



School District No. 60

PEACE RIVER NORTH

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

February 17, 2017

I'd like to express my thanks to all members of the Dr Kearney Middle School Community for their patience, courage and cooperation in dealing with events that took place yesterday morning. I know that situations such as these can generate many questions and considerable anxiety. It is not possible to give out all the details that led to yesterday's response but it can be shared that the RCMP presence and the security measures that were set in place were in response to a threat that was seen on line, posted to a social media site and shared with school administration.

As per the district's threat analysis protocols, administration shared the information they received with the RCMP, who in turn made the decision, and took steps to ensure staff and students were kept in secure conditions while they determined the credibility of the threat and identified, located and spoke with all persons of interest associated with the matter. It is important to note that the school itself was always determined to be a safe site, and that any possibility of danger existed outside of the building with the implication being that it could be brought to the school.

While I'm certain yesterday's event seemed long, authorities worked as quickly as possible to determine whether or not the threat was credible. Once it was determined that there was no danger, the school returned to normal operations. Our schools are, and remain safe places. Events such as this are rare, and we recognize that they can be frightening. Yesterday's response is indicative of the high priority SD 60 places upon safety. It is to be sincerely hoped that actions such as yesterday's event are rarely needed, but when they are, that their outcomes will be that everyone is kept safe and out of harm's way.

Sincerely

Mr Dave Sloan
Superintendent of Schools