

Falls City School Board Discusses Security

School security has been at the front of many minds since the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut.

Falls City School District officials met with State Patrol and local law enforcement representatives Monday to discuss security issues in the Falls City School District.

Superintendent Tim Heckenlively explained the District's crisis plan that's been developed over the years, with discussion centered on ways to improve the plan. (play audio :22)

Heckenlively says they'll be working with the State Patrol and local law enforcement to test the plan before the start of the next school year. He says the drills are needed so everyone knows what to expect should the unthinkable happen. (play audio :36)

Sheriff Randy Houser described these "lockdown" drills as similar to fire drills or tornado drills that schools now conduct regularly.

Discussion also took place on security challenges at each of the district school buildings.

Heckenlively says the district is continuing to upgrade its security system – including having the Department of Homeland Security conduct a safety audit last year. (play audio :41)

Money is budgeted for security upgrades at each school building this summer. Heckenlively says the Falls City School District is also working with its liability insurance pool on a program to improve school safety.