



GONZALES INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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gonzalesisd.net

Subject: Student Safety, Threats, and Accountability

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety and well-being of our students and staff are the highest priorities of Gonzales Independent School District. We believe it is important for our families to understand how seriously we take any threat that could compromise the safety of our schools, students, or employees.

Any reported threat involving violence, weapons, physical harm, or other dangerous behavior will be taken seriously and evaluated promptly. Whether a threat is made in person, through text messages, on social media, or through another form of communication, the district has a responsibility to investigate the information and determine the appropriate response. **A threat does not have to be carried out to be taken seriously or to result in consequences.**

When a potential threat is reported, the district may take the following actions, depending on the circumstances:

- **Threat Assessment and Investigation:** School administrators and appropriate district personnel will evaluate the report, gather available information, and determine the seriousness of the concern.
- **Law Enforcement Involvement:** Local law enforcement may be contacted to investigate the threat, assess potential danger, and determine whether criminal laws may have been violated.
- **Additional Security Measures:** The district may increase security monitoring, restrict access to certain areas, or implement other protective measures to safeguard students and staff.
- **Emergency Response Procedures:** Depending on the level of concern, a campus may initiate a secure, lockdown, evacuation, or other emergency procedure.
- **Student Disciplinary Consequences:** Students who make threats, communicate threatening messages, encourage violence, or engage in behavior that jeopardizes school safety may face disciplinary consequences. Depending on the severity and circumstances, consequences may include disciplinary action under the Student Code of

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Conduct, suspension, removal to a disciplinary alternative education program, or expulsion when authorized by district policy and applicable law.

- **Potential Legal Consequences:** Certain threats or related conduct may violate state or federal law. Depending on the circumstances, students may be referred to law enforcement and could face legal consequences under applicable law. A student & age and the specific facts of the incident may affect how the matter is handled.
- **Parent or Guardian Notification:** Parents or guardians will be contacted as appropriate regarding their child & involvement in a safety-related incident, subject to applicable privacy requirements and the needs of an ongoing investigation.

We want to emphasize that describing a threat as a joke, claiming it was not meant seriously, or sharing it through social media does not automatically eliminate the need for an investigation. School officials must evaluate the circumstances and take appropriate steps to protect the school community.

We encourage parents to have conversations with their children about responsible decision-making, respectful communication, and the seriousness of threatening behavior. Students should understand that threats involving violence or harm are not acceptable and that their words and actions can have significant consequences.

School safety is a shared responsibility. If your child hears a threat, sees a concerning message, or becomes aware of information that could put students or staff at risk, please encourage them to report it immediately to a trusted school employee or campus administrator. Parents are also encouraged to contact the school when they have concerns. If there is an immediate danger, call 911.

Gonzales ISD is committed to providing a safe and secure learning environment for every student and employee. Although we cannot share every detail of our security procedures, we want our families to know that reports of potential threats are evaluated seriously and appropriate action is taken based on the information available.

We appreciate your continued partnership and support in helping keep our schools safe. By working together, we can reinforce the importance of personal responsibility, accountability, and the safety of everyone in our school community.

Sincerely,

Gonzales Independent School District Administration

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