



WELLS-OGUNQUIT
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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December 20, 2012

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

Given the events and aftermath of this past week's tragedy in Connecticut I am aware this message will add to everyone's anxiety about the safety of our children. However, I felt notification was more important.

Late Wednesday afternoon it was brought to our attention the Gorham Schools received word there is a Facebook message suggesting on Friday, December 21st their high school and possibly other high schools in Cumberland County and York counties will be the target of someone intending to do harm. The origin of the message has not been determined and at this time law enforcement officials have not been able to confirm the authenticity of the message.

Please know I immediately discussed the information with Police Chief Putnam who is also following this with her counterparts in the Gorham Police Department. We will have a stepped up police presence at each of our schools for the remainder of this week and an officer assigned to each school on Friday.

All administrators were briefed and have placed the buildings on alert employing a modified lockdown procedure. Having reviewed and strengthened our safety plans this week I can assure you staff are well versed in what they need to do and accept the responsibility.

Unfortunately, threats like this do happen, and fortunately they are rare. We do treat each one seriously and act accordingly. No matter the plan, the best way to ensure safety is to prevent incidents from taking place. Accordingly, please be alert and watchful regarding e-mail, Facebook postings or conversations. If you have information you think is important to share, contact the Wells or Ogunquit Police Department, the Principal of your child's school, or me (646-8331).

If we learn of additional information regarding this we will update you. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,
Elaine Tomaszewski
Superintendent of Schools