



December 16, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Today, all school districts in the state of NJ received a message from the NJ State Police Regional Operations and Intelligence Center (NJ ROIC) and New Jersey Department of Education Office of Emergency Preparedness. Specifically, the information spoke to a national social media post that indicated that a school shooting could take place on December 17, 2021. To be clear, neither Delran nor any other district nationally was identified in the national social media posting.

At this time, the NJ ROIC is unaware of any specific, credible threats concerning this video relating to NJ schools. A similar threat has been noted on SnapChat. It can be expected these posts may migrate to other social media platforms or surface in messaging between students.

According to the NJ ROIC,

“it is worth recognizing that studies and statistics relating to past targeted attacks have revealed that there is a corresponding increase in threats or actual attacks in an ensuing three-week period (copycat incidents). Messages such as this current one, circulating in numerous states, typically cause confusion and heightened anxiety among some members of the school community. While such generalized messages are often intended only to achieve this goal, we should not discount the possibility they may motivate students who are contemplating an act of school violence to attempt to carry out their plan.”

Accordingly, tomorrow all schools will have two armed security personnel assigned for interior and exterior surveillance. Likewise, there will be an exterior surveillance presence from Delran Police Department.

As parents if you believe it is appropriate, you can share the measures that are being taken to mitigate threats with your child. Additionally, if your child is a user of any social media internet site it would be helpful to reinforce the concepts of digital citizenship, inclusive of thinking twice prior to sharing of any information that may not be true.

In closing, I'll reinforce the manner in which we approach safety and security in all of our schools. By employing an armed security detail; having an established partnership with the Delran Police Department; constructing defined security vestibules and maintaining video surveillance systems; a dedicated security manager and additional lead administrator in all matters of security and repetitive practice regarding specific drills, the District pursues security with great seriousness and extraordinary care for all those we welcome every day.

I am available to discuss this matter further at your convenience.

Sincerely,
Brian Brotschul, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools