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Safety Grant

Purpose
To provide the Board of Education with an informational update regarding the district's application planning, safety infrastructure goals, and upcoming submission timeline for the federal BJA STOP School Violence Program grant.

Background and Information
The administration has developed a comprehensive district safety initiative titled the District 44 Physical Security, Infrastructure, and Comprehensive Safety Training Project. This project addresses physical security enhancements across our facilities, including replacing obsolete surveillance cameras, updating door locks, and constructing a secure double-entry visitor vestibule at Kimes Elementary School.

In addition to physical hardening, the project establishes a rotational security staffing framework utilizing qualified law enforcement personnel and delivers advanced professional development in behavioral threat assessment and standardized family reunification protocols.

Operational Overview
- The district is actively finalizing the budget details for the grant application alongside project narratives and partner agreements.
- The district is partnering with local law enforcement agencies, including the Streator Police Department, to establish formal collaboration and operational support for the safety officer staffing framework.
- The application package spans three core phases, requiring initial system registrations in SAM.gov and Grants.gov followed by technical narrative and budget submissions through the Department of Justice JustGrants system.
- Grants.gov submission is scheduled ahead of the October 30, 2026 deadline, with the full JustGrants application submission due by November 6, 2026.
- Project implementation is structured across a multi-year timeline extending from months 1 through 36, covering engineering, vestibule construction, camera integration, and comprehensive staff training.

Administrative Recommendation
This item is provided for informational purposes only to update the Board on the grant application progress and upcoming submission milestones.