

Plainville Citizen Op-Ed, October, 2016

The safety and wellbeing of our school district community is our number one priority. As such, we have developed a comprehensive safety program that spans all aspects of our school district. Administrators, faculty, staff and local authorities collaborate to prevent, prepare for and respond to emergency situations.

As part of the district's safety program, numerous measures are taken on a regular basis to insure that we are well prepared to respond to any emergency that may arise. A safety committee, comprised of representatives from across the school district, is in place to review our procedures, and address safety related issues as appropriate. As a public education system, we have a number of state mandates that we strictly follow for both fire and safety drills. Drills for both are conducted throughout the school year and protocols for safety are executed and subsequently reviewed after the completion of each drill to ensure compliance and adjust measures as needed.

On September 19th, we conducted a district wide safety drill in cooperation with local police and fire officials. Our staff and students in each school building followed our procedures to the letter, and our efforts were deemed successful by all agencies. We are grateful for the strong partnership in place with our local emergency personnel, and will continue to work closely with them in all areas of school district safety.

It is essential that we maintain a safe and secure environment throughout Plainville Community Schools. As Superintendent of Schools, my most important duty is to insure that our students and staff are both safe and secure, so they can focus on teaching and learning.
