

Arming Staff Survey Results

Surveys administered October 12-19, 2016
RESULTS AS OF 11/2/2016

	NO	YES
STUDENTS	62	55
<i>PHE</i>	25	10
<i>JSHS</i>	37	45
STAFF	20	20
PARENTS	30	39
COMMUNITY	11	12
TOTAL	123	126
	NO	YES

COMMENTS ARE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES

Student Comments

YES votes:

- *I agree and disagree because we could have someone come to the school armed and not one to defend our lives. But some teachers I don't trust.*
- *Because you would be keeping us very safe. Don't let kids have it in their possession.*
- *Because with all the things going on with the shootings.*
- *If it's for our safety I want that.*
- *So students will be safe.*
- *Only for the front desk and for middle school Mrs. Hall and high school Mr. G.*
- *The front desk should have some. Once in a while the middle school hall and high school hall.*
- *For mine and others safety.*
- *As long as they don't go crazy and kills us.*
- *Because I believe everyone should be armed with responsible and correct training for concealing a gun.*
- *Because if someone came into the school with intentions to shoot it up or hurt students it would be an extra level of safety that I feel is worth it.*
- *I think every teacher is a good idea.*
- *More protection.*
- *With proper background checks then yes.*
- *If they have proper background check.*
- *I certainly feel protected by armed staff so long as the staff knows how and when to use a gun.*
- *They will protect us from people.*
- *Because if there is a threat in the school we can deal with it.*
- *To protect yourself and the students*
- *So we don't get harmed.*
- *To keep kids safe.*
- *For safety reasons.*
- *It makes me feel safer from other people that come in.*
- *Because it is safe.*
- *Yes, but only Mr. Schmidt*
- *But I think only the principal should have one. Or the staff can have one but they'd keep them in the principal's office.*
- *For the safety of teachers and students cause they can die.*
- *Because a maniac shot an 8-year old.*
- *Because people need to be safe all the time.*
- *Because my parents said when I was 5 I need to say I support.*
- *It helps keep safe.*
- *Because just in case someone that is bad just for safety.*
- *So I wouldn't be stolen.*
- *If someone breaks in it will protect us.*
- *If we have a robber in the school the staff can shoot it.*
- *Because they might shoot us!*

Student Comments

NO votes:

- *I don't feel like that would be safe and I wouldn't go to the school.*
- *I do not feel safe knowing a staff member*
- *I do not feel safe. And what if they threaten people. Also I heard what happened at the dance. I do not feel safe mostly because of that. So I do not agree to letting staff members have weapons.*
- *I would rather have police do it not teachers because teachers are meant to teach and police officers do that every day.*
- *I would not safe. I would be very upset.*
- *Because if they get mad they can pull a weapon on us.*
- *This is a stupid idea.*
- *I don't want something to accidentally happen.*
- *Because I don't*
- *Because teachers can go crazy.*
- *Because no guns allowed.*
- *They could go crazy and someone in school could take it.*
- *Never. People are stupid.*
- *Other means and measures of enforcement can be used.*
- *Guns say N to the O.*
- *Teachers can become insane and shoot someone.*
- *I don't want to get shot by a pissed off teacher.*
- *I don't feel safe.*
- *Because staff can harass the students.*
- *Because if the staff member shoots someone and they said that they did not do it then she will not go to jail.*
- *They can shoot one of the students. Its not safe.*
- *Because what if the teacher goes crazy and shoot you. I don't have trust in them and they are mean.*
- *Because a week or so of training is not going to train the staff well enough for them to calculate trajectory or force of bullet. Plus, some staff may not be comfortable with firearms.*
- *I would like that the weapons be handled by someone trained in use of that weapon like a security guard.*
- *It's a school not a war zone.*
- *I think it would not be safe for us.*
- *Because I'm scared to go.*
- *Because what if the adults go crazy and they shoot.*

Staff Comments

YES Votes:

- *Only with proper training*
- *It stops the threat assuming that extensive training to concealment is part of the process.*
- *We are so far away and do not have a close SRO office. But I would have lots of questions/concerns re: training.*
- *Due to the fact of how rural the district is and the length of possible response time by emergency services.*
- *Bus drivers. Buses are easy to capture.*
- *We need to be able to shoot back.*
- *If we have qualified staff to arm.*
- *SRO recommended.*

Staff Comments

NO Votes:

- *This would be a huge expense to our district.*
- *No money.*
- *Lack of prior training would lead to more possibilities of shooting by students or teachers.*
- *We need an SRO! This job would be their primary job which will insure their focus in on safety!*
- *Need off duty police.*

Parent Comments

YES Votes:

- *The best way to combat a potential threat is to let everyone know you are prepared for that threat – but you don't have to give specifics*
- *Staff should be able to protect themselves and students if needed. However, all staff should be properly trained.*
- *As long as they are trained and psych evaluations every year.*
- *I would like to see all staff who are armed trained and licensed to carry concealed. It may prevent a school shooting if a shooter knows staff is armed and may shoot back.*
- *Today's day and age with gun violence in schools it would be good to have trained individuals ready to control a situation.*
- *Strict protocol in place. Make sure the person carrying the weapon is qualified and mentally and psychologically capable.*
- *After gun safety classes. Only two people per building.*
- *2nd Amendment prevents crimes.*
- *As long as they take a gun safety course and have a carry permit. It will be locked or out of the kids' reach, right?*
- *But only if the teachers has conceal and carry license.*
- *I would rather my children have a chance if anything bad ever happens.*
- *As long as specifically trained people, who can competently behave in a high stress situation, can safely defend our children and staff.*
- *Because everyone has a right to protect themselves and kids don't care about life.*
- *For safety.*
- *Police response takes too long.*
- *Finally*
- *To ensure the safety of our kids. Better to be prepared and have nothing happen than to have to wish we were.*
- *I want my kid to be safe.*

Parent Comments

NO Votes:

- *What the f*#ck are you thinking. Staff can't follow rules better than students.*
- *Can't trust staff. Proven dangerous to our kids numerous times for many years.*
- *Hire security guards!*
- *School is to unstable. I feel more damage or unsafe situations could occur if weapons are in the school. Also some staff may just not be comfortable having a weapon at school.*
- *Due to recent accusations it is obvious that the community would make up situations to attack people of false wrongdoings. Therefore, showing more of a liability to the staff that would carry, causing more harm than good.*
- *I would like that the weapons be handled by someone trained in use of that weapon like a security guard.*
- *I don't feel confident in the level of training and technical competence of all faculty with firearms. Huge liability! Not worth the risk.*
- *I have been in the military for 15 years and do not think you could protect my kids with a weapon. Plus you do not have the training needed to be able to make a call to protect those kids. Also bringing a weapon into the school might make things worse. One more thing that you should think about is what happens when a child over powers the teacher that has the weapon. Most if not all the teachers have any training in hand to hand fighting. If you have questions please call 719-659-0880 Charles Morris.*
- *School is already on a secure lockdown. No need to arm teachers.*
- *I think it is for people who are trained, like police.*
- *Use a tranquilizer gun. I would support if I believed that I could trust teachers not to take that into their own hands. There are too many teachers in this state that have been fired for doing stupid stuff. Maybe arming one trained person in the school but not all staff members.*
- *For the reason that it won't work.*

Community/Parent Comments

YES Votes:

- *Response time from the Sherrif's Office will not be quick enough for an "active" need.*
- *It is so sad the world has come to this. We believe our children and staff should be protected should the time arise.*
- *Especially needed in rural schools for quick response to save lives.*
- *With gun professional training. Hunter safety and concealed carry. That no one will know which teachers has a gun. Maybe a gun lock box somewhere to put them in at the end of the day.*
- *However, it should not be all teachers. Those selected then should have carry conceal classes. Those selected should have no history of anger issues.*
- *The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.*
- *Good sheep herders use dogs to help keep predators away.*
- *It takes an active shooter a mere second to shoot. It takes the police 7-12 minutes to respond. In 7-12 minutes every person in the school could be dead. Arm teachers. Stop shooters. Save lives.*
- *Yes all the schools in the spring area have at least (1) officer there all day long. Yes Yes !!!*
- *As long as they are trained, in safety and proper use.*

Community/Parent Comments

NO Votes:

- *Concerns regarding student(s), faculty or visitors incapacitating armed staff member before defensive action can be taken and obtaining weapon.*
- *Concerns regarding competence of staff to monitor weapon during disruptive and stressful situations.*
- *May conflict with the personal beliefs of staff that are required to be armed.*
- *In the instance of an armed staff member becoming incapacitated by a sudden and unexpected event, such as a medical complication, during a class session. Weapon would become accessible to students.*
- *Alternative to proposition: employ a professional such as a member of law enforcement to be present at the school and at school events.*
- *We are a locked school and do not need guns on the property.*
- *Visitors are screened by camera before admittance.*
- *Get a metal detector and a certified security guard or full time SRO.*
- *This is an attempt to mitigate wrongdoing that has already happened.*
- *What the f*#ck. Hell no. 0 zero tolerance means zero tolerance. That goes for you idiots in charge too.*
- *Upon receipt of this notification my first reaction was anger. How could a school even consider using a lethal device as a form of protection. Any further contemplation I realized that this must be the actions of a few. There is no feasible way that an adult with any form of common sense would consider this a viable option. Having a loaded lethal weapon around children is dangerous to say the least, and insane to say the most. The safety of our children far outweighs the strange desire of the few.*
- *Instead can we ensure that staff who is armed cannot or will not be over powered by someone? How can we promise that no child will suffer from the repercussions of an armed lethal weapon?*
- *Have there been instances where a loaded gun is the only way to resolve an issue with students? Is there proof that situations at Hanover School are so out of control that the only option is to arm personnel? Has there been a vast need to shoot someone for non-compliance? If so those situations need to be brought to the public attention prior to such an off request.*
- *Instead of investing in arming staff, spend the money on an SRO that is trained, qualified and know what they are doing. We do not ask police officers to come into our classrooms and teach, we must not ask our teachers to patrol and prepare for armed combat!*
- *My heart breaks at the thought that this is even an idea for our schools. What has Hanover come to that we feel the need to take up arms against children. I hope and pray that the choices made follow specific guidelines: Is this really in the best interest of our children? Is this the only viable option to keep our kids safe? Has this issue*

been fully thought out and the consequences considered? What have we become as a society where weapons are now even considered appropriate for an environment in which our children are supposed to thrive and learn.

- *May shoot self.*
- *There should be a trained guard, yes. But the teachers, no, because the weapons may be too accessible to the students.*
- *Didn't know it was so bad in Hanover that teachers need guns. A teacher could have bad day and commit a crime just as easy as a student or parent.*
- *This is late. I hope you consider my thoughts. Continues a culture of violence. Schools are for learning not for guns. Teachers are for teaching. They need to show through their actions that guns are not the way to settle issues*