

Mr. John P. Hart, Ed.S. Assistant Superintendent

September 27, 2024

Dear District 118 Parents,

As you may have heard in the media, there has been a national surge of social media threats being made against schools. Unfortunately, it has made its way to Central Illinois, and District 118 has not been immune to it. When students hear of these reports, it becomes commonplace, and they think nothing of making the same sort of threats against their school, staff or classmates. Parents, this is where I need your help!

Please have a conversation with your student(s) on the seriousness of making threatening comments. Not only does this shake our D118 family and cause unnecessary fear, it also takes the child and staff away from the business of education as it is being investigated. Students making the threats can find themselves expelled from school for up to two years. When making off-handed comments or threats in the heat of a situation, students are not thinking through the consequences of their words. In the current climate, these comments must be taken seriously, and penalties can be severe. Please also encourage your child to report anything they see or hear that could be a safety issue. Our number one job at D118 is to academically educate our students. We also must educate them on proper behavior and this topic has moved toward the forefront of our focus.

At D118 we have a dedicated staff who want to help our students grow into educated, well adjusted, productive adults. This can only happen if families and the district work together. We all want our students to be and feel safe. We also want them to be given every opportunity for success at school and beyond. Please join us in ensuring that our students and staff feel safe. Thank you for your help at home and we promise to continue to stay diligent in keeping your child safe.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alicia Geddis,

Superintendent, Danville District 118