

11/11/13 OSBA Capital Conference
9:00 am
Room D 230 - 232
Post-Sandy Hook Interagency Preparedness

Presenters:

George Brown (gbrown@twp.boardman.oh.us) - Fire Chief
Chuck Hillman (chillman@twp.boardman.oh.us) - School Resource Officer
John Landers (john.landlers@boardmanschools.org) - School Board President
Frank Lazzeri (frank.lazzeri@boardmanschools.org) - Superintendent
Larry Moliterno (larrymoliterno@cs.com) - Township Trustee
Jack Nichols (jnichols@boardmantwp.com) - Police Chief
Tim Saxton (tim.saxton@boardmanschools.org) - Director of Operations
Todd Werth (todd.werth@ic.fbi.gov) - FBI

Mock Shooter Activity Recommendations

1. School Building Familiarity - During the scenario it became immediately apparent that the majority of our officers are not familiar with the layout of the school buildings in the district. A proposal will be offered to the Superintendent to allow for a daily walk through by uniformed officers working the patrol area of each building. The benefit will be twofold, the officers will come to know the building layouts and the school will have a regular, daily uniformed police presence at no additional cost to the school.
2. School access key fobs are currently on the key rings for the two supervisor's cars, Sgt. Hillman's car, and one is in dispatch. At the expense of BPD a request will be made to the Superintendent to increase the availability of the key fobs.
3. Knox box key lockers are installed on the exterior of each school building. Police access to these boxes should be facilitated.
4. The school security officer should always be in uniform. An unfamiliar armed individual in a school during an incident is in danger if he is not readily and instantly identifiable as a law enforcement officer.
5. The "school safety card" needs to be formalized. A small laminated card able to be slipped under doors must be issued to all BPD officers and carried as part of the regular equipment.
6. The entry tool kit (sledge hammer, large pry bar, bolt cutters, etc. must be installed in every one of our vehicles and maintained by regular inspection.
7. Emergency rapid recall of BPD personnel must be formalized and rehearsed quarterly.
8. MAGLOLEN (Mid—Atlantic Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network) offers a professional architectural service for floor planning schools and producing them to be available in hard copy and electronic formats. This service is provided at no cost to the district or the township. This service should be obtained.
9. Notifications of essential personnel were lacking in the recent exercise. The superintendent of schools, most importantly, was not notified in a timely manner (the building principal was a simulated casualty at the beginning of the exercise). A hard protocol of notifications must be established in the communications center at the police department that includes school personnel, even if the assumption is that school personnel are to be made by other school personnel. This protocol could also extend to weather events, rumors on social media, and events occurring in the area of school facilities.

10. Recommendations and suggestions regarding security measures at the classroom level will be made in a separate document. SOS (Secure Our Schools) grant dollars will be sought as the funding becomes available later this year.
11. Emergency access to the schools security camera system, while technically possible, did present some difficulties. BPD investment in upgrading this capability, with school approval, would prove to be an asset.
12. The concept of equipping each school with radio equipment capable of direct contact with the Boardman 911 center appears to have great value. This would eliminate the issue of jammed cell phone towers and phone lines during emergencies allowing fail proof communication between school offices and the 911 center. It would also allow for "one button emergency" call for help. To a large extent, the equipment exists in the inventory at the police department to accomplish this now. With a few programming and infrastructure changes these installations could be completed by the beginning of the school year in the fall of 2013. Funding appears to exist for this in the law enforcement trust fund.
13. The school security officer must have his radio equipment upgraded to the new BPD system. With the permission of the school superintendent, the police department will purchase and issue a radio for this purpose. It will remain the property of the police department.
14. While having an officer in each school during all school hours is the ideal, budgets do not currently support this. The assignment of an additional SRO (School Resource Officer) is a possibility. If the Superintendent has an interest in this I will bring the concept to the Trustees.
15. School emergencies require a huge amount of manpower to even begin to manage them effectively. That manpower has to be almost instantly available. Since the fire departments have a considerable amount of manpower available very quickly, a way to bring them into the situation to assist in evacuation and medical assistance must be found and trained for.
16. Policies and training within the police department must be updated to reflect what was learned in the scenario. With the near instant availability of a Lane EMS unit, we must train to take medical into situations even prior to them being stabilized. Lane EMS must be included or at least notified of all future training of this nature.
17. The police department and the school need to partner in applying for every grant that is announced with the intent of upgrading the school intercom system to allow for two way communication to every classroom district wide. The Department of justice, National institute of justice, and the Bureau of justice Assistance all solicit grant applications for school security. Partnering with the FBI in school security issues also appears to have the potential for big advances.
18. While expensive, funding must be found to upgrade classroom security at the basic level. Classroom door locks should be standardized to allow locking with any key but unlocking with specific keys. Classroom doors and Windows need to be upgraded from a security perspective to allow for an adequate level of security during a lockdown.
19. The police department and partners need to train more in incident command. Operationally the command post was overwhelmed during the scenario.