

Families of Dublin City Schools,

Last Thursday, we hosted a Community Conversation focused on safety and wellness with our multi-jurisdictional partners. We shared how our safety plans and coordinated response efforts by the Dublin Police and Washington Township Fire Department are critical in keeping students safe. An incident this weekend reinforced the importance of our exceptional partnerships. Because of the “viral sensation” of the incident and the number of comments we have received, we wanted to take time to share the factual details with our families.

Over the weekend, a threat specifically naming Scioto High School was posted on the social media app Discord. Our Safety and Security team and Dublin Police officers immediately took action. The police interviewed the students involved, and contact was made with their families. Two students were taken into custody and felony charges have been filed. While we are taking extra precautions on our school campuses this week, we have no reason to believe an increased threat to students or school safety remains. We are grateful to the staff and families who utilized the “Stay Safe. Speak Up!” hotline. The district and police received dozens of tips from Dublin students and parents, affirming how *“See Something, Say Something”* helps us to rapidly respond to threats and keep our community safe.

Cooperation between our parents and schools is also essential. We encourage parents to have age-appropriate conversations with their children about proper social media usage, how to reach out for help, and who to contact when a friend appears to be in crisis. Additionally, we encourage parents to discuss the legal consequences of talking about school shootings, weapons at school, and other threatening acts. Please reinforce to your children that all threats are taken seriously, regardless of intent. It does not matter what manner they are communicated in, even if done playfully. We take every report of a threat as credible until we can verify it is not.

We cannot emphasize enough that our partnership with the Dublin Police makes handling incidents such as these more effective and successful. As we shared at the Community Conversation last week, we plan, train and mitigate so we are best prepared when necessary. Working together, we create a safer Dublin community. We are truly better together.

Sincerely,

Dublin City Schools