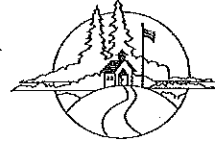


# VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J

www.vernonia.k12.or.us



May 5, 2016

Dear Parents,

I am writing this letter to inform you of a potentially credible threat of violence that has been made against the patrons of Vernonia Schools. The person making the threat has been identified, police have been notified and are investigating, and we as a district continue to address the situation internally.

The threat of harm listed Friday, May 6 as the date of the potential incident.

The District takes the safety and security of our students, staff and schools very seriously. Student safety is our most important responsibility.

While we are confident this threat will not materialize, we will be holding school under "LOCK OUT" on Friday, May 6. In a "LOCK OUT" situation school will be conducted as normal in classrooms, but all doors will be locked with no outside patrons entering the school and no students being allowed to leave the building.

We are also working with local authorities to ensure we have their presence in the school throughout the day.

Please understand that during this "LOCK OUT" parents will not have normal access to their students. Dropping off forgotten lunches, athletic equipment or other "routine" needs will not be possible on this day. If there is need for your student to arrive late, or leave school early due to a prior appointment, this MUST be arranged through the school office by phone, and students will then be escorted into or out of the building by a school staff member.

A copy of this letter was given to each student in the building, was posted on the District's web page and Facebook page, and an All-District Blackboard Connect call will be made to parents notifying them of the situation at 4:30pm today. Counselors will be on site and available to talk with students on this day.

Again, we are addressing this very serious situation in conjunction with local authorities, and are taking these precautionary measures to ensure the safety of our students, staff and schools.

Sincerely,

Aaron Miller  
Superintendent

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