

# Safety is a Priority



Voorhees Township Public Schools  
and  
Voorhees Township Police  
Department

Parent Virtual Workshop  
October 27, 2022  
6:00 p.m.

# Welcome Voorhees Police Department

Captain Carmen Del Palazzo

Lieutenant Derek Hawkins



**Write Down Your Questions**  
(we will stop periodically throughout the presentation to respond to questions)



# School Safety and Security Plan: Emergency Procedures

- Approved annually by the New Jersey Department of Education
- Input provided by the VTPD
- Includes information regarding:
  - four emergency procedures and fire drills
  - chain of command
  - school bus accident
  - field trip incident
  - health emergency/pandemic/natural disaster
  - response to student suicide
  - potentially missing or abused student
  - suspicious packages

# Fire Drills

1. Conducted once a month
2. There are evacuation routes for each classroom/office/room
3. Class emergency information and class rosters
4. Attendance is taken once it is safe to do so
5. Procedures for lunch time evacuations
6. Must evacuate a minimum of 150 feet from the school

## Staff assignments:

- secretary-evacuation bag
- nurse-medical bag
- building foreman
- Crisis Management Team



# Questions about Safety and Security Plan and Fire Drills



# Emergency Procedures

1. Conducted once a month
2. There are four (4) emergency procedures
3. Each procedure must be conducted two times per year (8 of the 10 months)
4. The remaining two (2) procedures can be one of the four noted in number 2 or another type of emergency procedure (Shelter in Place, Test of Emergency Equipment)
5. Parents are informed via email after each emergency drill

# Emergency Procedures

6. Announcements are made with exact language related to the type of drill. We no longer use code words.
7. There are specific recovery procedures to follow after each drill



# Emergency Procedure: Shelter in Place

1. Classroom doors are locked
2. No one enters or leaves the classroom or building
3. Teachers continue instruction and await further direction (listen for direction)
4. The objective is to contain everyone while a situation is being addressed (medical emergency, altercation, deer in the building)

# Emergency Procedure:

## (1) Bomb Threat

1. Move the school into a Shelter in Place and await direction from the VTPD
2. A Bomb Threat drill is conducted at a minimum of two times a year
3. The fire bell is not activated (intercom)
4. An evacuation may be warranted if the bomb threat (written or verbal) is associated with the observance of a suspicious package

# Emergency Procedure:

## (2) Evacuation

1. An Evacuation drill is conducted at a minimum of two times a year
2. The fire bell is not activated (intercom)
3. Contact is made with the VTPD
4. Contact can be made with the VTFD (smoke/gas)
5. Must evacuate a minimum of 300 feet from the school
6. Staff members have specific assignments
7. An Off-Site Evacuation can become necessary (procedures are in place to contact parents)

# Questions about Bomb Threat or Evacuation Procedures



# Emergency Procedure: (3 and 4) Lockdown

1. Is implemented by a staff member and/or police department personnel
2. A Lockdown drill is conducted at a minimum of four (4) times a year
3. Procedures are in place that support the collaboration between the district and the police department
4. Equipment is on-site at each school that identifies a Lockdown
5. Other schools are notified and immediately go into a Shelter in Place

# Emergency Procedure: (3 and 4) Lockdown

6. An intercom announcement is made

7. A Lockdown occurs when occupants of the school are directed to remain confined to a room/area with specific procedures to follow

8. Lockdowns occur in regard to

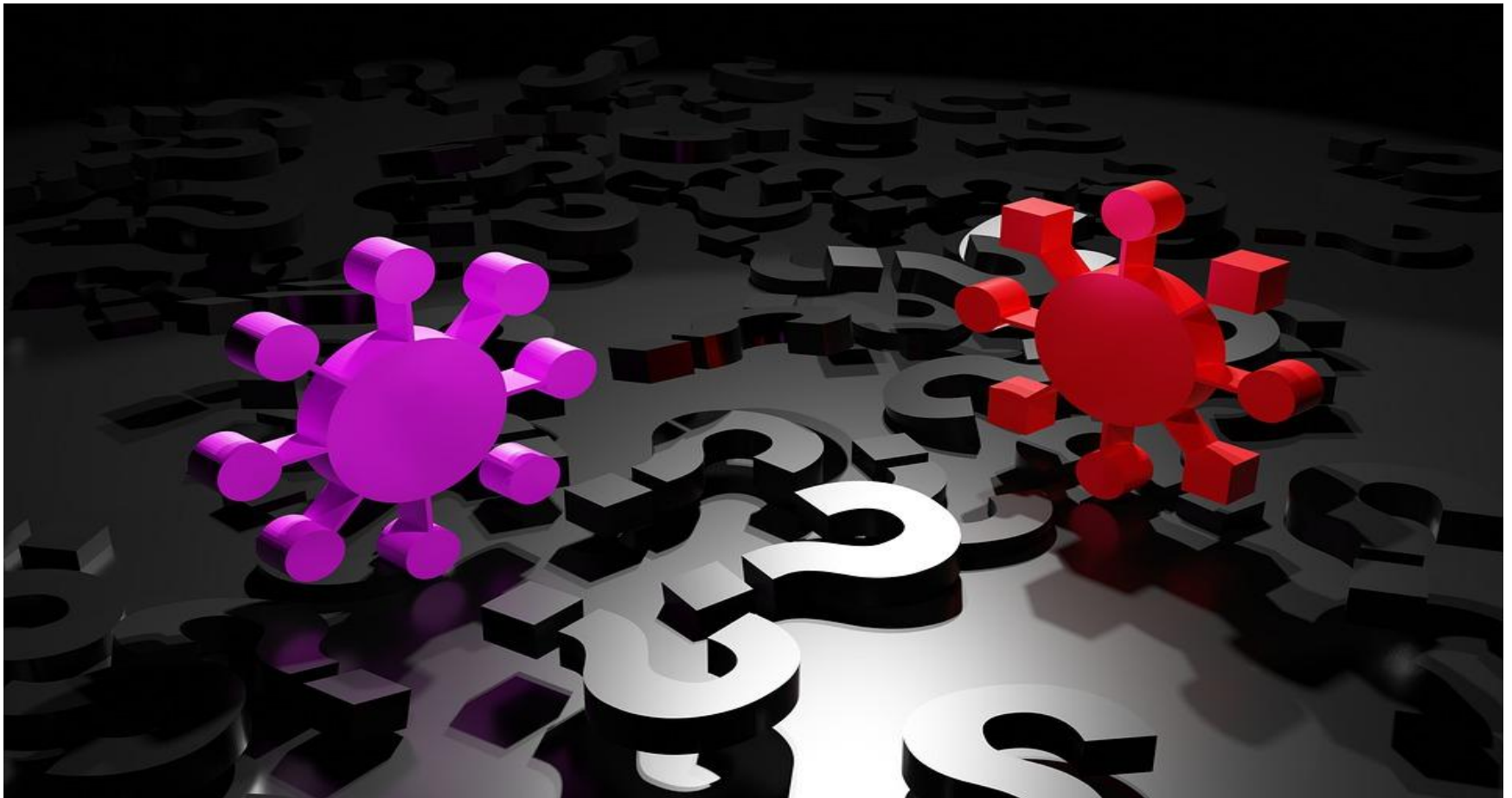
- an active shooter
- a school intruder
- general concern for the safety of staff and students

# Questions about Lockdowns



# Pandemic

Information is obtained from the NJDOE, NJ Health Department, and/or County Health Department





# Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect

Staff members are responsible to report reasonable belief of child abuse or neglect to Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCPP)

Staff members are responsible to report being told of child abuse or neglect to DCPP

Staff members are responsible to report observing child abuse or neglect to DCPP

Failure to report can result in a loss of certification

# Preventative Measures

Report anything that you hear or see to the police department and/or district administration

- social media posts
- suspicious packages



# Next Steps

Upcoming demonstration of a device that will invite visitors into school buildings from the main entrance doors (video and ID)



# Questions

