



MORRISVILLE-EATON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 1, 2018

Gregory Molloy
Superintendent

Robert Avery
*Assistant Superintendent for
Finance & Support Services*

Debra Dushko
Elementary School Principal

Benjamin New
*Middle/High School
Principal*

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The recent tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida has ripple effects that have carried across the United States. Students, staff, parents, and community members of the Morrisville-Eaton Central School District have a top priority of ensuring our students' safety and well-being.

The administration team at MECS follows a thorough review process when threatening remarks are made. However, even when fleeting remarks are made, we, along with members of law enforcement, conduct a thorough review to examine the level of concern.

The team conducting the threat assessment determines a threat level. We categorize threats as transient, serious, or very serious. Regardless of the level of threat, there are stiff consequences imposed by the school district. If a threat is determined to be serious, or very serious, you can expect communication from the District Office as soon as enough information can be gathered and a letter or phone message can be prepared.

Because of a heightened level of sensitivity to school violence, I'd like to convey that yesterday we experienced a situation where a student made a concerning comment. The student was addressed immediately, a threat assessment was conducted, it was determined to be a transient (non-genuine expression) threat, and a stiff consequence was administered.

It is important to have conversations with your children about the impact and anxiety that can be generated from impulsive remarks. Since it is an inherently subjective process to determine the level of seriousness regarding where the threat level falls along the spectrum of transient to very serious, we urge you and your students to say something to a teacher or administrator if you hear or see something.

Sincerely,

Gregory Molloy
Superintendent

Board of Education

Nichole Doroshenko, *President* • Jacalyn Groves, *Vice President* • Murry Ames • Steven Broedel • Brian Koehl • Jodi Shantal, *District Clerk*