



WELLS-OGUNQUIT
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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December 20, 2012

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

In my message earlier today, I referenced a potential but unsubstantiated threat to high schools in York and Cumberland counties. I also said I would update you as new information became available. Today at 1:00PM a conference call between state, county, and local law enforcement officials and school superintendents took place. This letter provides the update. I am pasting the information below from the Maine Department of Public Safety so we will all have it.

To summarize, law enforcement agencies have determined there is no credible threat to schools in Maine. On the local level this does not remove or lessen our responsibility for vigilance. Accordingly our procedures for the remainder of this week remain in effect. You can expect to see increased police presence in all our schools and alert status remains.

I do want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their cooperation in this matter. Working collaboratively with our police department and other law enforcement agencies helped resolve questions as rapidly as feasible. Your school administrators have worked quickly, effectively, and tirelessly to put plans in motion to step up security for our children and staff. And finally, thank you to the parents who have said or sent a word of thanks to our teachers, administrators, staff, and law enforcement people for their efforts. You would be amazed at how powerful that one word can be.

Again, I will stress, we are not dropping our guard, rather we are appreciative this alleged threat proved not credible.

Sincerely,
Elaine Tomaszewski
Superintendent

NOTE: We are sending this mid-week Priority Notice as the information below is time-sensitive and cannot wait until the next Commissioner's Update.

No threat to Maine schools

The Maine Department of Public Safety has just issued the following release. While law enforcement has found no credible threat, all agencies involved, including local school districts working with state and local law enforcement and the Maine Department of Education, remain vigilant and committed to the task of school emergency preparedness and take seriously all possible threats.

NEWS RELEASE from the Maine Department of Public Safety

from Spokesman Steve McCausland - 626-3811

FOR MORE INFO - COLONEL WILLIAMS - 624-7200

The Chief of the Maine State Police says his agency has found "no credible threat against any Maine school". Colonel Robert Williams said the Maine Information and Analysis Center, a division of State Police which gathers police intelligence information, worked throughout the night after receiving information Wednesday from the Maine Department of Education that had originated at some southern Maine school systems. Williams said, "State Police has not found any threats directed at Maine on Facebook, or any other social media. We have chased baseless rumors throughout the past 24 hours and found no credible threat directed at any Maine school."

A conference call with Maine law enforcement and school officials just concluded and a news conference is scheduled for 3 pm at the Gorham Police Department on local actions that have taken place responding to these rumors.

Williams stressed that his and other state agencies will continue to work with local law enforcement and education officials to process and evaluate information for the continued safety and security of Maine schools.

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For more information about school safety, please see: <http://www.maine.gov/doe/school-safety/sandyhook.html>.