**NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL, PRIMARY, AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**2000 New Road**

**Northfield, New Jersey 08225**

**609.407.4005**

[www.ncs-nj.org](http://northfield.groupfusion.net/)

**Mr. Pedro P. Bretones Mrs. Maureen E. Vaccaro**

**Superintendent Principal**

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**RE:** **School Security Drills**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

In a continued effort to address school security, the State of New Jersey issued a new law for security drills in schools that took effect on November 1, 2010. Schools were previously required to hold two fire drills per month during the school year; however, the 2010 revision requires schools to hold one fire drill and one school security drill each month. The State has defined the four types of drills that must be held which include response procedures for: *Bomb Threat, Non-Fire Evacuation, School Lockdown, and Active Shooter.* New Jersey Law states that these practice drills should last “In similar duration to a fire drill and will be used to practice the school’s procedures for responding to an emergency.”

The Northfield Community School has your child/ren’s safety as our first concern. We previously established procedures for dealing with these types of situations and have continued coordinating our efforts with the Northfield Police. Our goals are not only to keep you informed of our legal responsibilities for the monthly practice drills, but to minimize any anxiety that you or your child/ren may have. Therefore, we have provided you a copy of the monthly calendar for these drills.

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| **Practice Drill** | **Proposed Schedule** |
| Bomb Threat | September, June |
| Non-Fire Evacuation | October, May |
| School Lockdown | November, February |
| Active Shooter\*\* | December, April |

**\*\*ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL IS NOT LIVE, PROCEDURES ARE PRACTICED\*\***

The day has not been listed, but the style of the drill has been. These are the mandatory drill requirements as per state law. The remaining months of the school year (January, March) will have scheduled drills/activities selected from a list provided by the State of New Jersey. Students and staff will be well-prepared for the responses to emergencies like those listed, and we will continue to work with municipal support services to fine-tune our emergency procedures.

Please be advised that the staff and administration will be discussing these procedures with your children prior to any drill taking place. We are committed to being prepared for emergency situations as well as making students, parents and staff comfortable with the procedures involved in our response. If you have any questions, please contact me at (609)407-4001.

Respectfully,

Pedro P. Bretones

Superintendent

PPB/tmg

***Northfield Community School – “Children First”***

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