

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2021-2022 School Year
www.livoniapublicschools.org

December 2, 2021

IMPORTANT Update regarding Friday, Dec. 3

Good Afternoon LPS Staff and Families,

As we continue to navigate a challenging week in the wake of the tragedy at Oxford High School, we are cognizant of the heightened emotions among our students, parents and staff. Toward that end, I'd like to update you on our response to any reports of concern shared with our schools, district or law enforcement over the past 48 hours *as well as our plans to cancel school for secondary and post-secondary students tomorrow* (K-6 was already not in session due to a teacher workday; this cancelation will also include our preschool and childcare programs at Jackson Early Childhood Center).

This afternoon, I met with Chief Thomas Goralski of the Livonia PD, Mayor Brosnan and members of both of our leadership teams to discuss the ongoing partnership and effort between our entities to ensure safe and secure environments at our schools. The police have and will continue to investigate any threat reported. The investigations include home visits with uniformed officers, in order to determine the credibility of reports. *Please let me reiterate that the police department has confirmed that no credible threats have been made regarding Livonia Public Schools.* We would like to commend our school administrators, school resource officers and security personnel, as well as the LPD, for their collective efforts to follow up on any and all reports of concern.

Today, several schools experienced significant disruptions caused by rumors and threats that were circulating on social media. In turn, many of our parents picked up their student(s) from school mid-day. Additionally, a number of students expressed levels of concern about their well-being based on the events of this week as well as what they were seeing on social media. This makes providing a conducive learning environment challenging for our staff and students.

We do want to clarify and assure that there were no lockdowns, evacuations or early releases at any of our schools today. Parents would have been notified if any school were to go into a lockdown situation during the school day. Please know that if there was a credible threat or report of concern that was confirmed, we would act on that immediately and notify our school community.

We have not experienced such a school tragedy so close to home - reactions vary and it is understandable that it is difficult to move forward with a normal school day

under these circumstances. Taking a day (tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 3) for our students, staff and families to continue to process the events, and for us to respond to any additional reports of concern out of an abundance of caution, will allow us to bring the level of unease down a bit, so we may return to our normal routines in our schools next week. We care greatly about our entire school community and appreciate your continued partnership very much.

With my best to you,
Andrea Oquist