



Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency

4747 W 48th St, Fremont, MI 49412 | 231.924.0381 | www.ncresa.org

August 27, 2019

Rep. Michael Webber  
Chair of the House Regulatory Reform Committee  
N-894 House Office Building  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Chairman Webber, Rep. Ryan Berman, Majority Vice-Chair, Rep. John Chirkun, Minority Vice-Chair, and members of the House Regulatory Reform Committee:

As members of the Newaygo County School Safety Committee, we support Representative Scott VanSingen's House Bill 4689 (2019). Allowing temporary door barricades or lock-down devices in our schools for emergency situations, that are not fire related, provides for stronger emergency response systems and assures safer schools for our students and staff. By allowing the installation of temporary door barricades on interior school doors, that are portable and capable of being engaged without opening the door, is a prudent safety intervention. These devices may also be disengaged by emergency responders from the outside of the classroom with the tool provided in the event the classroom needs to be accessed.

The barricade devices currently utilized in Newaygo County schools can be quickly disengaged, if needed, by an individual on the interior side of the door without the use of special keys or tools, which removes risk. They do not impede egress to or from the classrooms.

Staff members have been trained and are comfortable using the devices. The devices secure the classroom doors against forced entry and staff report feeling safer and more secure in our schools.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 4689 (2019).

Sincerely,



Dr. Lori Tubbergen Clark, NC RESA Superintendent



Robert Mendham, Newaygo County Sheriff



Justin Visser, Newaygo County School Resource Officer



Bradley R. Wade, Grant Police Chief



Georgia Andres, Newaygo Police Chief



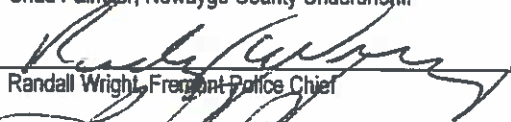
Abby Walkem, Newaygo County Emergency Services Director



Ellsworth J. Stay, Newaygo County Chief Prosecuting Attorney




Chad Palmeter, Newaygo County Undersheriff



Randall Wright, Fremont Police Chief



Louis Herremans, Hesperia Police Chief



Daniel Evans, White Cloud Police Chief



Joel Phillips, Newaygo County School Safety Committee Chair

Office of Superintendent

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