

## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS SECURITY**

Public school buildings and grounds are one of the greatest investments of the town. It is deemed in the best interest of the school department and town to protect the investment adequately.

Security means not only maintenance of a secure (locked) building, but protection from fire hazards and faulty equipment, and safe practices in the use of electrical, plumbing, and heating equipment. The district will work in close cooperation with fire and law enforcement departments and with insurance company inspectors.

Access to school buildings and grounds outside of regular school hours will be limited to personnel whose work requires it. An adequate key control system will be established, which will limit access to buildings to authorized personnel and will safeguard against the chance of entrance to buildings by unauthorized persons.

Funds and valuable records will be kept in a safe place and under lock and key.

Protective devices designed to be used as safeguards against illegal entry and vandalism will be installed when appropriate to the individual situation. Employment of watchmen may be approved in situations where special risks are involved.

Franklin Public School employees are expected to keep all school facilities and programs secure from unlawful and disruptive behavior.

To further the purpose of this policy, an advisory committee of administrators, parents, teachers, and students shall be convened and maintained to review the security practices of the Franklin Public Schools. This committee shall make recommendations regarding the use of surveillance cameras, tape recorders, alarms, and other devices to the Superintendent of Schools who shall remain the final decision-making authority.

The Facilities Manager or his/her designee, shall chair the committee. The Superintendent shall appoint two building administrators, the FEA shall appoint two teachers, the PCCs shall appoint two parents, and the High and Middle Schools shall each appoint one student to the committee, a member of the Police department, a member of the Fire Department will also be invited to participate.

Appointments shall be made on an annual basis. The committee shall meet as often as required but no less than twice yearly. The committee shall submit a report of its activities to the Superintendent and the School Committee each July.

The Committee and the Superintendent shall be guided by four criteria.

- a. Right to privacy and other legal considerations
- b. Appropriateness of proposed protocol.
- c. Demonstrated need, and
- d. Expense involved.