



SUPERINTENDENT
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February 21, 2022

Dear Ridgefield Families,

Our number one priority is student and staff safety, which is why I am writing to you this afternoon with an important update. Earlier today, an email was sent to four other district office staff members and me. The email contained threats of harm planned for Tuesday, February 22nd, at a random Ridgefield school. Upon receiving this email, the District reached out to the Ridgefield Police Department.

Ridgefield Police Department (RPD) quickly went to work, connecting with the Clark County Sheriff's Office Major Crimes Unit and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Much has been learned over the last several hours that has helped shape our response. The same email was sent to five other school districts across the country. Nine additional emails were sent this afternoon from the same email account. The school districts receiving these emails are as far away as New York and Georgia. Each email is identical, other than changing the school district name. And in each case the email is sent to between two and five staff members. These staff members are the first to be listed on each district's website. At this time, both the FBI and local law enforcement believe this email to be a nationwide threat. While Ridgefield received one of these emails, local law enforcement does not believe the threat to be specific to Ridgefield.

While we currently don't believe the threat to be specific and credible, we are bringing in additional security tomorrow out of an abundance of caution. We will have a security officer at each school site. Additionally, our Clark County Sheriff's Office and RPD partners will remain close, alert, and ready to respond. Don't be surprised if you see a patrol car stationed at our schools or rolling through our parking lots. They are there as a precautionary measure.

As I shared earlier, the safety of staff and students is our number one priority. We would not be running schools if we didn't feel comfortable doing so. While both of my boys will be in school tomorrow, I know that a lot of information has just been shared and that each of you will need to take some time to process and decide what is best for you and your family. Should you wish to keep your child(ren) home tomorrow, please follow up with our attendance secretaries so they can enter the absence in our system.

Allow me to close by extending my sincere appreciation to Lieutenant Doriot, Officer King, and the entire RPD and Clark County Sheriff's Office team. We are thankful to have such dedicated law enforcement partners.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathan McCann
Superintendent