



SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY

ACT 44 UPDATE

December 17, 2018

Ephrata Area School District
Achieving Success, One Student at a Time

CHANGES IN LAW RELATED TO SCHOOL SAFETY

- School Code 425
 - Allows for Executive Sessions for safety issues
- School Code 1517
 - Must have security drill within first 90 days
 - Requires family notification
- Act 44
 - Legislated many safety mandates with which school districts were required to comply
 - Many of the timelines for compliance are extremely short



ACT 44

- Naming of a School Safety and Security Coordinator
 - Must report to the School Board and the state
- Districts were required to reply to a state survey that outlined the District status in regards to safety issues
 - Physical safety
 - School-wide procedures and policies
 - Mental health support including staffing ratios
- Establishes parameters for risk and vulnerability studies
 - Not required by law but highly recommended
 - Committee will dictate who is an approved provider



GRANT MONEY

- Minimum of \$25,000 for each district that applied
 - Ephrata applied for and received this grant funding.
 - Our approved use was to offset the cost of the installation of secondary locks in classrooms.
- Part B is Competitive Grants
 - Approximately \$300 million requested for a \$40 million pot
 - Will be based on the needs as identified in the survey
 - Ephrata requested funding to complete the secondary lock installation.



TRAINING CYCLE

- Requires Training in Key Safety Areas
 - Situational awareness
 - Trauma–informed education awareness
 - Emergency drills
 - Behavioral Health awareness
 - Suicide Prevention & Bullying awareness
 - Substance Use awareness
- This is required for all staff – not just professional staff.
- 3 hours every 5 years is required.
- Our goal is to set up a cycle where training occurs each year



SAFE2SAY SOMETHING

- Act 44 legislated the establishment of a statewide anonymous tip line and district participation.
- Tip line will open on January 14, 2019.
- Ephrata has a team of five people who have been trained on the system.
- Implementation with Ephrata students is complicated because the District already has a well-established tip line system called Tip411.
- We will need to monitor the use of both systems throughout the next year to see if we will continue to manage both.



Thank You!



Any Questions, Comments, and/or Feedback?