

September 23, 2024

Dear Katy ISD Parents/Guardians, and Staff,

We've kicked off another fantastic school year filled with exceptional learning experiences happening in classrooms and campuses across the district. While academic achievement remains at the core of our mission, the safety of our students and staff is equally paramount as we navigate the year ahead.

Safe schools are essential for healthy minds and effective learning, and we know our campuses thrive when parents, teachers, staff, and engaged citizens work together. Thanks to the unwavering support of the Katy community, our district is exceeding state-mandated safety standards. Armed police personnel are present at every Katy ISD school, our campuses are equipped with integrated mobile and desktop alert systems, and we regularly conduct safety drills. Additionally, key campus staff are thoroughly trained in mental health supports. Our district also operates 24/7 video surveillance and patrol teams, maintains a comprehensive Multihazard Emergency Operations Plan, and ensures parents are promptly notified of any safety-related incidents, regardless of their size or significance.

This year, we are further enhancing school security through a new partnership with an organization specializing in K9 police units. These highly trained teams will assist our police department with narcotics and weapons detection, conducting random inspections across all secondary campuses throughout the year.

Even with these extensive security protocols in place, the role of parents and community members in maintaining school safety remains critical. We urge parents to speak with their children about the importance of school safety, emphasizing that jokes or threats of violence, as well as bringing prohibited items to school, are unacceptable. These incidents require law enforcement and school staff to devote significant time to conduct thorough investigations, including interviewing witnesses, evaluating evidence, coordinating with partner agencies, and, in some cases, detaining individuals. Every inappropriate remark, threat, or concerning behavior is treated with the utmost seriousness and may result in severe consequences, including potential criminal repercussions.

Our district is fully committed to the safety of our students and staff, and this remains a promise we are dedicated to upholding.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and we look forward to a successful and safe year ahead.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ken Gregorski Superintendent