school districts become efficient in responding to crisis situations. Annual safety drills help ensure that staff members and students understand and are ready to implement the protocols and procedures that are in place to help maintain their safety during an emergency situation.

Safety Drill Schedule

- **Fire Drills**- 4 school based mandated fire drills
 - September, January, March and June
- **Safety Drills** (lockdown and secure and hold)
- **August/September:** Principals Read Review Safety Training, review for staff only at opening PD
- **November/February:** Live Safety Drills (tentative for SY25: November 18-22, FEB. TBA)
 - Community partners are present at each drill: Somerville Fire Department and 2 Somerville Police officers selected for their proximity to the location of the school.

Next Wave Jr. High and Full Circle High School

- **District protocols & procedures** for school safety including:
 - Fire drills
 - Lock down drills.
 - Updated Emergency Response Plan
- **Teacher/Counselor Model:** Our teacher/counselor program at Next Wave and Full Circle is an essential avenue through which we embody our mission, providing time, support and resources for members of our community to establish trusting relationships, elevate student voice, build and celebrate growth mindset, and share personal and academic experiences that help teachers to co-generate authentic learning experiences for/with students.
- **Daily Schedule:** Academic block, Clinical/Therapeutic Block, Academic Support Block, Student Government Block, Electives
- **Staffing:** Teachers (all certified in special education), Clinical Coordinator, Crisis Counselors, Building based Social Worker, Dean of Students, Community Engagement Specialist, Nurse, assistant principal & principal
- **Restorative Practices** including: 2nd Step curriculum, community meetings, therapeutic check-ins, mediation, parent meetings, behavior contracts
- **Security:** Exterior doors remain locked throughout the day, access to camera both inside and outside the building, walkie-talkies to communicate with SHS team

Somerville High School

District protocols & procedures for school safety including: Fire drills, Lock down drills, Updated Emergency Response Plan

Building Relationships and Supporting a Sense of Belonging: Weekly Circles, X-block Check Ins, opportunities for clubs, sports, and leadership, Community Engagement Specialists; Engaging curriculum, CTE program, Communities with AP, Dean, counselors, secretaries

Restorative Justice: Robust mediation program, Full time Restorative In School Director, Restorative consequences

Supports for students: Adjustment counselors, social workers, “come back plans,” groups, BAM, WOW, outside counseling, RISE

Security: cameras, required IDs, visitor sign in, shot-detection system, 5 full time Community Engagement Specialists, radios, State Police social Media monitoring, panic buttons, area refuge phones