

# SCHUYLKILL HAVEN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

501 EAST MAIN STREET  
SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, PENNSYLVANIA 17972-1300

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**LORRAINE M. FELKER**  
Superintendent of Schools

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October 28, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Throughout the school year, we conduct numerous drills, from monthly fire drills to weather emergency drills to various lockdown drills. Our goal is to prepare as best we can for any number of emergency situations. After each drill, we evaluate what improvements can be implemented in an effort to continually maintain a safe environment for our students.


A few weeks ago, we opted to put a lockdown in place when informed of the threat against county students phoned in to the courthouse. Thankfully, our students were not in danger, and the situation was quickly resolved. Rest assured, in these situations, we will always err on the side of caution while also working hard to maintain a calm and nurturing environment.

As a result of a review of our response to this incident, we'd like to make you aware of some procedures in place to protect your child(ren). We understand your need to have your children with you and to know first-hand that they are safe. To that end, we will post updates on our website and utilize both phone calls and emails with our SchoolReach system in as timely a manner as possible. If your contact information (home phone, cell phone and/or email address) changed or needs to be added, please send the updated information to your child's school immediately. Finally, we are currently testing text-message alerts as well and may have this option available soon. In the event of an emergency situation, we ask that you not call your child's school as it is important for us to keep our phone lines open.

In the case of an external threat to our students such as this past situation, we will restrict access to the property and not allow anyone to enter or leave the property. First and foremost, this is to maintain the safety of our students and staff, but also the safety of our community. Persons coming onto the property in this situation put themselves at risk. Again, we understand and support your desire to have your children with you, but will not release students or allow parents on the property until given the all-clear from law enforcement personnel. Parents will be directed by law enforcement to a safe waiting area and will be updated as often as possible.

Your input and feedback is an important part of this review process. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please e-mail me at [felkerl@haven.k12.pa.us](mailto:felkerl@haven.k12.pa.us). And, once again, thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Sincerely,



Lorraine M. Felker,  
Superintendent of Schools