PITTSTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL

5 Stout Street
Yatesville – Pittston, Pennsylvania 18640-3399
Mr. John Haas Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Phone: (570) 654-2415 ext. 2107
Fax: (570) 602-0823

Dear Pittston Area Families and Community Members,

The Pittston Area School District is writing to inform you about a new legal requirement that will affect how schools across Pennsylvania communicate about safety-related matters. Pennsylvania Act 44 of 2025 took effect on January 5, 2026. Under this law, schools must notify parents/guardians and employees whenever staff respond to an incident involving a weapon on school property.

Due to privacy requirements in the law, schools are not permitted to share any information beyond the legally approved notification message. Student safety remains our highest priority, and we understand that families value both transparency and confidentiality. To comply with state and federal laws, including FERPA, we are not able to share personally identifiable information regarding the individuals involved.

Our district appreciates your continued partnership in reinforcing Pittston Area's safety and security expectations with your children. Our commitment to providing a safe and secure learning environment remains unwavering. If your child has questions following an incident, please reassure them that our staff and law enforcement partners respond quickly and effectively, and that our schools remain safe. If your child needs additional support, please reach out to your school administrator in their building.

If you have any questions regarding this new legal requirement or related procedures, please contact your child's building principal or administrator. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.

Yours Truly in Education,

John A. Haas, Ed.D.