

**TrekNorth Junior &  
Senior High School**

2400 Pine Ridge Ave NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601



www.treknorth.org  
Phone: (218)-444-1888  
Fax: (218)-444-1893

February 26, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

School administration along with law enforcement have concluded the investigation on the threat written in the girls' bathroom on Friday. We have found no evidence of imminent danger to TrekNorth staff and students at this time.

In the days following the recent tragedies in Ohio and Florida, we realize students, parents, teachers, and school officials are struggling to make sense of what has happened. Many of us are struggling with anxiety and fear wondering if such a thing could happen here. It is now more important than ever that we work together as the TrekNorth community to ensure that such a thing doesn't ever happen at TrekNorth. I would like to thank all the parents, students, and staff that attended the Safety Meeting last Thursday evening and for their honest input.

Parents, please continue to talk with your children about keeping themselves and others safe. Make sure they know if they hear or see anything concerning from another student or on social media to immediately report it to a teacher, administrator, or trusted adult and not to spread it on social media. Social media makes it much more difficult on the school and law enforcement when conducting a threat assessment. If your child is feeling anxious or fearful about attending school, encourage them to talk to a trusted adult. Talking helps far more than keeping it bottled in and feeling anxious is a normal reaction to what we have been seeing in the news lately. The following is a resource with talking points on this topic [American Psychological Association's guidelines](#).

TrekNorth administration, teachers, and support staff will continue to be vigilant as well. We will continue to have conversations with students about reporting information and how staff can be a support for them. We will prepare our students by practicing safety drills. We will do our best to prepare students and practice appropriate protocols so that they can be as safe as possible under any circumstances. We will communicate safety concerns with parents. We will also continue to work closely with local law enforcement and other local agencies.

On March 14th, we will be having an student-led assembly during our CP time that will be about working together to have a safe and supportive school. We plan to keep the school day as normal as possible, and we will discourage activity in school that creates conflict. However, we are aware that some communities are planning protests against gun violence, and we recognize the topic of guns in our society is a complex

and controversial issue. This is not what we are planning. We will neither encourage or prevent participation of these activities.

Moving forward, testing season is upon us. We have a lot of important work to do in the next few months as our students prepare for MCA and AP testing. My hope is in the weeks to come we will again be able to place our attention on the work we need to be doing, and work together to help our children and students obtain a high-quality education.

Thank you, Kristin Gustafson