



**Toledo Public Schools**  
Office of the CEO/Superintendent  
Toledo Public Schools Educational Campus  
1609 N. Summit St. • Toledo, Ohio 43604

**Dr. Romules L. Durant**  
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Dear TPS Proud Community:

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, 17 innocent lives were lost in Parkland, Florida due to a senseless act of violence. Since that time, we have fielded an array of questions about safety in our schools. I want to take a moment to reassure our community that the safety and security of our students and staff is the number one priority for Toledo Public Schools.

District representatives work closely with local law enforcement to ensure that we are monitoring and addressing potential issues that might impact student safety. All situations that could impact the safety of our students are taken seriously and could lead to disciplinary action and criminal charges. Below are just a few measures that we've put in place to ensure our students are safe in school:

### **How Does TPS Prepare?**

- TPS works with local law enforcement to investigate all reports that could potentially result in harm to students or staff members.
- TPS has implemented A.L.I.C.E. training in our schools
  - A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym that stands for **Alert Lockdown Inform Counter and Evacuate**. The primary goal of the training is to proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter. We are in the process of expanding this training to students.
- We are required to annually conduct school lockdown drills - much like fire and tornado drills - as a proactive measure to practice and prepare for a potential situation.
- Cameras are mounted inside our schools and in strategic outside locations.
- All main entrances are locked and require someone in the office to allow visitors access to the school, which prevents unknown individuals from entering the building.
- All visitors must sign-in at the main office and receive a pass - this includes parents.
- Toledo Police officers are assigned to each of our high schools, along with Campus Protection Officers who are stationed throughout the school.
- TPS has its own Department of Public Safety, which is comprised of seven sworn law enforcement officers through the Lucas County Sheriff's Department. These officers work directly with our school administrators and actively monitor district campuses.

### **What Can Students, Staff, Parents and Families do to Help?**

- We encourage all students, staff members and parents who see an inappropriate post on social media or hear anything that could lead to harm of others, to report it immediately so it can be investigated - **if you hear or see something...say something.**

- It's important for everyone to know that we investigate every threat made against one of our schools. These are serious offenses and could lead to disciplinary action for students and possible criminal charges.
  - More times than not, these threats turn out to be a hoax from non-credible sources. In these instances, we are cautious as to what is shared publicly as we do not want to interrupt student learning or cause unnecessary apprehension.
  - Parents, it's important to remind your children to be mindful of what they post on social media or say to others, as inappropriate remarks can lead to serious consequences.

Please know our staff members are dedicated to the academic achievement of our students. At the same time, we work tirelessly to provide both a safe learning and work environment for students and employees. We can't live in fear – we must continue doing what's best for our students and living our lives to the fullest.

In closing, please keep those impacted by the tragic events on February 14<sup>th</sup> in your thoughts and prayers. We will stay focused on providing a quality education to our students and preparing them for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Romules Durant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Romules Durant  
CEO/Superintendent  
Toledo Public Schools