



Ridgewood Avenue School

Dr. Michael Donovan
Principal

March 7, 2024

Dear Ridgewood Avenue School Parents:

At Ridgewood Avenue School, the safety and well-being of our students are paramount. While we strive to excel in academic, social, and emotional learning, we also prioritize the physical security of our school environment. To ensure a safe learning environment, we continue to implement several procedures:

- **Increased surveillance through video cameras:** Our enhanced video surveillance system allows us to monitor key areas of the school premises, ensuring comprehensive coverage and swift response to any security concerns. Recently, several new cameras have been added to continue with these efforts.
- **Visitor management system with comprehensive background checks:** Our advanced visitor management system ensures that all visitors undergo thorough background checks before entering the school, helping us to maintain a secure environment for our students and staff. This year, we have implemented a new “digital ticket” system for larger events and that has proven successful.
- **Policy not to promote forgotten items brought to school:** By adhering to this policy, we prioritize security by minimizing disruptions and maintaining focus on our safety protocols, without compromising the integrity of our security measures. We are flexible; important items like eyeglasses and medication can certainly be brought to school.

Additionally, we conduct ongoing drills and training sessions with both staff and students to prepare for various emergency scenarios. The above bullets are just a few of our highlights!

It is essential to note that we are committed to working collaboratively as a district, leveraging resources such as the Glen Ridge Police Department and a district security consultant. By constantly evolving and updating our practices, we aim to enhance our security measures and provide peace of mind to students, staff and parents.

We appreciate your continued support and cooperation in prioritizing the safety of our school community. Together, we can ensure Ridgewood Avenue School remains a secure and nurturing environment for all.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Donovan