

**Lamoille Union Middle & High School and Green Mountain Technology & Career Center
Hyde Park, Vermont**

August 15, 2018

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students of Lamoille Union and GMTCC:

The safety of every student and employee is paramount. On our campus, we see three main pillars of school safety: emergency preparedness via planning and executing drills; supportive, inclusive communication channels available on demand; and secured access to the physical plant.

We have seen great progress in emergency preparedness and building supportive communication. Last year we made a concerted effort to train and practice A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) techniques as a campus. As a learning community, teachers, counselors, administrators and students met regularly to discuss safety practices and plan various school drills to increase our emergency preparedness. Each school on our campus has communication channels where, if there is an issue, it can be communicated and resolved quickly.

Securing our physical plant as it supports school safety will be the focus this year. Our schools are receiving safety grants from the State of Vermont and our board has indicated they will utilize some of our reserve funds to meet this goal. If you have visited an LNSU elementary school recently, you will find that we will be deploying similar features, including:

- All exterior doors will be rekeyed and locked during the school day;
- Visitor access will be limited to using one of the three main school entrances with an entry buzzer system;
- Each office will have visitor procedures requiring a visitor badge;
- Additional surveillance cameras will be installed in and outside of our physical plant; and
- Teachers and staff will wear visible badges that will serve as swipe cards to enter the facility.

We anticipate that the physical changes needed to enhance the Lamoille Union campus will be fully installed and operational as soon as possible. Undoubtedly, this is a change in our daily operations and each building administration will work with their respective employees and student body to communicate, train and monitor these new procedures. Updates will be provided widely once installation has begun.

Should you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact your respective administrator.

Sincerely,

Brian Schaffer
Principal, LUHS

Sherry Lussier
Director, GMTCC

Wendy Savery
Principal, LUMS

Dylan Laflam
Facility Director