

The School at McGuire Memorial

2121 Mercer Road • New Brighton, PA 15066

724-891-7222

Dear School at McGuire Families, Faculty, and Staff,

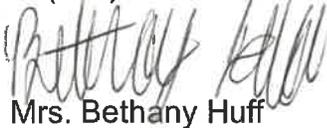
Governor Shapiro recently signed into law Act 44 of 2025, which creates a new section of the School Code titled “Parental and Employee Notification of Weapon Incidents.” This new law took effect on January 6, 2026. The law requires all Pennsylvania school programs, including Approved Private Schools like ours, to notify parents, guardians, and school employees of any incident involving the possession of a weapon on school property, school transportation, or school-sponsored activity, within 24 hours.

As you know, the safety and well-being of our students is our highest priority. Up to this point in the School’s history, we have never encountered a weapons violation. However, we are committed to being prepared, proactive, and transparent with all our stakeholders, especially in matters of student safety.

If such a notice ever becomes necessary, it will be conveyed via email and OneCall notification. Due to state and federal confidentiality laws, these notifications will provide very basic information simply regarding the date and location of the reported weapon incident.

It is important to note that this new regulation does not allow for situational considerations. It makes no distinction between a weapon or tool meant for harm and toy weapons, look-alikes, or items inadvertently brought to school. For example, an older sibling’s pocketknife carried to the School by one of our students would still trigger Act 44 notification to families and employees. This is an additional reason to monitor students’ backpacks, coats, and other belongings carefully before they leave home.

We remain committed to maintaining a safe, productive learning environment that supports all our students’ individualized needs with care and dignity. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Bethany Huff at bhuff@mcguirememorial.org or (724) 891-7222.



Mrs. Bethany Huff

Chief School Administrator Successor

