

## Regional School District No. 7 Superintendent's Newsletter

December 16, 2021

Judith A. Palmer, Ed.D

Dear Northwestern Staff, Students, and Families:

As I stated in the last newsletter, school security is a topic we take very seriously.

Yesterday, law enforcement agencies were made aware of a national Tik Tok social media trend where non-specific threats may be made to schools across the country on Friday, December 17th. The troubling posts started on Tik Tok and have been circulating for several days. **NWR7 administrators met with law enforcement this morning and learned that these are non-credible, national threats. There is no direct threat to our schools.**

Though these posts are not considered credible, we are carefully monitoring the situation along with the [Connecticut State Police](#). Our school district works closely with the Winchester Police Department and Connecticut State Police. They regularly patrol our campus and we can expect more building visits.

Even with all of our safety protocols in place, sometimes the best information comes from students and/or family members who recognize an issue that raises concern. During school hours, please bring your concerns to Officer Wood or any member of our administrative team. After school hours, please report any concerning threats or important information directly to law enforcement.

Our school administrators and local law enforcement use a very specific threat assessment protocol to determine if the report is a valid threat. The results of that assessment determine the course of action for school administrators and law enforcement.

If the results reveal a valid threat, you will receive a School Messenger notification from me or a member of our administrative team. Please do not rely on social media for information regarding school security.

Other reports, such as inciting a rumor or making a deliberate false claim, will be significantly addressed through RSD7 discipline policies and referred to the police for a thorough investigation. **A person making a threat, re-posting a threat, or making a false claim of a threat against our schools will be arrested and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. No exceptions.**

If you would like more information regarding our emergency preparedness and related issues, please reach out to our School Resource Officer, Dave Wood, [dwood@nwr7.org](mailto:dwood@nwr7.org) or 860-379-8525 ext. 2508.

During school hours, you may reach the NWR7 administrative team in this way:

Gary Franklin, High School Principal, gfranklin@nwr7.org or 860-379-8525 ext. 2103

Andy Bakulski, House I Assistant Principal, abakulski@nwr7.org or 860-379-8525 ext. 2200

Dan Carroll, House II Assistant Principal, dcarroll@nwr7.org or 860-379-8525 ext. 2250

Steve Carvalho, Special Education Supervisor, scarvalho@nwr7.org or 860-379-8525 ext. 2505

Fran Amara, Middle School Principal, famara@nwr7.org or 860-379-7243 ext. 2315

Judy Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, jpalmer@nwr7.org or 860-379-8525 ext. 2401

Again, we take school security very seriously. Please join me in keeping good thoughts about our safety.

We are fortunate to have a strong school community. While remaining vigilant, we will continue to enjoy our positive school environment. Our schools are warm and welcoming, which is largely due to the caring relationships between staff, students, and families.

In this season of giving, it is a perfect time to share kindness and good will. Do what you can to help those in need and stay grateful for your blessings.

Thank you for your continued support of NWR7.



*The Pride of the Northwest Corner*