



# Police Officer Partnership with Readington Township

**Presentation at the December 13, 2022 Board of Education Meeting  
Jonathan Hart, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools**



# What was our goal?

After the shooting in Uvalde, TX the district administration and Board of Education began to consider ways in which school **safety and security could be enhanced and augmented** for the safety of students, staff, visitors, and community members.

**Goal:** Develop a new Safety and Security Plan that included four (4) Class II/III Police Officers, one for each school building.

**Actions:**

- Collaborate with local police and the Township officials;
- Conduct a financial analysis of such a goal;
- Make recommendations for the best use of officers in the buildings.

# Timeline: How did we do our work?

May 24, 2022: The Uvalde, TX shooting occurred.

June 8, 2022: Safety and Security update presentation was provided to the Board of Education. Accomplishments since the 2018 Parkland, FL shooting were outlined along with future meetings.

July 19, 2022: Safety and Security Plan developed and discussed in Executive Session with the BOE.

July, August, September & October Finance Meetings: Safety and Security Plan discussed and refined.

June 2, August 16, November 7, 2022: Collaborative meetings between district administration, BOE representation, law enforcement, and Readington Township officials.

August and September: Leadership Team Meetings.

November 15, 2022 Board of Education Meeting: Shared Services Agreement between Readington Township and the Readington Board of Education approved by the BOE.

November 21, 2022 Township Committee Meeting: Shared Services Agreement between Readington Township and the Readington Board of Education approved by the TC.

# The Shared Service Agreement

The agreement was developed collaboratively between the Readington Township Committee and the Readington Township Board of Education and does the following:

- Provides a total of four (4) officers in the district, one in each building;
- Outlines responsibilities of officers while working on district property;
- Shares the total cost for all officers in an even 50%/50% split;
- Can be renewed on an annual basis.

# Officer Responsibilities

The responsibilities of officers while on school grounds include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Assist school personnel in dealing with emergencies;
- Patrol school buildings and grounds and protect from illegal or potentially threatening activities;
- Inspect points of entry/exit;
- Report and address any observed irregularities;
- Take necessary action with respect to trespassers or suspicious activity;
- Warn, detain, or take custody of violators if necessary.

...we want our officers to become members of the school community!



Let's meet them...

# Whitehouse School



**Officer Tom Wallace**

# Three Bridges School



**Officer John Harris**

# Holland Brook School



**Officer Connor Strohm**

# Readington Middle School



**Officer Brian Gilmurray**



This job of keeping our children safe, and teaching them well, is something we can only do together, with the help of friends and neighbors, the help of a community, and the help of a nation.

—President Obama, December 16, 2012 (after Sandy Hook)

