



"We are committed to respect,
support, and the well-being of all"

Annette Reichman, Superintendent
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

Dear ASDB Community:

As we prepare for our new school year, I want to take a few moments to address school safety and the concerns that we all share. Over my time here as Superintendent, ASDB has been working diligently to address school safety. We have been doing this in a variety of ways that I would like to share with you.

- Developed strong partnerships with local law enforcement and first responders for both of our school campuses. Including recommendations on infrastructure improvements from the Department of Homeland Security.
- Campus Security Officers on both campuses to monitor the campus and alert law enforcement if necessary.
- Employed a new Agency Safety Coordinator that works with the administrative team to continue to develop safety protocols, attend training, and stay on top of safety trends.
- Developed an agency Crisis Action Team (CAT) to discuss, plan and train for facility safety and emergency response procedures.
- Continued practice drills and staff training throughout the year.
- Developed specific safety protocols in place for each type of emergency response: evacuation, lockdown, modified lockdown, shelter in place.
- Single point of entry for visitors and required sign-in through the front office.
- Established school safety committees that meet regularly, partner with local first responder agencies and incorporating lessons learned from local and national events.
- Threat Assessment Teams on each campus to investigate potential threats, bullying, discipline, and safety to individuals or the campus, including reporting to law enforcement as needed.
- Access control via proxy cards on the Phoenix Day School for the Deaf campus will be installed this school year to control traffic into the buildings.
- The Tucson Campus has installed proxy card access controllers on all school buildings to control traffic into the buildings.

Further, it is important to recognize that everyone plays a critical role in school safety. Students, staff, and the community are encouraged to be observant and notify the appropriate person if they see, smell, or hear something that makes them feel

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uncomfortable, nervous or frightened, and especially if they hear threats of dangerous behavior. If you are ever in doubt, contact law enforcement immediately.

We welcome your input into the ongoing discussions about school safety and appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annette Reichman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Annette Reichman
Superintendent

