

# WHARTON BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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“ Learn to Thrive in a Dynamic World ”

## Marie V. Duffy Elementary School

“Governor’s School of Excellence”

Pamela S. Blalock, Principal

## Alfred C. MacKinnon Middle School

Robert D. Hayzler, Principal

Christopher Herdman  
Superintendent

Sandy Cammarata  
Business Administrator

Colleen Silvestri  
Director of  
Curriculum & Instruction

Marie Giantomasi  
Director of Special Education  
& Child Study Team Services

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### Superintendent’s Office

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### Marie V. Duffy School

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### Alfred C. MacKinnon School

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### Child Study Team

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### Guidance

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137 East Central Avenue  
Wharton, NJ 07885

October 23, 2020

Dear Student Families,

The Wharton Borough Public School District recognizes its responsibility to provide for the safety and security in each school building in the district. With that, and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1, our schools participate in at least one fire drill and one school security drill each month that students are present.

A school security drill means an exercise, other than a fire drill, to practice procedures that respond to an emergency situation including, but not limited to, a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, bomb threat, or active shooter.

The purpose of practicing these drills is to ensure that the students and staff are prepared and know what to do in case of an emergency situation. While these drills may cause stress for some children initially, they are explained and practiced in age appropriate manners. As the year progresses and practices are performed, student anxiety will turn to confidence as they are comforted by familiarity with procedures.

While the district will not publicly share the details and specifics of security procedures and protocols, please take the time to discuss these with your children, as they are performed throughout the school year, to reinforce their importance and their purpose. You will be alerted, by the district, after your child has participated in a security drill.

The district will always work to ensure the safety and security of all staff and students. As with everything, “practice makes perfect”.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your school’s office.

Sincerely,

*Christopher J. Herdman*

Christopher J. Herdman  
Superintendent