



Coatesville Area School District

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3030 C.G. Zinn Rd. Thorndale, PA 19372 | casdschools.org | 610-466-2400

October 27, 2022

Dear CASH and CAIHS Families,

We want to provide an update to you after this morning's school closure.

We received a school shooting threat on our Safe2Say line just before 7 this morning, indicating an event would occur at 7:10 a.m. After immediately consulting with police and in following our safety protocols, buses were re-routed home and students who were already at school were sent home. We are once again very grateful to our bus drivers for their adaptability and calm demeanor during these situations.

Just after 7 a.m., a second Safe2Say tip came in, indicating a shooting would occur between 7:10 and 7:30. Thankfully, no shooting has occurred. Each of the threats we've received this year has been isolated to the high school campus.

We are extremely frustrated by these continued disruptions and have requested a meeting with the PA Attorney General and the administrators of the statewide anonymous Safe2Say tip line (which is mandated for each school district) to address this troubling situation. Safety must be our priority and we simply cannot 'hope' that these are false threats. Each one must be investigated and taken seriously. At the same time, we are actively seeking outside support as this situation has become intolerable.

As you likely know, Chester County District Attorney Deb Ryan announced the arrest last week of a 17-year-old student who was responsible for a number of recent threats on the Safe2Say line. Anyone found making threats may face criminal charges and will be disciplined in accordance with our student code of conduct. Terroristic threats could lead to expulsion. We are grateful to her office and County Detectives for securing this arrest.

A few important notes:

- We are extending the first marking period by three days, to Thursday, November 3, due to these disruptions.
- All activities for today have been rescheduled or relocated. Coaches and sponsors for activities will send information to students/parents. There is also more information here: <https://www.smores.com/0t428g>
- School is scheduled to open on time tomorrow with additional police presence in place. We are very grateful to the support of Caln Township Police as well as our Coatesville Area School District Police.

Again, we share in your extreme frustration about this situation. Unfortunately, schools nationwide have seen an increase in threats and even locally, many schools have faced closures as a result of threats. We will continue to work diligently to address this.

Sincerely,

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

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