

Tarkington Independent School District

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Tarkington ISD Parents and Community:

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the events that occurred yesterday that led TISD to issue a lockdown call. Though our students and staff were never in any danger, we felt it best to err on the side of caution and implemented one of our safety measures. Liberty County Sheriff's Department communicated to TISD that they had received a tip of a possible threat to school safety for the northern part of Liberty County. After receiving this communication, our district campuses were temporarily placed in lockdown mode while the Sheriff's Department conducted an investigation in the nearby area.

The lockdown was in place for about approximately 70 minutes and was lifted as soon as we were given clearance by the Sheriff's Office and Precinct 5 Constable David Hunter. I want to stress that our students were safe and never in any danger. The lockdown was simply a precautionary measure. During this time our staff and campuses performed the lockdown to perfection. I cannot say how proud I am of all TISD staff and students for their performance during a stressful event such as this. Everyone is to be commended for their efficiency and calmness during the lockdown. TISD employees are the best and your dedication to our students shines during times like these!!!

I also want to thank our parents and community for their support and understanding during this event. Parental cooperation and patience is a huge key in helping keep students safe and for these safety precautions being successful during these types of events. TISD parents please know we take these situations very seriously, as the safety of our students that you entrust to us is always our absolute top priority.

Last but certainly not least, I want to thank our 1st responders. It is such a pleasure to have officers who serve our district who truly show that they care for our kids. Thank you Precinct 5 Constable David Hunter, Liberty County Sheriff's Office, and our other local law enforcement officers for such quick action and providing the extra support during our campus dismissals. We as a community are truly blessed to have such dedicated law enforcement officers serving our area.

As we move forward this coming week, our teachers and staff will be focused on their regular daily learning activities. At the same time, our staff members are sensitive to the concerns and questions of their students. I want our families and students to know that our professional counseling staff is available to help our students on a daily basis and should not hesitate to reach out to these folks. It is important that our students feel safe at school so they can continue to learn and grow academically and socially.

We will continue to covet your prayers for our district, staff, and students as we continue to deal with societal challenges such as this.

Sincerely,

Marc Keith, Ed. D.
Tarkington ISD
Superintendent