



April 26, 2022

Dear Columbia Central Jr. - Sr. High School Parents and Guardians,

Today the Columbia Township Police called in an explosive detection dog to do a sweep of the school. It was determined there was no presence of any explosives in or around the school building. The Columbia Central Jr. – Sr. High School was deemed safe.

In light of recent events involving bomb threats at Columbia Central Jr. - Sr. High School, the Columbia School District administration wants to make it perfectly clear as to the **penalties for threats** of school violence. **All threats** to our school, staff and students are taken very seriously and investigated thoroughly. The repeated **threats to school safety is affecting the mental well-being** of our students, staff and families.

It is imperative that every parent and caregiver has a discussion with their child tonight to make sure that they have a full understanding of the repercussions of threats of school violence.

- **Students** who are involved in **threats of school violence will be subject to strict discipline up to and including expulsion.**
- “Threats of school violence” include **written or verbal statements, discussions, jokes or online searches.** Threats include even **saying the word, “bomb.”**
- All situations are referred to and are handled by **law enforcement.**
- All threats are taken seriously, are investigated and forwarded to the **County Prosecutor’s office,** where charges will be filed and may be prosecuted. **Charges for a bomb threat will be sought up to and including a four year felony charge.**
- **Students responsible for threats may have to reimburse the state, county or township for the extra assistance during bomb threats by a court order.**

School safety is everyone’s responsibility and is our number one priority. The district will continue to work with law enforcement officials to ensure that **all Columbia students are able to attend classes while in a safe learning environment, but we can’t do it without you.**

If you have any additional questions about how to address this issue with your child or have a child who has a mental health concern, please feel free to contact me at 517-592-6641.

Sincerely,

Pamela Campbell

Superintendent

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Columbia Central Jr. High School (517) 769-8652

Columbia Elementary School (517) 592-6632

Columbia Upper Elementary School (517) 592-2181

Columbia Community Education (517) 529-9400

Operations/Transportation (517) 592-6449