



# South High Marathon Dance

Established 1978 ♦ WWW.SHMD.ORG

South Glens Falls Senior High School

42 Merritt Road ♦ South Glens Falls, NY 12803 ♦ 518-792-9987



## PRESS RELEASE

**Date:** February 28, 2018  
**Release Date:** For Immediate Release  
**Re:** SHMD Event Safety and Security

Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> through Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 marks the 41<sup>st</sup> annual South High Marathon Dance (SHMD). Over the course of the weekend this event brings together thousands of people at the South Glens Falls Senior High School to include students, faculty, staff, alumni, recipients, and many visitors and supporters, united in the common goal of helping others in a time of need. Given the continued growth and reach of this event, the logistics and operations continuously evolve, and safety is a key component.

Effective this year, all persons and bags brought onto school property will be subject to search. Any persons entering the facility, to include students, staff, and visitors, should expect to have their belongings (including bags, containers, boxes, etc.) checked. Guns, knives and other weapons, alcohol, recreational drugs and potentially hazardous material are not permitted on school property. The use of tobacco, nicotine, vape devices, or similar products is not permitted on school property. The Marathon Dance strongly discourages general spectators from bringing bags to this event. This new procedure is being implemented not as a direct result of any specific incident or threat, but upon general review of security practices, the current environment, and consideration given to processes already in place at similar events.

The Marathon Dance will continue a variety of safety measures which have been implemented through the years. Law enforcement canines will be present prior to, and periodically during the event. Armed law enforcement, both uniformed and undercover, will be present throughout the entirety of the weekend. A Fire Safety Team will be present to enforce gym capacity, keep watch for fire and other safety hazards, and ensure egress routes are maintained. Satellite parking areas with shuttle bus service is in place to alleviate congestion at the Senior High School and impact on nearby roads. A dedicated Security Detail and Medical Staff at the Dance was established in the 1980's and continues to evolve to this day.

We have a shared responsibility to keep our community safe. Be aware of your surroundings; whether at the event or in a parking area, take note of any suspicious objects, persons, or potential hazards and report it promptly to safety or security staff. If you become aware of someone who may have malicious intent, take what you hear or see seriously. Familiarize yourself with bus shuttle routes, building exits, public viewing areas, and the Marathon Dance schedule. Finally, please be polite to safety and security staff. While certain arrangements may be inconvenient, they are in place for the safety of all involved.

SHMD would like to thank you, as well as the following, for supporting the safety mission: New York State Police, Saratoga County Sheriff's Department, South Glens Falls Police Department, South Glens Falls Fire Company, Moreau Emergency Squad, Moreau Town Highway Department, South Glens Falls School Transportation Department, Saratoga Springs School Transportation Department, Adirondack Two-Way Radio, Brinks, The Safety Warehouse, D.A. Collins Construction Company, Casella Waste, The Great Escape, First Baptist Church, Kingpin's Alley, Mr. Bills, and the United Methodist Church.

### **Advisors/ Coordinators**

Dan Albert  
Tom Myott  
Jody Sheldon