



Lower Providence Township
100 PARKLANE DRIVE • EAGLEVILLE, PA 19403

Methacton School District
1001 KRIEBEL MILL ROAD • EAGLEVILLE, PA 19403



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 12, 2011

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Methacton School District and Lower Providence Township Partner in Emergency Response Drill at Skyview Upper Elementary School

-Drill to Involve More than 200 Participants-

EAGLEVILLE, PA - The Methacton School District and Lower Providence Township will partner with other local emergency response personnel in participating in an emergency response drill coordinated through the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety. The drill will take place between the hours of 8:15 and 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at Skyview Upper Elementary School, located at 4001-B Eagleville Road in Eagleville, Pennsylvania.

More than 150 Methacton faculty, staff and administrators will join with local emergency response personnel in a simulated incident at Skyview Upper Elementary School. Drill participants include Lower Providence Township Police Department, Lower Providence Township Emergency Management, Lower Providence Township Public Works, Lower Providence Township Public Information Officer, Lower Providence Emergency Medical Services, Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company and Fire Police, Central Montgomery County Special Weapons and Tactics (CMSWAT), Montgomery County Department of Public Safety and The American Red Cross/Western Montgomery County Disaster Response Team.

“This drill is an important exercise to measure the effectiveness of our emergency response planning and training over the past three years,” Methacton Superintendent Dr. Timothy J. Quinn said, “We are grateful for the participation of so many local emergency response personnel, and in particular, for the strong partnership that we have developed with Lower Providence Township officials.”

“In the event of an emergency, we will have the advantage of knowing who will come to the aid and protection of our students and staff, added to the benefit of their expertise in helping us to become as prepared as we can be as a school district,” Dr. Quinn added.

May 17 is a scheduled in-service day, during which no students will be on campus. Due to the magnitude of the drill, access to the campus that houses Arcola and Skyview will be restricted during the drill. Lower Providence Township Police will be directing traffic along Eagleville Road in order to enforce this restriction.

The Methacton School District has chosen to host and participate in this drill in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the district's emergency response plans. Independent evaluators will be present during the drill in order to provide feedback and suggestions for improvements.

Methacton continues to commit to fostering the safest possible learning environment for students. Maintaining up-to-date emergency procedures, conducting training and drills, and researching best practices are several areas in which Methacton has focused efforts. Most recently, these efforts included a successful grant co-sponsored by Lower Providence Township to support the purchase of digital radios to facilitate district-wide emergency communications. With the support of the Methacton's Board of School Directors and the cooperation of Lower Providence Township, Methacton has also secured the services of a School Resource Officer for Methacton High School, extending the district's SRO coverage district-wide.

**MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA WILL BE ALLOWED ON CAMPUS DURING THE DRILL
A MEDIA STAGING AREA WILL ALSO BE ESTABLISHED**

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