

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Mary Kim Titla (928) 475-2315 ext. 2411

School safety is No. 1 priority at SCUSD

San Carlos--School districts across the country are reevaluating their safety policies and procedures. The San Carlos Unified School District is doing the same. Ever since the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut last December that left 26 people dead, school leaders have discussed whether heightened security is needed at schools.

The safety of our students and staff is the No. 1 priority of the San Carlos Unified School District. Our commitment has included federally funded School Safety Programs, security fencing, and a requirement that all visitors check-in with our offices. Additionally, there are surveillance cameras at the secondary school.

In partnerships with the San Carlos Apache Police Department, SCUSD employs uniformed School Resource Officers, while the district also employs school Safety Officers. The School Safety Teams meet monthly to review safety practices. Additionally, our campuses routinely practice fire and lockdown drills that are advised and evaluated and approved by our officers.

Most importantly, we are attempting to promote a culture through Law Related Education classes offered to students and staff where everyone has a responsibility to be vigilant and focused on safety. We ask that you talk with your children about the importance of sharing information that could be considered threatening to our community with a responsible adult.

We pledge to continue to make safety our No. 1 priority and to take any threat seriously. We recently created an Emergency Response Team and are anxious to review lessons learned from terrible tragedies of the past so that we can continue to be proactive. If you have any concerns or questions about our school safety policies and procedures, please contact your child's principal.

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