



## The Livingston Independent School District

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P.O. Box 1297  
Livingston, TX 77351

April 9, 2018

Dear Lion Country,

On Thursday, April 5th, a shell cartridge was turned in to campus administration at Livingston Junior High School. This incident set off a series of reports that a student was going to "shoot up the school." The reports even went as far as to name a specific student on that campus. The district activated its emergency management protocols in conjunction with its law enforcement partner, the Livingston Police Department. The first priority is to ensure the immediate safety and security of staff and students while simultaneously investigating each piece of information available. An extensive investigation was conducted by the Livingston Police Department to ascertain that a threat did not exist at the campus. The investigation instead led to the arrest of a juvenile for False Alarm or Report Emergency which is a State Jail Felony.

Livingston ISD appreciates the work of all involved in this situation and especially the Livingston Police Department. Because the best line of defense against the evil acts we see in this world is relationships, we highly encourage that if someone sees or knows of a situation that would lead to the harm of others please report that directly to Livingston ISD or Livingston Police Department in person, on the phone, or through the Campus Eye App. Just as crucial as it is to make these reports it is equally crucial that information be factual as false reporting can bring harm to other individuals and is a criminal offense.

The district will operate in an open transparent manner and both communicate with parents and community about the safety and actions taken by the district in order to keep students and staff up to date in a time-sensitive manner. However, LISD will not communicate on an ongoing investigation until the facts have been thoroughly vetted. The district does highly caution any information, not from an official LISD Administrative source. The use of social media sources should be approached with great scrutiny. Rhetoric outside the official district communication can lead to chaos and be counterproductive.

We are fortunate to live in a community with a great sense of care for one another. The district appreciates this value and looks forward to our future as we focus on our mission as this school year draws to an end.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Brent Hawkins  
LISD Superintendent of Schools