

Reynoldsburg City Schools



April 17, 2014

Re: Multi-Agency Response Drill at RHS Summit Campus

Dear Summit Road Elementary families:

This school year, the Reynoldsburg City School District has gone to great lengths to strengthen and enhance the safety of our schools with the valuable assistance of our partners at the Reynoldsburg Police, Truro Township and Southwest Licking Fire departments and other first-responders in our region. These experts have helped us create a new Emergency Operations Plan that adheres to recommendations from the Ohio Attorney General's School Safety Task Force and covers an array of emergency situations.

Next month, these critical first responders would like to put our collective planning to the test. The Reynoldsburg Police Department is spearheading a multi-agency response training that will involve at least half a dozen regional agencies. The drill and training will help emergency response agencies including police, fire, hazardous materials squads and others to evaluate and improve how they would work together and communicate with one another in the case of an emergency that required the response of multiple agencies.

The multi-agency response training event will take place the afternoon of May 2 at the Reynoldsburg High School Summit Campus. Participating agencies will practice responding to a variety of simulated emergency incidents. Although Summit Elementary students will not participate in the training, there will be quite a bit of activity next door at the high school, including:

- A small, controlled detonation conducted by the Franklin County Bomb Squad might be audible behind the schools
- Police, fire and hazmat vehicles will arrive with sirens and lights as if they were responding to an actual emergency (but traveling no more than 15 mph for safety reasons)
- A MedFlight helicopter will land in the bus loop between the elementary and high schools
- High school students and staff will evacuate the building and gather behind the elementary

Prior to the training exercise, we will explain to students that our community safety agencies will be practicing, just like we practice for tornadoes, fires and other emergencies. During the training exercise – which will last 20 to 40 minutes – we will make efforts to shield our students from the distraction by closing blinds and having planned activities. We also might have the opportunity to visit firefighters and helicopter pilots after they are done with their roles in the

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training. The Reynoldsburg Police Department's DARE officer will be at Summit Elementary all afternoon.

The participating agencies, led by the Reynoldsburg Police Department, have meticulously planned for this event. If you would like to learn more about their specific plans, you are invited to attend one of two community information meetings. These will be held at the Reynoldsburg High School Summit Campus Performing Arts Center on Monday, April 21st at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, April 24th, at 6:30 p.m.

If, for any reason, you feel that your child should not be present during this event, you may pick up your child early from school before 12:15 p.m. on May 2 or may keep your child at home for the day. Please be aware that a portion of Summit Road in front of the schools will be closed during the training exercise but will reopen in plenty of time for regular school dismissal.

In the meantime, Officer Keisel (614-501-2370) and Lieutenant Wright (614-866-6622) of the Reynoldsburg Police Department are available for questions.

Sincerely,



Ed Johnson,

Coordinator of Safety and Security