



Old Redford Academy Preparatory Schools



Elementary School / 17195 Redford St. / Detroit, MI 48219 / 313.532.7510
Middle School / 22122 W. McNichols / Detroit, MI 48219 / 313.412.2137
High School / 8001 W. Outer Dr. / Detroit, MI 48235 / 313.543.3080
Central Office / 22122 W. McNichols / Detroit, MI 48219 / 313.799.7615
www.oldredford.com

March 23, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In recent days, the Old Redford Academy High School along with many other schools in districts across Southeastern Michigan and across the country have been impacted by a number of unsubstantiated social media threats/hoaxes. I assure you that the safety of our students and staff is our top priority.

Upon learning about the threat at the high school, Old Redford Academy Security immediately contacted the Detroit Police Department to discuss the nature of the threat. It is believed that the threat was not credible, however, extra precautions were taken on Thursday, March 22, 2018 upon students arriving to school by going through metal detectors, by having a lockdown throughout the course of the day, and by using two exit doors during dismissal.

Along with the increased police presence and patrol cars, Old Redford Academy High School had on hand extra security, central office administrators, and parent volunteers to ensure the safety of all our students. In addition, several Skylert messages were sent out throughout the course of the day to keep parents informed. In addition, parent visits to the schools, phone calls, and emails were addressed as efficiently as possible.

We are asking parents to please speak with your children regarding the message that Police Chief James Craig shared during the news conference held on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 2:15 p.m. Also, this is a good time to remind your child how important it is to immediately report any suspicious items and/or suspicious behavior he or she observes to any school employee or local authorities outside of school hours. Law enforcement is taking social media threats seriously and will arrest anyone responsible for making these threats.

Parents, please check your children's phones and monitor their social media activities. According to Chief Craig, their cybercrime unit can find the pranksters even those using the anonymous app, LIPSI. If you or your child receive a threatening message through the LIPSI app (not a screen shot), please contact your building administrator immediately during school hours or your local authorities during non-school hours.

Know that the administration at Old Redford Academy take all threats seriously and place the safety of our children and staff first. We understand the anxiety, fear, and concern that these threats have caused our parents, students, staff, and community. Thank you all for remaining calm and having patience during school visits and phone calls. We also appreciate the support and volunteers who gave up personal time to help serve as needed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school at the number above. All numbers are back working. We apologize for any inconvenience the temporary numbers may have caused at the elementary and high schools.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

Educationally,



Dr. Yolanda Bloodsaw
Superintendent