



TLS Safety and Security Overview

The Trinity Administration and School Board have reviewed our safety protocols, and want to remind you of our dedication to safety and security for our school family. Keeping our families and staff safe and secure is of the utmost importance to us. We use best practices in evaluating school threats and threats of targeted violence. We are dedicated to ongoing professional development for staff, performing safety audits of our buildings and grounds, and conducting annual evaluations of school safety plans.

While we do not publicly share all of our school safety features and possible responses to threats, it is important to share with our families our dedication to making the safety of our school and your children a priority. Please review the following information regarding updates for the coming school year:

- The Threat Assessment Team and Crisis Management Team work together to manage and review our safety and security protocols for Trinity Lutheran Church and School.
- Trinity has hired a Security and Property Director to manage the safety, security, property and facilities of Trinity Lutheran Church and School. Mr. Scott Garvey, recently retired Elkhart City Police Officer, will serve Monday-Friday as a Security Officer in our school building.
- We utilize the SchoolGuard app, which is available 24/7 and has multiple communication avenues.
 - SchoolGuard is a mobile panic button app for all church and school staff. In the event of an active shooter emergency, a teacher or school staff member presses the main SchoolGuard panic button. As the app is dialing 911, an alert is immediately sent to the smartphones of all federal, state and local, ON and OFF duty, law enforcement officers who are in close proximity to the school and who belong to the Hero911 Network.
 - Additionally, an intra-school alert is simultaneously sent to the smartphones of all school staff and a mapped location of the initial alert is displayed (mapping depends on cell coverage). SchoolGuard also alerts all other protected schools within a 5 mile radius of the initial alert.

- Trinity has a multiple layer approach to maintaining a safe school environment:
 - Full-time School Security Director r, Mr. Scott Garvey
 - Access controls
 - Primary and secondary locked doors at all main entrances
 - Classroom doors remain locked at all times
 - Security cameras live and recording throughout building

- TLS partners with trained professionals to provide additional security support for school and church events, and in conjunction with our Security Director.
- We have hall monitors to assist with supervising and monitoring exterior doors and hallways at the start and end of the school day.
- We have partnered with the IDOE, local law enforcement agencies, medical emergency services, and the Department of Homeland Security to conduct active shooter simulations and training in our schools.
- Trinity regularly participates in active shooter and lockdown drills.

We encourage all families to carefully review the safety information, also available on our website. We are grateful for our Trinity family, who together as parents, students and staff, will continue to promote a safe school environment so that Trinity Lutheran School remains a safe and secure place to educate students.