



Dutchess County Sheriff's Office

Adrian H. Anderson Law Enforcement Center
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Kirk A. Imperati, Sheriff



School Superintendents, Principals, Faculty, Staff and Families:

With the start of the 2022-2023 school year approaching, I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with information regarding the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office approach to school safety.

First, I share with you that my wife works in a Dutchess County high school. I also have two daughters who graduated from Dutchess County schools. Thus, as a husband and a father, I completely understand the necessity to safeguard our loved ones and feel secure within our schools. As the Sheriff of Dutchess County, the same holds true.

Historically, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office has made school safety a priority. In the year 2000, I was the architect behind establishing the Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer Unit. Twenty-two years later, I continue our long-standing commitment to work closely with our school communities to create a safe school environment. Here are some highlights of our efforts to increase school safety:

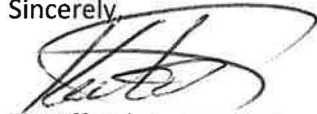
- In June 2022, all sworn members of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office completed Active Shooter Response refresher training focusing on response expectations and responsibilities
- In July 2022, all Dutchess County Sheriff's Office supervisors reviewed Incident Command principles to ensure a unified command and control approach is implemented for all critical incidents
- In August of 2022, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office conducted the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services Basic School Resource Officer Course. An additional 20 school resource officers from 10 different police agencies were trained to be deployed in area schools
- For the 2022-2023 school year, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer Unit is being expanded from 10 deputies to 12 deputies. We will have School Resource Officer Deputies assigned full-time to 6 school districts and Dutchess County BOCES
- Starting in September of 2022, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response will be conducting Concept of Operations training on Active Shooter / Rescue Task Force Operations for fire departments, emergency medical service providers and police agencies throughout Dutchess County

"GETTING BETTER TOGETHER"

- Members of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office continue to serve on numerous district level and building level school safety teams
- Members of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office continue to serve on the Dutchess County School Safety Advisory Committee
- Members of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and the Medical Reserve Corps of Dutchess County continue to conduct Active Shooter and Stop the Bleed Training for the public
- Members of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Patrol Bureau will continue to conduct school building checks and walk-throughs to increase law enforcement visibility within our schools. This is in addition to our full-time School Resource Officer Deputies.
- The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Detective Bureau will continue to work diligently to investigate all threats of school violence and work closely with school administrators to mitigate these threats

The safety and security of you and your family is a priority with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office. School safety is a collaborative effort that involves everyone, including you. Should you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance. We wish you all a very safe and successful school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk A. Imperati", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Sheriff Kirk A. Imperati