



September 23, 2024

Greetings Escuela de Guadalupe Community,

The recent spam threat to schools across the country prompted understandable concern within our community. These are scary times to be a parent and a school employee, and it is imperative that we take all threats seriously.

Now, as we emerge from the thankfully short-lived scare, we'd like to take a moment to share some of the many ways that everyone at your school works everyday to keep your children safe. We believe we are on the forefront of school security measures, not only in our ability to respond to threats, but also in our ability to prevent them.

Here are just a few of the trainings, relationships and efforts that we undertake regularly to ensure safety at Escuela de Guadalupe.

#### Partnership with the Denver Police Department

We have a strong relationship with officers in the Denver Police Department, and particularly in our district, District 1. In the instances when we have called upon Denver PD for support, they have been responsive and prompt. Further, we are confident that when they hear of credible threats that affect our school, they will contact us immediately. We also have regular contact with the Denver Police Department's School Violence Unit. This is a partnership that we foster through regular communication, and we are grateful for their ongoing support.

#### Incident Command Team

Unlike many other schools, we receive regular training in the Federal Incident Command System (ICS) and we have an identified Incident Command Team. The ICS is a standardized approach to incident management that can be used for emergencies, as well as for planned events. By utilizing this system, we ensure a coordinated response throughout our school, and with various jurisdictions and agencies, such as police and fire departments. Those who serve on the Incident Command Team take annual trainings and must pass Federal exams.

#### Colorado School Safety Resource Center

The mission of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC) is to assist educators, emergency responders, community organizations, school mental health professionals, parents and students to create safe, positive and successful school environments. Designated Escuela staff members take courses from the CSSRC on a regular basis to supplement our other trainings.



### Safety Consultant

We are so committed to safety that, for the past several years, we have contracted with an outside Safety Consultant who regularly trains our staff and audits our facilities and procedures. With his guidance, we hold a monthly safety review and discuss any safety concerns, from carpool procedures to threat management.

### Most Important: We Foster a Safe, Positive Culture

Any school safety consultant will tell you that the number one way to prevent school violence is to foster a safe, positive school culture. This not only means that we must empower students, families, and staff to recognize and report any unsafe activities, but also that we create an environment where everyone feels safe and welcome. Through our Valores program, school counseling services, and our faith, we foster an environment that rewards Respect, Responsibility and Kindness. But a positive culture is everyone's responsibility. We have your children at school for 8 hours a day and it is our duty to prepare them academically, socially and spiritually. You, their parents, are our number-one partner in this endeavor. It is imperative that the values we nurture during the school day are also nurtured at home.

We hope that, by sharing this information, you can see how earnestly and diligently we work to keep your children safe each and every day. Thank you for being our partner in these important efforts.

Sincerely,

Michelle Galuszka  
President

Mariella Robledo  
Principal