



Michael J. D'Ostilio
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Bunker Hill Middle School

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"Carrying on a Proud Tradition of Learning"

Dr. Gregory B. Muscelli
Assistant Principal

March 13, 2018

Dear Bunker Hill Families:

At approximately 11:30am today (March 13, 2018) several students made the administrative team of Bunker Hill aware of an interaction in which two students were discussing the recent Florida shootings. The students in question engaged in a dialogue that was concerning to others regarding what others felt emerged as a possible threat to the school.

Upon receiving this information and gathering witness statements, we brought the two students who had allegedly made the provocative statements to the office where counseling and administrative personnel interviewed them. The students were very cooperative, forthright, and remorseful regarding the conversation.

We then engaged in a threat assessment protocol in which we conducted an initial threat assessment with each student and simultaneously contacted the local police and the students' families. The initial threat assessment concluded the statements indicated a transient threat. This means that based on the nature and investigation of the incident, no one in the building was at risk and it was not intended to do harm. The rest of the student body as well as staff were able to conduct their normal school day and board the busses in regular fashion. The incident concluded with police meeting with the students and parents, interviewing them, and the students being released to their parents. School discipline was enacted as well.

At Bunker Hill we continue to prioritize the safety of our children and staff and take these instances very seriously. As a result of this incident and a previous one that you were also notified about, I believe it is prudent for Dr. Muscelli and I to inform the students of the ramifications of this type of rhetoric in schools. We will inform the students of this and the expectations. Please know that making these statements about causing violence in schools, mandates that a student must be removed from the classroom to conduct a threat assessment. We also must notify the police as well as the parents. Additionally, depending on the severity of the statements, it could cause discipline not only from the school but charges from the police department as well. This is very serious and something we all need to understand.

Again, I want to ensure you that your children continue to be safe at Bunker Hill and this matter was handled swiftly and with the cooperation of law enforcement, Washington township security, and the administrative and counseling staff at Washington Township School District.

Sincerely,

Mike D'Ostilio