

Introduction and Purpose

School safety is a priority for Menands Union Free School District. This effort requires leadership and coordination by school administration, and involvement and participation from all sectors of the school community. New York State school districts are required to develop a district-wide school safety plan to help school officials identify and respond to potential emergencies.

The Menands Union Free School District-Wide Safety Plan was developed pursuant to Commissioner's Regulation 155.17, New York State Education Law 2801-a, and Education Law Section 807. School districts are required to develop and maintain a District-Wide Safety Plan and Building-Level Safety Plans.

Planning, conducting drills and participating in exercises with law enforcement, fire, emergency officials and other members of the school community ensures a comprehensive, unified approach to emergency response planning. The Menands Union Free School District-Wide Safety Plan was developed by the Menands School District Safety Team with guidance from the New York State Police.

Identification of Teams

Menands Union Free School District-Safety Team consists of representatives from the following groups: administrator, teacher, local law enforcement officials, local ambulance or other emergency response agencies, and other representatives. The District Safety Team is responsible for the overall development, maintenance, and revision of the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and for coordinating training and exercising the Emergency Response Plan. Team members work closely together to make recommendations for revising and enhancing the plan.

Various agencies and services are involved in responding to incidents, including emergency responders from law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, mental health and other community organizations.

Concept of Operations

The concept of the Emergency Response Plan is to execute effective and timely decisions and actions that prevent harm, protect lives and property, mitigate damages, restore order and aid recovery. The District Safety Team, various agencies and services are involved in responding to incidents, including emergency responders from law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, mental health and other community organizations.

Training and Exercises

The Menands Union Free School District understands the importance of training, drills, and exercises in being prepared to deal with an incident. Annual training is provided to ensure that school personnel and responders are aware of their responsibilities under the District Wide Emergency Response Plan.

Authorities and References

The following are State and Federal authorizations upon which this District-Wide Emergency Response Plan is based. These authorities and references provide a legal basis for emergency management operations and activities.

- The New York State Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (Project SAVE) and [8 NYCRR Section 155.17](#)
- New York State Executive Order 26.1 (2006)
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)