



Marshall Public Schools

100 E. Green Street
Marshall, Michigan 49068

Update on MHS & Walters Lockdown 2/3/23

In the midst of student and staff arrivals this morning, possible gunshots were heard near Marshall High School located on the same campus as Walters Elementary. In collaboration with the Marshall Police Department (MPD), both buildings were placed on lockdown. All students who were not already inside the building were directed to return to their vehicle and buses were diverted to a secure location.

MPD along with the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department and the Michigan State Police conducted extensive searches of the exterior and interior of each building. During these searches approximately 240 students that were on campus were instructed to remain in classrooms, in their vehicle, or on a bus. Once the locations had been searched, K-9 units searched individuals who were on campus when possible gunshots were heard.

These comprehensive searches were conducted until approximately 10:08a. The lockdown caused a disruption of instructional time for both Walters and MHS. It was determined that this significant disruption should result in the closure of these two buildings. As soon as possible, a message was sent via ParentSquare to the district communicating the "All Clear". Students and staff were assembled in the auditorium to debrief regarding the events that had taken place. Counselors were on hand to assist students or staff and a coordinated effort to release students began. Students were released to approved guardians, district transportation, or personal vehicles.

The district sent out communication when MHS went into lockdown and when the campuses were cleared by law enforcement. During this three-hour lockdown process, building and district staff were following safety protocols, assisting law enforcement, and monitoring students. Communication was limited while we were ensuring student safety and conducting searches.

MPS is thankful for the speedy response of law enforcement personnel as well as the dozens of staff members that assisted today. While emergency plans were being implemented, district employees worked to maintain order which allowed law enforcement to conduct their searches. Staff throughout the district were aware of the incidents occurring at these two buildings and assisted their students accordingly.

While these protocols can lead to disruption and inconvenience, they ensure the safety of our students and staff. We are extremely thankful for every member of our MPS family who worked together to make sure all students arrived home safely.