



December 16, 2021

Dear families,

Tomorrow is our final day before Winter Break and we are all looking forward to some relaxing time with family and friends. Before we can do that, I need to update you about a troubling post that has been shared widely this week on the social media platform TikTok. The post refers to a threat to school safety "for every school in the USA, even elementary," on Friday, December 17.

The post appears to be part of a national TikTok trend and did not originate in our school district. We have heard reports from other districts the same post is circulating in their schools. While we do not believe the threat to be credible, we are closely monitoring the situation and take it very seriously. Additionally, the district has been in contact with the Everett and Mill Creek Police Departments regarding the post.

Over the recent weeks, we have all heard stories about safety concerns in both our local schools and schools across the nation. In response, we have been working closely to ensure frequent communication and collaboration with law enforcement. This issue is not unique to Everett Public Schools. As you may have seen in the news, neighboring districts have been experiencing the same issues. They have had reports of safety concerns and threats. In most cases, these posts turn out to be non-credible threats where students did not intend harm. However, in every case, we have a duty to immediately respond and assume a threat could be credible until the investigation is complete.

This TikTok post serves as another good example of why it is important to avoid sharing posts online that refer to school safety threats. Even if they are not credible threats, they can cause a great deal of stress and anxiety for our students, families and staff. We ask our families to monitor their children's social media activity and speak with them about proper behavior online.

If you or your child become aware of any potential threat posted to social media or anywhere else, please notify a school staff member or trusted adult right away or call or text the safety hotline at 855-637-2095.

As always, thank you for your partnership as we work to ensure a safe, secure, and positive learning environment for our students.

Stay safe and be well,

Dr. Ian B. Saltzman  
Superintendent