

Dear Families,

I am writing this evening to follow up on a story that ran tonight on WDIV Channel 4 Detroit. The story focused on an individual who resides in Southeast Michigan whose actions raised red flags with law enforcement as potentially planning to carry out an act of mass violence. As part of the story, it was mentioned that this individual had searched "Howell Michigan High School." While this is true, there was never a threat made against Howell High School or Howell Public Schools.

When we were briefed on this matter by our local law enforcement partners, they assured us that no threat had been made against Howell High School or Howell Public Schools. Had our local law enforcement officials felt that our students and staff were in danger, we would have immediately taken appropriate actions. I was reassured by the steps that law enforcement had taken relating to this individual and keeping our community safe. The safety of our students and staff is our top priority and we will never jeopardize that.

When we were made aware of this situation, we discussed possibly issuing a parent communication. However, absent of a threat, there was very little we could share regarding a private citizen and the actions of law enforcement officials. At the time we were made aware of this, the police were confident that we did not need to take any further actions to protect our school community.

I know stories like this can be frightening, however, please remember that we work diligently each day to ensure our students and staff are coming to a safe and welcoming learning environment. We have built an outstanding relationship with our local law enforcement agencies and I know that they are doing everything possible to protect our schools and local communities.

Sincerely,

Erin J. MacGregor  
Superintendent  
Howell Public Schools