

# Ashley Community Schools

Jeff Rohrer, Superintendent

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Dear Ashley Community Schools Parents,

This morning a parent reported that her son heard a second hand rumor about a school threat. The Gratiot County Sheriff's Department and Traci Gavenda, Principal investigated the threat with help from Jan Amsterburg, GIRESD Superintendent. The Sheriff's Department determined there was not a threat.

A student told another student of a threat. The second student told his mother who reported it to the school. When interviewed, the first student denied telling the second student about the threat. The school and the Sheriff's Department interviewed all parties involved. It was determined there was not a threat.

Since last week, schools in Michigan and across the county have been dealing with an increased number of reported threats, most of them unsubstantiated and blown up on social media. However, Ashley Community Schools will continue to investigate any concerns brought to our attention. We have no choice. Parents are encouraged to continue to report any concerns they hear about to the school district, the police or use OK2SAY number 855-565-2729.

Parents can help with the investigations. When making a report it helps to speed up the investigation if we can identify where a concern or a rumor originated. We are finding that rumors on social media have been passed along many times and it is hard to get to the original source of the rumor. Encourage your students not to add to the time delays and confusion by passing along rumors they hear on social media. Tell your children to report what they hear and who said it immediately instead of discussing it on social media. This way we can investigate each situation more efficiently.

Thank you,

Jeff Rohrer  
Superintendent

**Mission Statement:** Ashley Community Schools will provide a quality education with a variety of learning options, developing students with strong character and excellent work ethic, who are prepared for college and life after high school to become contributing members of society.