



# Loudoun County Public Schools Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 8, 2023

**ASHBURN, Va.** - The Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) Blue Ribbon Panel on School Safety announced by Superintendent Dr. Aaron Spence as part of his Forward Together Entry Plan, held its first meeting on Friday, December 8. The Panel brings together LCPS leaders in security, facilities and operations, and school administration and offices with community subject matter experts from law enforcement, emergency services, health and mental health providers.

Formed to assess safety processes and protocols in LCPS, the Panel will tackle physical, technical, cyber security and mental health needs in schools. As the Panel works to identify any gaps in these areas, they will formulate and present recommendations on how to meet those needs.

“There is no higher priority than the safety of our students, both physically and emotionally,” said Superintendent Spence. “I convened this Blue Ribbon Panel to take a hard look at safety in all its forms to help us better serve student learning and success. For our students to thrive in the classroom, we need to provide a learning environment that is safe, and where they feel they belong. The work of this panel will help further inform how we take care of students’ mental health and their safety in the physical school environment, as well as tackle online safety.”

One security expert on the Panel said, “I am always impressed by the proactive safety and security measures LCPS takes to ensure they remain at the forefront of school security practices and by their dedication to continuous improvement.”

The Panel is set to meet twice this winter, and again in the spring, in order to draft recommendations to present to the superintendent by April 2024.

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