

## Office of the Superintendent Phil Jankowski

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December 2, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Overnight, we were made aware of some rumors regarding possible school threats. After investigation by law enforcement, they were deemed to be fake and created with the intent to prey on the heightened fears of parents and students in hopes of prompting school closures.

- The first incident involved two students who were attempting to falsely show a third student as making threats against schools. This incident was reported to administration and was investigated by the authorities. This included visits to the homes of the students as an added precaution.
- The second incident involves some cryptic Snapchat posts that originated in another district and
  are being shared across social media. These posts do not contain threats, but imply that the
  events at Oxford High School were meant to be part of some larger plot against several schools.

In each case, the posts are modified by students to reflect a different district. There is no evidence that the events at Oxford High School are connected and authorities have deemed them not credible.

It is important to share with your student that things that are posted on social media can be easily tracked back to its creator. Posts implicating students in false threats are not jokes and are subject to legal repercussions. They not only consume valuable law enforcement resources but add needless anxiety in what are already trying times. Passing along rumors and innuendo about threats on social media only stokes fear and disrupts the learning process for everyone. If a student sees something they believe to be a threat, the best course of action is to report it, not to pass it along on social media without letting someone know.

As indicated in a previous communication, we have already planned to have additional police presence in our district and buildings. We continue to investigate all potential threats or issues. We commend our law enforcement partners for all their efforts to keep our students safe.

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Phil Jankowski

<u>Vision Statement</u> Educational Excellence Together

<u>Mission Statement</u>
Empowering all students to succeed in an ever-changing world.