CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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Dear CPS Community,

This morning, the Cambridge Police Department (CPD) received an anonymous threat via email indicating that someone was planning to bomb the "cambridge mass city schools." This threat was posted to an anonymous blog and then forwarded anonymously to the CPD. It was not sent directly to the Police Department, the School Department, or the City of Cambridge.

The CPD notified the School Department, and the following steps were taken immediately:

- 1) Cambridge Public Schools (CPS) safety and security personnel inspected all school buildings before students and staff arrived to search for anything unusual, and nothing was found as result of those searches;
- 2) The CPD communicated with Federal law enforcement officials to inform them of this threat;
- 3) I met with the City Manager and the Police Commissioner this morning to assess the situation and determine next steps;
- 4) In addition to the officers who are normally assigned to our public schools, the CPD has assigned additional officers to provide enhanced security.

When CPS has received threats in the past, we have followed our standard protocol, which calls for a threat assessment. That threat assessment was conducted in cooperation with the CPD, and an evacuation was not deemed to be required.

We implemented our current protocol with respect to these kinds of threats, which is published in our Emergency Operations Plan. This plan was written as a joint effort between the CPD, CPS, the Cambridge Fire Department, the Cambridge Health Alliance, and the City of Cambridge. This manual is currently placed in every classroom and office in the district.

The care and safety of our students and staff is our utmost concern. We acknowledge and appreciate that you entrust your families into our care each day, and it is a trust we do not take lightly. In the meantime, thank you for your patience, understanding and support. I will communicate with you again shortly with an update on this particular incident as more information becomes available.

Superintendent of Schools