



Established 1858

# Center Joint Unified School District

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Scott A. Loehr

February 7, 2018

Dear Center Community,

It seems that we continue to see more and more news relating to incidents occurring at schools across our nation. Today, I write to share with you what we do proactively here in Center Joint Unified School District to focus on our number one priority.....safety.

Here in Center Unified, all of our schools complete and update annual school safety plans. These plans outline the procedures the school site will use in the event of an emergency. The plans outline numerous types of emergencies from natural disasters to an intruder on campus. These plans are not only reviewed and approved by our school board annually, but district and site level committee meetings are conducted throughout the year to review and discuss the plans and other related safety measures.

Center Unified schools do not just have a plan, they consistently practice their procedures and look for ways to improve. It is important to note that our schools actually exceed the state required minimums for emergency drills and each school has staff members who are regularly trained in incident command practices. Additionally, at least once a year Center Unified conducts a district-wide disaster drill that includes and coordinates all schools and administrative facilities within our district.

In addition, Center Unified is proud of the regional and local partnerships it has created to allow agencies to use our facilities for first responder trainings. Most recently, Wilson C. Riles Middle School was used as the training ground for a multi-agency drill. By using our facility, our staff was not only able to participate, but was also able to attend, observe, and learn from the drill.

All of these efforts are conducted to prepare for what we hope never occurs within our schools, or any school in our country for that matter. Center Unified is proud of our relentless focus on safety and wanted to take this opportunity to share how seriously we take it. If you are interested in more information specific to your local school's procedures or practices, please feel free to contact the administration at the school.

Again, we are very proud of our safety efforts and know that we continually need to improve, update, and practice to ensure our most valuable resource, your child, is safe!

Sincerely,

Scott A. Loehr  
Superintendent