



THE EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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January 11, 2024

5:30 PM

Dear Ewing Learning Community Member,

I hope this message finds you well. I am reaching out to address the recent rumors circulating on social media regarding a potential threat at Ewing High School, understanding the concerns and fears that arise in such situations. Our utmost priority is, and always will be, the safety of our students and staff members.

Given that the incident is an active police investigation involving minors, we are restricted in the details we can share. However, I want to provide you with the information that is available to us. Earlier today, the school administration received reports of a social media image depicting a student with a weapon. In response, Ewing High School promptly activated our security protocols, leading to a lockdown. The Ewing Police Department took charge of the situation, working diligently to investigate the report and locate the individuals involved. Three juveniles have been taken into custody pending further investigation.

This evening, the Ewing Police Department informed me that they recovered two Gel Blaster/Orbeez toy pistols, which replicate actual handguns, during their investigation. I commend the swift and effective response from our administration, staff, and the Ewing Police Department in handling this challenging situation.

As a parent of two school-age children, I understand the anxiety that comes with learning your child's school is in lockdown. I am proud of the Ewing Schools District's response today, with both our staff and students maintaining composure while local law enforcement took necessary actions. I extend my gratitude to our first responders for their dedicated efforts and overall support of our School District.

Your ongoing support and patience are greatly appreciated. We recognize the importance of effective communication and continuously strive to enhance it. We will conduct a thorough review of our response and, where applicable, make improvements to our security protocols.

In light of today's events, counseling support is available through your child's School Counselor's or Principal's office. Tomorrow, the Mercer County Crisis Response Team will be on hand to provide additional mental health support for students and staff as they process the events of today.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Gentile, Superintendent

The Ewing Public Schools

Providing a Foundation for Life



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The Ewing Police Department released the following statement regarding today's incident at Ewing High School:

On January 11, 2024, at 12:00 PM, Ewing Police responded to Ewing High School after a picture began to circulate on social media depicting a male holding a handgun in a bathroom stall. School officials were made aware of the picture and school officials notified the Ewing Police Department. The school was placed into a lockdown status while officers and detectives from the Ewing Police Department investigated the matter. It was quickly determined that no active threat existed. Three juveniles were taken into custody pending further investigation. Two Gel Blaster/Orbeez toy pistols that replicate actual handguns were located during the investigation. The investigation is ongoing and anyone with more information is asked to contact Detective Martir at 609-882-1313 X5682 or email Lmartir@ewingnj.org.