



CARTER COUNTY SCHOOLS

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September 12, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Given the recent unfortunate events that have occurred, I know that you are concerned when you send your child/children to school each morning. We live in a society with a 24-7 news cycle and social media outlets that allow users to instantly share misinformation that can sometimes exacerbate stories regarding our schools.

The most important function of Carter County Schools is to provide the safest learning environment possible for all of our students and staff members. We are continually taking steps to increase the security of all of our schools. Some of the safeguards and strategies we have in place include the following:

1. Carter County Schools has a police force consisting of 5 officers, with local and state law enforcement partners providing additional assistance.
2. Exterior doors are locked during the school day.
3. All classroom doors are locked during instructional time.
4. All visitors are electronically admitted into schools only after they have been screened and have provided ID and valid reasons to enter the school.
5. We have a trained Threat Assessment Team in every school.
6. School staff are trained in Active Shooter Safety Protocols.
7. Staff and students practice drills on lockdown procedures.
8. Everyone has access to the statewide STOP Tipline. All are encouraged to send a tip if they "See or Hear Something" that affects the safety of our children.

Our approach to eliminating terroristic threats in our school and district is strong and unwavering, and as a result, you must discuss this critically important matter with your student as soon as possible. School and law enforcement officials are determined to put a halt to these willful acts of terrorism. Please do your part to ensure that your child never becomes a party to such an offense by educating him/her on the seriousness of its consequences.

Terroristic Threatening in the Second Degree is defined in state law (KRS 508.078)

(1) A person is guilty of terroristic threatening in the second degree when, other than as provided in KRS 508.075, he or she intentionally:

- b) Makes false statements by any means, including by electronic communication, for the purpose of:
 1. Causing evacuation of a school building, school property, or school-sanctioned activity;
 2. Causing cancellation of school classes or school-sanctioned activity; or
 3. Creating fear of serious bodily harm among students, parents, or school personnel

Such threats to our students and school staff are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. School district officials, in coordination with responding law enforcement agencies, will **pursue immediate legal charges for felony terroristic threatening in the second degree, to the absolute fullest extent of the law, against anyone who makes such threats, including students.**

Together we can prevent this unnecessary, dangerous, and disruptive crime from victimizing our schools. I appreciate your partnership in keeping our schools the safest place for your student(s) to learn and grow.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Green, Ed.D.
Superintendent