



Goffstown School District Deliberative Session

Petition Warrant Article # 4 – Night Lock Barricades

School Board Information Sheet

1. The proposed Petition Article for Night Lock Door Barricade Devices was received by the school district and verified by the Supervisors of the Checklist.
2. ***To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000 for the purpose of purchasing Nightlock door barricade devices to be installed on all primary classroom doors in Goffstown schools to improve safety and security in the event of an active shooter event. (Majority vote required)***
3. The wording of the petition warrant article is specific to one brand of door barricade device. If the petition article wording was broader, it would give the school district greater flexibility to investigate more options.
4. The School Board and school administration are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of students, staff and community members who use our school buildings and facilities.
5. The topic of school security, discussions with board members, administration, and public safety officials (police, fire, homeland security) often involve sensitive information that is protected from public disclosure.
6. NH RSA 91-A:3 Addresses Non-Public Session and the legal obligations of participants who participate in discussions in non-public.

(i) Consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions, including training to carry out such functions, developed by local or state safety officials that are directly intended to thwart a deliberate act that is intended to result in widespread or severe damage to property or widespread injury or loss of life.

7. School administration holds quarterly school safety meetings with school and town leadership teams, including the Goffstown and New Boston Police Departments, and the Goffstown and New Boston Fire Departments. Periodically, the SAU 19 Safety Committee meets with other NH State officials such as the Office of Homeland Security, and other safety and security consultants.

8. Over the last couple of years, the SAU 19 Safety Committee has met with a parent/community group concerned with school security. Based on this dialogue, the school district has adopted some of this group's recommendations into the District's Safety Plan- including the establishment of an online confidential reporting system, and school door signage reminding people to not hold open secured doors.
9. The New Hampshire School Safety Preparedness Task Force provide the SAU with a list of 59 recommendations to enhance school security. Please note those recommendations did not include the installation of a secondary door lock/barricade device.
10. The school district has had multiple security audits/reviews by the NH Office of Homeland Security (NHHS). Based on these security reviews, NHHS provided additional recommendations for all our schools.
11. Over the last few years, the school district has spent considerable time and resources addressing the recommendations by NH Homeland Security. Of these recommendations, the school district has focused on:
 - a. classroom door (primary) Columbine locks,
 - b. upgrades to exterior doors (replacement doors)
 - c. door access control systems
 - d. security cameras
 - e. emergency strobes and alerting
 - f. other security measures
 - g. partnering with local police and fire related to onsite practice exercises and tabletop reviews.
12. The District has been successful in pursuing safety- related State and Federal grants to update our school security infrastructure. In 2020, the District received over \$415,000 in safety grants and most recently, the District was awarded over \$450,000 to enhance school security.
13. The District is responsive in addressing issues with doors, locks, access controls and other security system measures.
14. The school district recognizes that secondary door lock and/or door barricade devices can supplement our existing safety protocols. The unique nature of our school buildings requires that we have some unique challenges (encapsulated asbestos in some school floors, outward opening doors, etc.)
15. Should this petition warrant article be approved by the voters, the District will explore other available secondary door locks and/or door barricade devices and work towards incorporating these devices in our school buildings – recognizing that current school conditions may warrant different purchase and installation options.