802 North Main Street, Russell, Kansas 67665 · P: (785) 483-2173 · F: (785) 483-2175 · www.usd407.org

Dear Families,

We received information from the Russell Police Department that Bickerdyke may experience a swatting incident today (May 1, 2023). KBI and the FBI are aware of this and have passed this information along.

What is swatting? Swatting is the action or practice of making a prank call to emergency services in an attempt to bring about the dispatch of a large number of armed police officers to a particular address.

I have reached out to the Russell Police Department and have requested their presence today. We will be monitoring the situation and will provide updates if necessary.

Mr. Dempewolf met with the Bickerdyke staff this morning to provide details and to create a plan for the day. I have also informed the other building leaders so that the district is prepared and ready to respond if something were to happen.

We hope that this incident does not occur but will be ready if it does. If this does occur, please do not flood the phone lines or come to the building. This is detrimental to the work of the first responders and school staff. Please wait for updates via Thrillshare. We will communicate throughout the process.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Mr. Perez Superintendent