



*Sylvania Schools Board of Education
Safety and Security Update and Discussion*

July 23, 2018

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

The Safety & Security Committee recommends these priority next steps:

- Increasing security at the 12 buildings with **internal & external digital cameras** (hallways, parking lots, outdoor spectator areas)
- Enhancing visible security with a **new resource officer at each of the 3 junior high schools**
- Addressing the emotional needs of students across the district with **8 new Mental Health Specialists/counselors**
- Creating specific & common visitor rules across the district with **Common School Visitation/Check In/Out Electronic Management System**
- Securing the communications network through an **updated phone system** allowing for direct access to the police, increased reliability, digital emergency messaging through building monitors

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

The estimated cost of the Safety & Security Recommendations:

- External and Internal Digital Cameras- \$1.1 million
- 3 New School Resource Officers- \$200,000 annually
- 8 New Mental Health Specialists/Counselors- \$625,000 annually
- Electronic Uniform Check In/Out System- \$30,000
- New District-wide Integrated Phone/Communication System- \$1 million

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

Internal & External Digital Cameras

Research

- Discourages outsiders from entering (especially when signs are posted)
- Reduces vandalism
- Allows district personnel and law enforcement to view incidents
- Provides evidence

Needs

- External cameras districtwide
- Digital internal cameras to replace the current analog cameras
- Additional cameras for areas not covered in 10 of the 12 buildings

Cost

- Total - \$1,100,000

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

Additional School Resource Officers

Research

- Strong statement of security, deters crime
- Daily interaction with students promoting trust in our police officers and their role in the community
- Officers can participate in ALICE drills, fire drills, and other safety training with students and staff on a regular basis to have this training make a greater impact

Needs

- Three additional SRO's needed for the Jr. High Schools

Cost

- \$200,000 annually (Estimated)

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

8 New Mental Health Specialists

Research

- School counselors - Implement programs that promote academic, career and social/emotional success for all students.
- Licensed Mental Health Counselors
 - Support the physical and psychological safety of our students/staff/schools
 - Support the emotional learning, mental wellness, resilience and positive connections between students and adults
 - Help to create an atmosphere and school culture where students feel safe and empowered to report safety concerns which is proven to be among the most effective school safety strategies

Needs

- 1 at each HS 1 at each JH 3 to assist the 7 elementary buildings

Cost

- \$638,000 (8 Mental Health Specialists, first year)
- Ongoing cost with increase according to salary schedule increase (i.e. yr 2= \$650,000)

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

Common Electronic Visitor Management System

Research

- Real-time electronic monitoring of the visitors on any school on campus.
- Real-time access to a visitors list at a central office should an emergency arise.
- Synchronization with state and federal criminal and sexual offenders database.
- Standardization of school entry procedures across the district.

Needs

- Visitor management software and supplies at each of our twelve schools.

Cost

- \$30,000

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

Integrated Phone/Communication System

Research

- Integration of internet, data and audio features
 - Fax, email, and voicemail can be delivered to your PC
 - VOIP phones connect to our fiber lines
- Reliability
 - Current PBX system is about 20 years old
- Flexibility
 - Ability to add phones without having a physical port available

Needs

- Replace PBX phone system with VOIP phone system

Cost

- \$1,000,000

Amendment to House Bill 24

March, 2018- The Senate Ways and Means Committee approved “The Sylvania Amendment” as part of H.B. 24. Governor Kasich has signed this bill and it now allows more flexibility for what can be included in a special safety and security levy. The amendment now allows monies collected through this levy to be used for permanent improvements to improve or enhance security, employment of or contracting for the services of **safety personnel**, providing health services and **counseling**, and providing training in safety and security practices and responses.

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Proposal to Cover Costs

- A 5 year Special Safety and Security Levy in the amount of 0.9 Mills = Estimated \$1,260,000 per year collected
- Estimated cost for the Sylvania Taxpayer per \$100,000 home estimated at \$2.63 a month for 5 years
- Median Home Value in Sylvania = \$191,800 costing \$5.04 per month for this value

Enhancing Safety and Security for Sylvania Schools

How is this proposed levy different than past school levies?

- Special levy where monies are only allocated for approved safety and security initiatives
- This levy must be renewed every 5 years
- Amount being requested is much smaller than prior levies (0.9 vs. 3.9 or 4.9 mill operational, permanent improvement or bond issues in the past)

The background features a large, faint, circular seal of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. The seal contains a central five-pointed star with a book and a quill pen positioned behind it. The text "PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION" is written around the top inner edge of the seal, and "Est. 1841" is written at the bottom.

Questions and Discussion