

# Office of the Sheriff

Sheriff  
Richard K. Jones



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Chief Deputy  
Anthony E. Dwyer

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Butler County, Ohio

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May 22, 2018

All Butler County School Boards:

As your Butler County Sheriff, I am requesting changes in your schools, to keep our kids safe, start now. I find it disturbing every time I hear of another child shot or injured or another teacher killed or wounded; and that our own local schools are not doing enough to curb this from happening here in this county again.

What are you waiting for? The one time it happened here was too much. Please reach out to local law enforcement asking how you can make safety changes in your schools. Take action before one of your schools is attacked and many of your students and teachers are taken away from you by an active shooter.

You need to revise the fire alarms procedures in your schools. In many cases, the shooter has attended your school system and is aware that children are taught to exit the building immediately upon hearing the fire alarm. Setting off that fire alarm provides the shooter with more targets.

School Resource Officers are fully-trained law enforcement officers. If you do not already have them, you should assess the priority of the safety of the children and teachers in your schools, and provide at least one School Resource Officer per building within your district if at all possible.

Several school districts in Butler County have taken advantage of the security a School Resource Officer can provide. My Patrol deputies are instructed to stop in to check on the schools within their patrol areas as well.

Your immediate action is required to stop schools from being a "soft target". I understand that a School Resource Officer or armed school employee may not stop the determined shooter from arriving – but they will be equipped to defend themselves and their students, until law enforcement can respond and end the situation.

For the children, for your staff – take the necessary actions now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R.K. Jones".

Sheriff Richard K. Jones  
Butler County, Ohio