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September, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

**Re: Fair Notice for Dealing with Threatening Behaviour**

The safety of our children is a top priority for all of us. We, as a school system, continue to be involved in intensive safety training with our community partners – the police, Mental Health and other agencies. Together we have developed a plan for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others.

This letter is to inform you that our school division has developed guidelines that require trained staff to complete a “threat assessment” in all cases of students making threats to harm themselves or others. The purpose of the assessment is to determine how best to support high-risk students so that their behaviour does not become hurtful or destructive. If your child comes home to tell you that a student has behaved in a threatening way at school, please be advised that your principal will be taking measures to deal with the situation in a positive and proactive manner. If you are aware of any behaviours which are a serious threat to a student please contact your school’s principal. If your principal invites you to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your own child, please be assured that these guidelines are being followed and that the goal is safety, not punishment.

This letter is intended to serve our students and families with fair notice that we, as a school community, will not accept “no response” to a serious threat. Our goal is to respond to all threats in a professional manner that provides for a healthy and caring learning environment.

We are proud to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and are most fortunate to have our community partners at our side.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynn Little', written in a cursive style.

Lynn Little  
Director of Education  
/dc