



OKEMOS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



SAFETY AND SECURITY

Superintendent John Hood hosted a public forum regarding the physical security of our schools, violence prevention, behavioral threat assessment process, and our policies and procedures related to safety and security in our district.

For those who were not able to attend the forum, we wanted to share the materials with all of our families.

[View the Safety and Security Public Forum Presentation](#)

[Okemos Director of Safety and Security Webpage](#)



REPORTING CONCERNS



Call 911 for emergencies or life threatening situations

We remind students and families that there is a confidential method of reporting concerns through OK2SAY by calling 855-565-2729 or by texting 652729 (OK2SAY)

During the school day, contact the Principal, other Building Leaders, or Director of Safety and Security

Concerns after hours, weekends, and holidays should be reported directly to local law enforcement. Contact Meridian Township Police Department at 517-853-4800.

Managing School Threats Effectively

ADVICE FOR PARENTS



Trust Official Channels

Encourage parents to rely on communication from the school and law enforcement regarding threats. Explain that spreading unverified information can create confusion and make it harder for schools to manage the situation effectively



The Impact on Investigations

Let parents know that when rumors spread online, it can complicate investigations, waste valuable resources, and slow down the response process. False or exaggerated claims can mislead law enforcement, distracting them from addressing genuine threats.



Creating Panic and Fear

Sharing unverified information can cause unnecessary panic among parents, students, and the community. This panic can escalate situations, making it harder to maintain calm and order during threat assessments.



Protecting Student Privacy

Remind parents that discussing rumors about specific students or threats online can violate privacy and harm the well-being of those students and their families. Public speculation can stigmatize students and lead to harmful, long-term effects, even if the rumors are unfounded.

Managing School Threats Effectively

TALKING POINTS FOR PARENTS



Role of Law Enforcement and Schools

Schools and law enforcement have trained professionals who follow strict protocols to assess and handle threats. Sharing unconfirmed information can interfere with these protocols and slow response efforts.



Misinformation and Escalation

Circulating unverified information can amplify misinformation, potentially causing overreaction or unnecessary emergency responses. This diverts critical resources away from actual emergencies.



What Parents Should Do

Report any concerning information directly to the school or law enforcement instead of posting it online. Talk to children about the importance of not spreading rumors and reporting threats responsibly.

Empowering Protection.

www.secprotects.com

Jason Russell, President and Founder

Jason.Russell@secprotects.com