

Lonoke School District Families,

In recent days, our district has faced threats not only to our schools but also to our students. We want to be very clear: threats of any kind toward our students, staff, or schools will not be tolerated. Our priority is the safety and well-being of everyone in the Lonoke School District.

We understand that some of the measures we take may not be immediately visible, so we want to take this opportunity to share the safety protocols and precautions we have in place:

1. Lockdown Protocols

Our school buildings are always locked. When the district issues a school-wide phone alert of a lockdown, this indicates that students are safe inside and will remain indoors. All exterior and interior doors are closed and locked at all times. Staff monitors the hallways during transitions and lunch periods. Additionally, entryways are under video surveillance, and visitors must present identification before entering our schools.

2. Enhanced Security Measures

We have recently added 90 new cameras around the interior and exterior of our buildings, enhancing our monitoring capabilities. Keycard entry systems have been installed in all school buildings, including the new Lonoke Primary School building.

3. Security Personnel

The district currently has a Director of Safety and a School Resource Officer, both of whom are officers from the Lonoke Police Department. These officers regularly walk through hallways and conduct security checks across all schools.

4. Drills and Preparedness

Staff and students participate in regular safety drills throughout the year, including fire, earthquake, lockdown, and tornado drills. These drills are conducted to ensure readiness in case of an emergency.

5. Internal Crisis Notification System

All staff have access to an internal security and crisis notification system, allowing for quick and coordinated responses when necessary.

We also want to emphasize the importance of parental involvement in keeping our schools safe. **Please monitor your children's social media activity closely.** If you hear any information regarding potential threats, contact your school administrator immediately rather than turning to social media. Accurate and timely communication helps us address concerns directly without creating unnecessary panic or confusion.

Additionally, we have K9 units available for searches as needed.

Parents, we need your partnership. **Any threat, no matter how serious, must be reported to school administrators.** Students who fail to report threats or information related to potential harm will face disciplinary actions. We all share a responsibility to maintain a safe school environment.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters and for working with us to ensure the safety of everyone in the Lonoke School District.

Sincerely, Lonoke School District