



NJDOE News

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DOE Launches New School Security Web Site

A new web site has been launched by the New Jersey Department of Education to serve as a resource for school officials, parents, students and others interested in improving safety and security at New Jersey schools, Commissioner Lucille E. Davy announced today.

The site can be accessed at: <http://www.state.nj.us/njded/schools/security/>

It was developed as part of Governor Jon S. Corzine's S.A.V.E. (Strategic Actions for Violence Elimination) initiative, announced in October, which is designed in part to enhance collaboration among school officials, law enforcement agencies and the community.

"The attacks that have occurred in our nation's schools over the past few years have given a life-and-death urgency to the call for strengthening protections for our youth," said Governor Corzine. "We must be unwavering in our commitment to providing for their safety and continue providing resources that will help ensure our schools are secure."

Commissioner Davy said the web site would provide "a central resource for the latest information on crisis and emergency planning, school security, regulations, funding opportunities and available staff training, presentations and briefings. Creating a school safety clearinghouse like this is a great way to use technology to assist our educators in attempting to deter and respond to critical incidents in and around our schools."

Also included on the site is information about issues such as pandemic influenza planning, internet safety, bullying and gang prevention. There are advisories, archived webcasts, studies, articles and tip sheets from numerous state and federal agencies and research organizations such as the National School Safety Center and the National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center.

School officials can also use the site to request technical assistance in the development of school and district security plans from DOE.

Commissioner Davy said that in the future, the department expects to expand the web site to include online tutorials, frequently asked questions and information on, and links to, programs that are vital to a school's recovery following a violent incident or other emergency.

"We want to put as much expertise as possible at people's fingertips," she said. "There is a great interest in this issue at all levels and we want to make sure the information is readily available."