VALLEY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District Safety and Security Plan 2026-2027

The ***District Safety and Security Plan*** has been created in partnership with our District Safety Advisory Committee, Administration, School Board, and our Coordinated School Emergency Response Teams (BERT/DERT). Our plan focuses on ***five priorities*** that have been detailed below for the 2026-2027 school year.

Priority 1: Strengthen Communication with Stakeholders

We will maintain clear, consistent, and effective communication with all stakeholders on safety and security related topics through the school year including;

- *School Safety Week- We will host our annual school safety week in the fall and share important safety related information throughout the week with all stakeholders.*
- *Incidents/Emergency- We will share information in a timely and effective manner using district communication resources following an incident and/or emergency with all stakeholders.*

Priority 2: Improve Traffic Around Our Schools

We will address concerns and traffic related issues around our schools to ensure that safety of our students traveling to and from our schools including;

- *Cars and Vehicles- We will make a concerted effort, in partnership with our SRO and the City of Valley City, to decrease the speed of cars and other vehicles around our schools.*
- *Parking- We will continue to emphasize the use of our school parking lots, especially at Jefferson Elementary, to drop off and pick up students from school.*

Priority 3: Prepare Students and Staff Through Training and Drills

We will complete district and state required trainings with students and staff members to ensure that we are planning and preparing for emergency situations in our schools including;

- *Drills- We will complete all state required drills with students and staff throughout the school year with the first round of drills being completed by October 1.*
- *Trainings- We will complete bi-annual trainings with staff members by October 1 including First Aid, CPR, AED, Stop the Bleed, etc.*

Priority 4: Expand Support for Student Mental Health and Behavior

We will strengthen our resources and support for student mental health, bullying prevention, and better managing disruptive or unsafe student behaviors across the school district including;

- *Training on Student Behaviors- Our staff will complete training at the beginning of the school year providing resources to improve student behavior in the classroom and throughout the school.*
- *Access for All Program- We will increase the availability and use of our clinical counselors in the Access for All Program in partnership with the Village Family Services.*

Priority 5: Design and Construct Safe and Secure Schools

We will ensure that the designing and construction on our school facility projects align with best practices with modern school safety and security standards including;

- *New School- Our new school will feature significant upgrades in school safety and security including improvements with secured entrances, office locations, communications, and supervision.*
- *Jefferson- We will design for the renovation of Jefferson Elementary School and the relocation of the main office near the south entrance off the parking lot.*

Our Commitment

The safety of our students and staff members at Valley City Public Schools will always be a top priority for our school district. These five priorities represent our school district's commitment to providing safe learning environments for our students and staff members. We value the partnership with our families and community members and welcome your feedback, comments, and suggestions as we continue to strengthen safety and security across our district.