

Dear TCSD #1 Families,

Student and campus safety is our highest priority. We take all possible precautions to ensure that our campuses are safe and secure learning environments. We all know, however, that unfortunate and unplanned events can occur. In the event of an emergency, we are prepared to provide our students, staff, parents, and school community timely, accurate, and honest information.

Information flows very quickly in today's world. While we wish we could communicate instantly, it is essential that we provide accurate as well as timely information. In an emergency, it will take a little time to gather and verify information before we are able to communicate with families, the media, and the community. We have seen examples where one inaccurate email, text message, or social media post can spark rumors, create unnecessary panic, or make an emergency much worse. We commit to providing accurate information as quickly as possible and will provide updates on regularly scheduled intervals.

In the event of an emergency, please refer directly to TCSD platforms for official information from us. We will deliver messages through the following communication platforms:

TCSD Website

The district's webpage (www.tcsd.org) has an "Emergency Alert" ticker tape that will scroll across the top of the home page with important information. News releases, directions for parents, and other important information will be updated regularly.

Email, Voicemail and Text Messages

TCSD uses the *School Messenger* notification system to communicate with all parents/guardians and staff. To receive the email and voice messages **please ensure you have provided your child(ren)'s school with updated email address(es) and phone number(s)**. To receive text messages you must ensure we have a current telephone number that receives SMS text messages. Additionally, you must opt in to receive the text messages by **texting the word YES to 67587**.

Social Media

TCSD uses both Facebook and Twitter to provide district updates. You can find us on Facebook and Twitter: @Teton Schools

Media

We will work closely with all local, regional, and national media outlets to keep our entire community informed of the situation.

In an emergency we will work closely with emergency responders to provide for student and district employee safety. We need your help, too. We understand that in an emergency situation your natural response will be to get to your child. While this is an understandable reaction, please know that we are taking every action possible to ensure the safety and well-being of the nearly 3,000 students and several hundred TCSD employees on our school campuses. Please refrain from contacting the school's or the district's main telephone line or

coming to your child's school, unless directed to do so through the communications platforms outlined above. We will notify parents of reunification plans as quickly as possible. Coming to the school or flooding the telephone lines will negatively impact our ability to respond to the crisis.

We also ask for your help by sharing only official information provided by TCSD or other responding agencies. The sharing of unofficial information, rumors, and inaccurate information is not only a distraction from the emergency response, it could make the crisis worse.

Thank you for trusting us to carry out these important efforts, knowing that we will share what we know, as soon as we know, and will reunite you with your child as quickly as possible.

Dr. Gillian Chapman
Superintendent of Schools