



Township of Monroe

County of Middlesex

GERALD W. TAMBURRO
Mayor

Administrative Offices:
Municipal Complex
1 Municipal Plaza
Monroe Township, N.J.

Public Information Announcement Feb. 22, 2018
**Monroe Mayor and Police Chief Announce Plan to Provide School Security
Township to Assist Board of Education with Interim Safety Plan**

MONROE - In light of the tragic events in Florida and security threats to schools across the country, Monroe Township Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro and Police Chief Michael E. Lloyd attended the Wednesday evening Board of Education meeting to announce an interim plan to place police officers in all eight school buildings by the end of next week.

Township officials, together with Monroe Township Police Department and the Board of Education, worked quickly to develop the interim plan for off-duty Monroe Township police officers to provide full-time protection to supplement current district security teams, beginning next week.

"We are one united community and the safety and security of our children is paramount," said Mayor Tamburro. "Working with Board President Kathy Kolupanowich, I am pleased that we are able to effectuate this interim plan immediately and help address the safety concerns of our teachers, parents and students so that their focus can remain on learning."

State law allows for specially trained, retired officers to work as armed security guards in school facilities.

The Monroe Board of Education will be working to amend their present policy over the next several meetings to permit their current security staff, many of whom are retired law enforcement officers, to assume the armed detail in the near future.

"As the spouse of an elementary school educator and a parent, I cannot imagine what the community in Florida is going through," said Monroe Township Council President Stephen Dalina. "Schools should be a safe place and having these officers in each of our school buildings will help ease the anxiety and fears our students and parents have expressed."

The Mayor noted that the Township would bear the expense of these officers under the temporary plan. The sworn officers would be working in addition to normal patrols so there will be no impact on police response or service levels within the community. The Mayor thanked the Township Council for their support with this effort.

A public forum on school safety was held on Tuesday with many from the community speaking in support of these measures.

Township residents can view public meetings on Verizon Fios channels 32 and 40. Comcast customers can find public access programming on channel 28.

For questions, contact Monroe Township's Business Administrator Alan Weinberg at 732-521-4400.