



November 30, 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

As many of you now know from news reports, a tragic school shooting in Oxford, Michigan left three students dead and at least eight other people injured, including a teacher. Our hearts go out to the families who lost loved ones, to the survivors, those injured in the attack, the families and community, and all those traumatized by this horrific event. We offer our sincere condolences to all students, families, school employees and other community members affected.

We can all agree there have been too many school shootings and acts of violence at our schools. We count on our students to learn, strive and grow and our students count on us to keep them safe. Naturally, many of our families, employees and students may have questions about what measures we are taking at CCS to help protect our staff and students during an active shooter or emergency event like the one that occurred today in Oxford.

Our District's School Resource Officer provides active shooter training for all staff every other year. In this training, our staff learns to recognize, communicate and respond to various threat situations. In addition, our principals are charged with providing ongoing threat awareness and response training throughout the course of the school year. We also rehearse active shooter scenarios (lockdowns) and fire emergency scenarios with all students on a regular basis as required by law. As a district, we have also invested in security measures like cameras and other technologies to keep our students and staff safe.

We also recognize the importance of working together as a community and creating multiple avenues to report perceived or actual threats. This is why we would like to remind our families and parents to speak with their student(s) about the importance of immediately reporting any threats whether they occur on school grounds, after school or on social media. Students should also realize that engaging in threatening behavior or bringing a weapon to school can carry serious consequences including expulsion from school. Finally, it is important our students feel comfortable reporting any potential threats to a trusted adult. Anyone from our community can report tips confidentially 24-7 through [Ok2say](#) and all such tips will be reviewed and investigated.

At this time we do not know what prompted the shooting and it would not be appropriate for us to speculate; however, we do want to provide our families and community members ways to seek help if you are experiencing distress. For families seeking a way to talk with their children about today's events, you may find the [National Association of School Psychologists \(NASP\) website](#) to be a helpful resource. Non-specific safety conversations may be more appropriate for younger children and resources found on the [John Hopkins site for K-2 grade and 3-5 grade](#) may be helpful for parents who would like to have these conversations at home.

If any of you have questions regarding our school safety measures, practices or procedures, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal or our office anytime. Working together, we're hopeful we can all do our part to prevent school violence and make our schools safe havens for learning, growing and achieving.

We also have student support staff, including school counselors, at each school to support students or staff who may be upset, scared or grieving due to this tragic situation.

Sincerely,

CCS Administration