

# Sadie Halstead Middle School

## **We Believe & You Belong**

Wednesday, October 28th, 2026

SHMS Families,

Please read this letter with your child as an important reminder that safety is the most important expectation for our school community. While the vast majority of concerning comments made from students to other students are joking in nature, whenever a student makes a comment which can be perceived as violent, it causes concern for safety and we strictly follow necessary protocols. That being said, this week, our School Resource Officer with Newport Police Department (Chris Bell), Dean of Students (Kim Marsh) and I (Principal, Tony Moser) reviewed the following procedures with all students multiple times in breakfast and in each classroom. These procedures were also covered with students multiple times at the beginning of the year, several times last year, and communicated in letters to families, included in Friday Flyers, and posted on our website.

### **Threatening Language**

Parents, please discuss this with your son or daughter as we do not, and will not, tolerate threatening language. **It is important to know that even on an occasion a student claims that a threat was a joke it is treated as a serious threat and will result in the following actions taking place.**

Threat toward a student(s) and or school(s) - School Discipline: Any incident involving a serious and violent threat toward any student(s) and or school(s) will result in an immediate emergency removal from school, followed by a report to law enforcement for prosecution, and referral for threat assessment team processing. Upon completion of the investigation, the emergency removal/expulsion will result in a determined length of suspension. In addition, dependent upon possible prosecution, educational placement and safety plans will be implemented following guidance from any possible court rulings.

Student-to-student(s) threats - Parent communication: If a student threatens to physically harm another student or uses language suggesting they want to use a weapon to harm that student whether on or off campus, the school district will communicate only to the parents or guardians of the student(s) receiving the threat, and parent or guardian of the student making the threat. Communication to all parents within a school or the district will only take place if the investigation determined that the threat involved an unspecified group of students or staff or in the instance it is discovered that this specific threat was to be carried out in the school putting other students at risk.

Threats toward a school or large groups of students - Parent communication: If at any time we face a possible viable threat to a school or students within a school, our school district will first and foremost respond to that threat by implementing the standard response protocol to keep our students safe. Once the lockdown has been put into place we will proceed to inform parents. The communication will provide information regarding the nature of the incident as well as possible changes to student schedules and or student transitions to or from school. In a case such as this the school district will continue to provide updates to parents with regard to student safety.

**Including each of the steps above, students who discuss violence toward other students, idealize violence, or retaliate against students who report safety concerns may experience further changes in their routines which may include but are not limited to: searches of personal belongings, a modified location for eating meals, limited social interactions and time with other students, and loss of unstructured time.**

Each student's safety is of utmost importance to our families and our entire school community. Please contact me with any questions, thoughts, or concerns.

Thank you,

Tony Moser, Principal

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