



For Immediate Release:

**ELIZABETH FORWARD SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES HIRING OF FOUR
ARMED SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS**

EFSD Administration and School Board's number one goal is to keep students and staff safe while maintaining a safe learning environment

Elizabeth, PA - August 8, 2018 - In response to community concerns related to school safety, the Elizabeth Forward School District announced and the Elizabeth Forward School Board voted to approve the hiring of four-armed school security officers for the 2018-19 school year. Each school building in the district will now have a professional, trained and highly qualified officer to provide an additional layer of security for students, faculty, and staff.

Each security officer has more than 20 years of police experience, is ACT 235 certified and will be easily identified in a school issued police uniform. Three of the officers are retired Pennsylvania State Troopers and one is a retired City of Pittsburgh police officer:

David Hamer Raymond Kain, Jr. Harry Keffer, III Andre Stenson

“As superintendent, it’s my number one goal to keep our students and staff safe in an environment that is equally safe,” said Dr. Todd Keruskin, superintendent Elizabeth Forward School District. “These highly qualified and trained officers will add another layer of security to our school buildings, while becoming highly visible and active members of our school community.”

In addition to the four new officers, the school district will still retain Officer Chris McBride who serves as the district’s school resource officer from the Elizabeth Township Police Department.

“One of the difficult realities that school district’s face is how to keep our students safe with limited resources,” said Tom Sharkey, Elizabeth Forward School Board President. “We believe there is nothing more important than keeping our children safe and these officers will provide an invaluable layer of protection. The school district is still committed to employing ALICE training and maintaining a robust anti-bullying initiative to ensure all students are treated with dignity and respect.”

“School safety is an evolving topic and as we have more information to share with parents on changes, we will keep them informed,” added Dr. Keruskin. “However, I encourage any parent with questions or concerns to contact the school district so we can address them directly.”

For more information on Elizabeth Forward School District, visit www.efsd.net.

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