FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Fairfield Schools Community:

We are all struggling to understand the events in Newtown last Friday. Staff, students and families are trying to come to grips with this unprecedented tragedy so close to home. For many of us, on December 14, 2012, the world changed forever.

I am writing to you about some of the actions we are taking in light of these events. We are reviewing all of our security procedures and protocols not only with our school leaders but also with the First Selectman, Chief of Police, Fire Chief and other experts to determine what changes, if any, need to be made.

While this review must be thorough and thoughtful and may take some time to accomplish, we are taking some immediate steps:

- Until further notice, all schools will have a staff member, with an ID badge, stationed at the entrance of each school to greet visitors and direct them to the main office.
- The Fairfield Police Department has agreed to provide an increased presence at all schools, especially at arrival and dismissal times, as well as at some evening events.
- Our school administrators will be meeting this week with the Chief of Police and others to review security and emergency preparedness measures in their schools.
- We are checking all of our physical security systems (cameras, for example) to ensure that they are operating properly and that all door locking and entry systems are functioning as designed.
- Principals and staff are reviewing current security measures to ensure that they are being followed.
- We will continue to review, monitor and update our crisis plans, as well as our preparedness training of all staff members.

In addition to these security measures, we are also providing resources to students, families and staff members who are in need of support. Each school has a crisis team that coordinates these efforts. The crisis team has access to resources to help children, families and staff who may require additional assistance. Please let someone at the school know if you or your child would like to take advantage of these resources. In addition, we will continue to post new information on the school district's website about how to cope with this tragedy.

We are committed to keeping our schools safe for students, staff and families. While our thoughts and prayers are with those directly impacted by the events in Newtown, please be assured that we are also focused on the safety and well-being of those in the Fairfield Public Schools Community.

Very truly yours.

David G. Title