



March 15, 2018

Parents of Cumberland Christian School,

The primary responsibility of every school is to ensure a safe and secure environment for students, staff, and visitors. School safety is more than simply responding to the latest horrific shooting; it considers how best to respond to a variety of emergencies.

It is inevitable that, over the course of time, crisis situations will occur in most every building within the Cumberland Christian School system. It is impossible to anticipate the circumstances of any of these emergencies; however, through comprehensive planning, preparation, and practice it is possible to lessen the impact of a potentially hazardous situation.

The Cumberland Christian School Emergency Procedures Plan was developed in order to address unforeseen emergencies that impact the school. It is the responsibility of the administration and staff to carry out the steps outlined within the plan. In the event a situation occurs which has not been addressed in the plan, common sense and good judgment shall be utilized.

The Cumberland Christian School is dedicated to providing for the needs of all students and staff during times of emergency. This plan has been written as an effort to contribute toward the safety and welfare of all of those within the school system.

In light of the horrific shooting in Florida, this may be the question to ask: "Is it time to hire a School Resource Officer (SRO) for CCS?" As I look at the layout of our facility, the number of students traveling between both buildings, and the location of our school, I believe it is time that we commit resources in order to hire a person full-time who is qualified and has been trained in law enforcement.

The school budget is prepared each year by the Board of Directors and its chief administrators. The 2018-2019 budget was approved at the association meeting on February 1st; unfortunately, money to hire a Safety Resource Officer was not part of this budget; therefore, the board has granted permission to open a separate account whereby families and friends can make donations to fund this position.

Additionally, I will be assembling a safety-security task force that will meet quarterly in order to review/update our Safety Procedure Manual. If you have a law enforcement background or experience with safety/security protocol and would like to be included on this committee, please email me at khoward@cccrusader.org, indicating your desire to serve. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you may help. Please make your check payable to Cumberland Christian School and write **School Resource Officer** on the memo line if you want to make a contribution. God bless your family.

Mr. Howard

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