WHAT IF OUR SCHOOL FACES A SECURITY THREAT?

For many school communities, the assessment process begins with this question. Use the following questions to guide small group discussions or to start a conversation with potential partners and leaders in your school community.

- Where are ALL the possible entry points to our building(s)?

- How is access to the buildings, hallways, and rooms restricted or prevented?

- Do interior doors and gates lock?

- Do exterior doors lock properly? Are they propped open during various times before, during and after the school day?

- What measures are in place to deter, detect or delay an intruder or perpetrator?

- Is there a place to shelter or hide from danger (other than a fire emergency)?

- Can students and faculty escape a threat?

- What emergency plans do we currently have in place? When were the plans last reviewed?

- When was the last time a drill was performed for key emergency situations (intruder, fire, etc.) What were the results of the drill?

- How does the school alert students and staff of an emergency? Who is empowered to alert school communities of an emergency? How are local authorities alerted?

- Are local authorities informed of our plans and measures?

- Have we identified multiple off-site evacuation sites? How regularly do we communicate with personnel at these locations?

- How do parents reunite with their children after an emergency? Have we developed protocols and procedures to support this process in a variety of circumstances?

- Are building access procedures followed by students, staff and visitors?

- Who is the first point of contact at our school for security and safety matters?

- How quickly are local authorities alerted in an emergency?
  How long does it take them to respond?

- What federal and state laws regulate our school safety plans, procedures, and measures? Do we have contact with local authorities for support in these areas?

- How can students, staff and parents report a safety concern?

- What protocols and measures are in place to support infomation sharing between the school, parents, and local authorities and agencies?

- What kind of safety education and training do we provide to prepare students, staff, and parents?