

Jackson Center Schools

204 South Linden Street | P.O. Box 849 | Jackson Center, Ohio 45334-0849 | Fax: 937-596-6490

William M. Reichert
Superintendent
Ph: 937-596-6053

Tony Meyer
Treasurer
Ph: 937-596-6053

Jeff M. Reese
4-12 Principal
Ph: 937-596-6149

Ginger Heuker
Pre K-3 Principal
Ph: 937-596-6053

Re: School Safety 9/5/23 Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last year, Governor Dewine signed House Bill 99 into law. In summary, HB 99 gave local boards of education the ability to authorize properly trained staff members to be armed on school grounds. Proper training includes a program set up by state officials in cooperation with multiple law enforcement agencies to provide “hands on” training as well as ongoing instruction. Last month (August ‘23) the Jackson Center Local School Board authorized me to make decisions regarding certain individuals and their ability to be armed on our school campus. In the time between the passage of the law and our August board meeting, we had extensive conversations and some individuals on staff volunteered to attend the required training. As a result, in the unlikely event that we have an armed intruder enter our school grounds, they will be met by a team specifically trained to keep our children safe. By law, and for the safety of the team members, I will not disclose the names of the response team members. However, I can assure everyone that the school board and administration as well as the team members take this matter very seriously. We will continue to work closely with JCPD and the Shelby County Sheriff’s office to ensure that our practices and procedures protect the safety of our students on a daily basis as well as in the event of an emergency.

In addition to the creation of our armed response team, we have also taken an “all of the above” approach to maintaining a safe environment for our children. JCPD continues to be a tremendous presence in and around our school and district grounds. We have upgraded our technology in many areas of the building as well as enhanced the backbones of our current systems. We have installed “emergency” buttons throughout the campus that have direct communication to our law enforcement agencies and our students and staff will receive ongoing training in their use. We have also been very proactive with providing mental health services to our students and even helping adults in our community connect with various resources throughout the county. Finally, we would like to thank all of the churches in the community for coming together and praying for our students and staff as we started the year. Special thanks goes to Christ the King Church for their adoption of our school community many years ago. We know that all of your prayers are instrumental in helping with ensuring the safety of our students and staff.

Thank you for taking the time to read and if you have questions, feel free to call or email.

Bill Reichert
Superintendent
Jackson Center Schools
P: 937-596-6053
E: b_reichert@jctigers.org