

SANTA FE ISD

SAFETY MATTERS

Santa Fe ISD Safe and Secure Schools Update

August 28, 2018

The work to improve safety and security at Santa Fe ISD schools is ongoing, and the following provides an update about safety measures to protect our schools. The Santa Fe ISD Board of Trustees also approved several agenda items related to this important work to support safe schools at the August 27, 2018, board meeting, which are highlighted as well.

Santa Fe ISD using Social Sentinel® service

According to a Pew Research survey conducted in 2015, **94** percent of teens who go online using a mobile device do so daily. Teens use multiple social platforms. Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat are the most popular, and **71** percent of teens say they use more than one social media site.

In this extensive use of social media, some users post harmful intentions—publicly—toward people and places such as attempts to bully, make threats or even publicize suicidal thoughts. To improve safety and security in Santa Fe ISD, the District is using the Social Sentinel® service to provide near real-time awareness of possible safety/security threats made on public social media.

Social Sentinel provides this service with a commitment to protect collective (and constitutional) rights to: privacy, freedom of association, and freedom of speech by monitoring only information that has been posted publicly.

The following provides some additional information about the use of Social Sentinel:

- Social Sentinel is a critical part of a comprehensive, proactive safety and security program. At approximately the cost of a cup of coffee per student per year, Social Sentinel gives comfort in knowing that someone is paying attention to the digital conversation on behalf of our District.
- Social Sentinel scans one billion public social media posts per day looking for indicators of harm and violence.
- Social Sentinel does not follow, surveil, or monitor individual social media users. The service supports constitutionally protected rights to freedom of speech and expression.

- Social Sentinel has developed the most comprehensive listing of hundreds of thousands of behavioral threat terms compiled by experts in law enforcement, public safety, mental health, counseling, linguistics and data science. When a threat or harm is identified and connected with a client, an alert is sent.
- Social Sentinel’s technology is based on the combined knowledge of data scientists, law enforcement professionals, linguistic and education experts to create a library of language associated with harm and threats.
- Social Sentinel is layer of protection that is a part of a comprehensive approach to safety and security. Insights generated from the service are evaluated and assessed by client staff.
- Social Sentinel is not a monitoring, investigative or surveillance system. The service scans social media posts that are public.
- Social Sentinel has approved access to the worldwide data feeds for a dozen social media services.
- As an early warning system, the Social Sentinel solution runs 24/7/365 as a Proactive Social Safety net.

Together, let’s partner to support students’ plans for the future by helping them make good decisions with technology today!

If you see something, do something about it.

In addition to monitoring, we encourage parents and students to take part in keeping our schools safe by reporting anything or anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable through the [Tribal Tips anonymous reporting system](#). If you see something, do something about it. The Tribal Tips reporting system can be accessed on the police department’s [website](#).

Metal Detector Update

Santa Fe ISD schools continue to make progress in reducing the time it takes for the metal detector screening process. High school students are reminded to plan accordingly and arrive at school each morning by at least 6:45 a.m. to ensure they are in class for the start of school.

As a reminder, enclosed are some tips for students that will help shorten the time it takes to move through the Metal Detectors:

- Limit the number of metal items that you bring to school.
- Place all small metal items in one gallon sized Ziploc bag. This will allow students to easily take this out of their bag when they approach the metal detector.
- Keep backpacks clean and neat.
- Binders with multiple zippers take a long time to search, please consider using a binder without zippers.

Highlights of the actions taken by Santa Fe ISD Board of Trustees at the August 27, 2018, board meeting to support safe schools include:

Additional Fencing

To effectively manage and support safe schools, additional sections of fencing were requested for all campuses, and the Board approved a contract with American Fence Supply for additional fencing sections at a price not to exceed \$16,500. The additional fencing includes:

- At the high school, a 225 linear foot section of fence was added to the north side of the high school to enclose the welding class, an agriculture class and the theater exit. An additional 20 foot section was added to the existing fence located at the east end of the building that the geometry and construction classes will use throughout the year. These sections of fencing include card readers for entry access. Students can exit the gates, but cannot re-enter the gates without going through an entry with metal detector screening.
- The junior high campus received a transition fencing section that enclosed the walkway that students use to go to the gym. The new fence will completely enclose the 300 and 400 hallway exits that face the gym. The sections of fencing include card readers for entry access. This fencing section will help ensure that students and/or adults use entrances to the building that have metal detectors.
- On the east end of Kubacak Elementary near the east playground, 35 feet of fencing was added to tie into an existing fence and connect to the building.
- Wollam Elementary will have a new panic gate installed to the existing fence surrounding the north playground. The panic gate will be used for emergency exit from the fenced area and building.

Network Cabling Installation for the new public address (PA) system at Santa Fe High School

In July 2018, the SFISD Board approved the installation of a new PA system at the high school, which includes panic buttons to be located in each classroom. The price for the new PA system did not include the network cabling cost, because the District was planning to use existing network cabling to provide the necessary data drops for the project. Based on the consultant's evaluation of the campus, the existing network drops were not available for use and the District needed to add new drops to be able to complete the installation. The Board approved the request for Network Cabling Solutions to provide 191 cat 6 cable drops and necessary patch panels at a cost not to exceed \$45,645. Network Cabling Solutions is a member of the Region 4 Texas Cooperative Purchasing Network.

A District-wide Exterior Security Cameras Upgrade

Santa Fe ISD has been working with Network Cabling Solutions on a district-wide security camera upgrade to provide the necessary coverage for the outside perimeters of all of the District's buildings. This project has been a coordination between Chief Braun, the technology staff, and the operations department. As part of the upgrade, the District will be updating older

cameras and adding cameras in new locations. The upgrade cost will not exceed \$97,200 and will take approximately four to six weeks to complete.

As we have shared previously, campus security assistants are providing increased security by monitoring the exterior perimeter security cameras throughout the District to provide real-time surveillance of all of the entrances and exits of District schools and facilities.

High School Exterior Exit Local Alarm System

The District has also been working with Network Cabling Solutions on providing local audible alarms at designated exterior exits at the high school. This system will provide immediate notification to occupants in the vicinity that the door has been opened, which will provide staff with the opportunity to correct, redirect or report any unapproved entry or exit of the building. The system will work in conjunction with the alert system already in place at the school that notifies staff and security through texts and emails when the door is opened or held open for any reason. The work is scheduled at a cost not to exceed \$34,730.

This work is being completed in addition to the implementation of exterior electronic door-locking notification systems at all schools. As the District continues to improve safety and security at our schools, we will keep you updated on the progress.

Questions?

Please submit any questions you may have to the Santa Fe Strong Interactive Web Portal at: santafeupdates.com/contact-us