

# **Cherry Hill School District**

## **Annual Violence, Vandalism, Weapons & Substance Use Report Student Safety Data System 2018–2019 School Year**

Presented to the BOE on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Dr. Joseph Meloche, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Anthony Saporito, Director of Security

# Introduction

The Cherry Hill School District's Annual Violence Report is submitted each year at a public meeting to the school district's administration and to the members of the Board of Education. The annual report reflects a summary of incidents that were reported during the 2018-2019 school year. The types of incidents reported during the school year are listed under the heading of six major categories:

- Violence
- Vandalism
- Weapons
- Substances
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB)
- Alleged HIB

The Annual Violence report also tracks the trend of incidents that have occurred over a five-year period. The tracking of reported incidents, over an extended period of time, has proven to be a more accurate assessment in an effort to identify a pattern of disruptive behavior that tends to be repetitive.

# What's New In SSDS (Review)

- HIB Alleged category added
- Incident changes in Vandalism Category
  - Burglary (removed)
  - Fireworks (removed)
  - Computer Trespass (added)
- Incidents combined in the Violence Category
  - Robbery/Extortion now 1 category
  - Bomb Threat, Fake Bomb and Fire Alarm offenses now combined into False Public Alarm Category
  - Sex offenses have been broken down into 2 categories; Sexual Assault and Sexual Contact to align with NJ Criminal Law Title 2C
- Substances Use now 2 categories
  - Substance Use Confirmed
  - Substance Use Expected, Refused Exam

# Total Incidents Reported

- Overview -

This year's annual violence report reflects the total number of incidents reported for the 2018/19 school year. The DOE has still not developed the sub category reports.

<u>Category</u>	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2015/16</u>	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>
Violence	40	51	39	29	64
Vandalism	14	24	16	8	12
Weapons	12	8	5	3	5
Substance Use	25	33	54	13	33
HIB Confirmed	<u>73</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>96</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>131**</b>	<b>210</b>

\*\* Includes 2 incidents that were reported in 2 separate categories

# HIB Incidents

2018/2019

There were 96 **HIB Confirmed incidents** reported this year in comparison to 80 incidents reported the previous year.

	<u>2015/2016</u>	<u>2016/2017</u>	<u>2017/2018</u>
TOTAL HIB INCIDENTS	87	71	80

TOTAL ALLEGED HIB INCIDENTS 2018/19: 94, 2017/18: 236

The Administration is committed to implementing pro-active initiatives that foster a civil and productive learning environment for students and staff.

- On-going HIB Training, sponsored by the NJDOE or provided by the school district, on Anti-Bullying Rights Law, HIB behaviors and required reporting procedures for HIB.
- In district protocols developed to clarify HIB reporting criteria.
- Presentations and programs presented to students and staff during the commemoration of “Week of Respect”
- As of 2017-18 school year, the tracking of alleged HIB incidents

# Safe School Practices

The following measures reflect an overall review of the safe school initiatives that have been implemented over the past years:

- Strong emphasis on Character Education – teaching students to be responsible young adults
- CHPD social media safety presentation
- **Annual review of the district's Crisis Management Plan**
- Expansion of the Campus Police Officer program to the Middle/Elementary level
- All Campus Police Officers are armed
- Continued campus visits by CHPD
- **Mandatory training for CPO's. (De-escalation training, SRO certification)**
- **School Safety Specialist training required by DOE**
- Student and staff photo IDs



# Safe School Practices

(Cont'd)

- Referrals to SAC – at risk students referred to counseling staff
- **Memorandum of Agreement with the Cherry Hill Police Department and CCPO**
- Access to CHPD records management/computer aided dispatch program
- Megan's Law notification protocol
- Zero Tolerance for all Weapons and Substance Abuse category offenses
- **Continue practice of conducting monthly security and fire drills**
- Maintain the school district's building alarm code system for designated employees
- Passive Alcohol Sensor Program – administered at high school dances and proms
- Health Education Curriculum - educating students as to the dangers of drugs, alcohol , internet safety and cyber bullying

# Safe School Practices

(Cont'd)

- District wide protocol for all exterior and classroom doors to remain in a locked position at all times
- Conducted drills during unconventional times (Lunch/Recess)
- **Security blinds installed on all classroom doors**
- **“Stop the Bleed” program initiated**
- **New visitor tags**
- **Incident command System Training with CHPD/CHFD**
- **Internal Affairs function**
- **Resiliency program initiated**



# Stakeholders

Board of Education

Parents and Students

Teachers/Staff

School Administrators

PTA Representatives

Campus Police Officers/Security Staff

CHPD/CHFD/Township

Community