



# Coatesville Area School District

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3030 C.G. Zinn Rd. Thorndale, PA 19372 | [casdschools.org](http://casdschools.org) | 610-466-2400

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October 18, 2022

Dear CASD Parents, Staff and Community,

I want to provide an update on yesterday's events as well as where we stand with the investigations into the extremely upsetting and frustrating string of threats we have received.

First, to recap yesterday's events:

- After receiving a threat of an explosive accelerant that was to go off in our school at noon, we made the decision to move students out of the school. This was a decision highly encouraged by local law enforcement agencies.
- A fight erupted between six students in our stadium where students had been relocated, but because hundreds of students physically moved as a result of the fight, it was difficult to know how widespread the fight really was at the time. Our teachers followed protocol and multiple 911 calls went out. Not knowing how widespread the problem was, thirty-seven different agencies responded and quickly got matters under control. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries. Two students were arrested. While the entire scene was disturbing, we are grateful that it was not more serious and wanted to ensure the large police response was put into perspective.
- No weapons were found on campus, and no explosive were found on campus. It was deemed there were no credible threats.
- We made a decision to cancel school for students on the campus – grades 8 – 12 – for today to give everyone a moment to take a breath.
- We are extremely grateful to the many law enforcement agencies that responded to yesterday's 911 calls and we are also very grateful to our staff who handled the situation very well and took great care to keep our students safe.

Moving forward with regards to threats, we are currently working with multiple local law enforcement agencies, our own CASD Police, the Chester County District Attorney's Office, and the FBI to track down the source of these threats. We understand that an arrest or arrests may be coming soon. We hope this sends the clear message that these disruptions and intimidation simply will not be tolerated.

Any communication about criminal charges will come from either the District Attorney or from other law enforcement agencies.

We do expect to hold school at the campus tomorrow for grades 8 – 12.

Thank you for your support. Parents, please check your child's phone and social media accounts and speak with them about the seriousness of making false threats.

The vast majority of our students care very deeply about their education and they are very frustrated, as well.

We will continue to communicate and keep you informed.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Dunlap, Jr., Ed. D.  
Interim Superintendent  
Coatesville Area School District

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**Interim Superintendent: Richard F. Dunlap Jr., Ed. D.**