



Southern Cayuga Central School

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May 13, 2019

Dear Friends & Families,

The Southern Cayuga Central School District is committed to the safety, security and privacy of all of our students and staff. When district staff or administration is informed of a perceived threat, we immediately conduct an investigation in cooperation with law enforcement. We must act quickly while ensuring accuracy to prevent or reduce potential harm.

This morning we received reports concerning the content on a student's social media account. Immediately the administrative team contacted the State Police who began investigating the matter. Our primary goal is to ensure the safety of students and staff on our campus. Our two security guards placed themselves at our two main entrances, along with a state trooper at the high school entrance. During moments of uncertainty, we operate with an abundance of caution and at no point was there an actual threat on our campus.

Unfortunately, the district experienced a region-wide internet and email outage today which began at 7:12 am and lasted until 9:45 am. The system outage prevented notification via email, School Tool, or School Messenger from the district. The outage affected every school district in Central New York. When the internet was restored, our primary communication systems came back online but continued to have problems. The district sent two emails to parents at 10:48 and 11:18 am. If you did not receive those notifications, you should contact the high school or elementary school office.

The tragedies in Florida, North Carolina, and Colorado have heightened fears across the nation. These events are an opportunity for us to review the safety protocols and measures we take at Southern Cayuga to keep our students and staff safe. Those recommendations include technology enhancements, a single point entrance for visitors, and the inclusion of School Security Guards. Even though they are considered part of the solution, experts still deem human relationships and school culture as most important to preventing violence.

We will continue to be vigilant, but we must work together as a community

Patrick Jensen
SCCS Superintendent of Schools