

## KANE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

November 28, 2022

Dear KASD Families,

**School will resume on Tuesday as scheduled.** The following statement has been provided by Sergeant Adam Kirk, Station Commander, Pennsylvania State Police, Troop C, Lewis Run:

On 11/22/22, the Pennsylvania State Police was notified of a threat made to the Kane Area Middle School. After a thorough investigation, the suspect has been identified. The threat to the school is minimal at this time.

The Pennsylvania State Police urges parents to discuss the use of social media and the severity of making threatening statements. Statements of violence towards schools will be taken seriously and fully investigated and criminal charges will be sought when appropriate.

We understand that some KASD students may experience anxiety from this situation. There are counselors in every building ready to support any student who may need it. If your child is feeling anxious, please encourage him/her to visit their school office and request to meet with a counselor.

Through this experience we are learning many things including how to improve our response and adjust protocol to meet the needs of the district and law enforcement when these events occur. We have also learned that there is a need for the district to respond to the lack of understanding some students have for lawful, appropriate use of electronic devices and social media. We currently provide digital citizenship instruction in several grade levels, but it seems this is not enough. In the coming weeks we will seek support from experts to bring additional educational programs to our students. We will also be planning an evening workshop for parents and guardians to support your understanding.

We are thankful that parents have been diligent in reporting concerns once they become aware. Please report any suspicious activity or threats to safety, in or out of school, to law enforcement immediately. Do not delete any screenshots, messages, or other evidence that can be provided to the police. In addition, students in grades 6-12 have been trained on *Safe2Say*, which is an anonymous reporting system for schools. Visit the website <a href="Home-Safe2Say Something">Home-Safe2Say Something</a> (safe2saypa.org) to learn more about this tool.

Thank you for your continued partnership, understanding, and support for KASD. Please know that your child's safety and the safety of our faculty and staff is our primary concern. Although the vast majority of these types of threats are not credible, we must address each one and can never be too vigilant in our response.

**KASD Superintendent** 

Jeanner Kloss