

SUPERINTENDENT ACTION

June 14, 2022

A. **GCSD Secure Storage Notification Resolution**

**Guilderland Central School District Secure Storage  
Notification  
Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, Evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component of any effective strategy to keep schools and students safe [1];

**WHEREAS**, An estimated 4.6 million American children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm [2];

**WHEREAS**, In incidents of gun violence on school grounds, 75 percent of active shooters are current students or recent graduates, and up to 80 percent of shooters under the age of 18 obtained their guns from their own home, a relative's home, or friends [3];

**WHEREAS**, Research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to an 85 percent reduction in the risk of unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens [4];

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center recommends the importance of appropriate storage of weapons because many school attackers used firearms acquired from their homes [5];

**WHEREAS**, School districts across the country have begun to proactively send materials home to parents and guardians, informing them of applicable firearm storage laws and firearm secure storage best practices [6];

**WHEREAS**, Keeping students, teachers, and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each of our school sites in the Guilderland Central School District;

**WHEREAS**, State law requires adults to securely store their firearms where a child is unlikely to gain access to the firearm [7];

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Board directs the Superintendent and staff to update the Student Handbook to include information about parents' legal obligations regarding the secure storage of firearms;

**RESOLVED FURTHER,** That the Board directs the Superintendent to create a communication to parents and guardians that explains the importance of secure gun storage and the legal obligations to protect minors from accessing irresponsibly stored guns, to be included in annual registration materials; and, be it finally;

**RESOLVED,** That the Board and the Superintendent will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, health agencies, and nonprofits to collaborate and increase efforts to inform District parents of their obligations regarding secure storage of firearms in their homes.

[1] Beidas RS, Rivara F, Rowhani-Rahbar A. Safe Firearm Storage: A Call for Research Informed by Firearm Stakeholders. *Pediatrics*. 2020;146(5):e20200716. doi:10.1542/peds.2020-0716

[2] Azrael, D., Cohen, J., Salhi, C. et al. Firearm Storage in Gun-Ownning Households with Children: Results of a 2015 National Survey. *J Urban Health* 95, 295-304 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-018-0261-7>  
<<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-018-0261-7>>

[3] New York City Police Department, "Active Shooter: Recommendations and Analysis for Risk Mitigation," 2016, <https://on.nyc.gov/2nWHM4O> <<https://on.nyc.gov/2nWHM4O>>

[4] Monuteaux MC, Azrael D, Miller M. Association of increased safe household firearm storage with firearm suicide and unintentional death among U.S. youths. *JAMA Pediatrics*. 2019;173(7):657-662.

[5] National Threat Assessment Center. (2019). Protecting America's Schools: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence. U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security.  
<https://www.secretservice.gov/data/protection/ntac/usss-analysis-of-targeted-schoolviolence.pdf>  
<<https://www.secretservice.gov/data/protection/ntac/usss-analysis-of-targeted-schoolviolence.pdf>>

[6] Moms Demand Action (2021). More than 1.5 million students nationwide now attend schools with Firearm Storage Awareness Policy. Everytown Research & Policy,  
<https://momsdemandaction.org/more-than-1-5-million-students-nationwide-now-attend-schools-with-firearm-storage-a-awareness-policy/> <<https://momsdemandaction.org/more-than-1-5-million-students-nationwide-now-attend-schools-with-firearm-storage-a-awareness-policy/>>

[7] New York SAFE Act (2013). <<https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2013/S2230>>