



# Breckinridge County Sheriff's Office

## TODD PATE

### Sheriff



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Dear Breckinridge County Community,

I would like to inform the citizens and students of Breckinridge County about recent threats and events that have occurred in our schools. This message is being disseminated with the support of all local law enforcement agencies in this county and the Breckinridge County School District. Since Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, law enforcement has investigated 3 incidents involving threats to our schools and students. Of these 3 incidents, 1 of them was unfounded, and 2 of the investigations resulted in multiple criminal charges, ranging from misdemeanor to more serious felony offenses that could include substantial jail time. We want every citizen and student to know that we will aggressively investigate every threat we receive until we find out who's behind it. If your child jokes about a threat, we will not think it is "funny." We all know that we do not yell "Bomb" in an airport and that we do not scream "Fire" in a movie theater. In our schools, we as adults and children should NEVER post, share, blog, or say anything that threatens or menaces our children or school staff in any way in person or on the Internet. If anyone is found to be behind any of these false threats, not only will they face disciplinary action from the school, but they will face criminal action by law enforcement and prosecuted to the fullest extent allowed by law.

The safety and security of our kids is the number one priority of every officer in this county. As a parent having three children enrolled in the Breckinridge County School District, I take these threats seriously on both a professional and personal level. Law enforcement will go above and beyond when it comes to investigating complaints of threats to our students and staff. We encourage all parents to talk to their children about these threats and the consequences that

go along with making them. Most importantly, this call is not intended to deter **ANYONE** from reporting any potentially threatening or harmful situation. We encourage you to emphasize to your children that if they see or hear something, to report it immediately to law enforcement or school personnel. When law enforcement, our school district, and our community work together, everyone is safer. Thank you, and God bless.

Sincerely,

Todd Pate



Todd Pate  
Breckinridge County Sheriff