



To: Rutland City Public Schools Families

From: Rob Bliss, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Date: February 16, 2018

Re: School Safety

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Dear Parents:

In the wake of the tragic and senseless attack in Parkland, Florida we want to communicate with you regarding our ongoing commitment to the safety of our students, faculty and staff. First and foremost, our prayers and thoughts go out to the families, educators, and community in Parkland. Their pain and loss is something that most of us have never had to endure, and hopefully we never will. Second, we know that at times like this, our thoughts also turn to our own children, students, and schools. At times like this, it's natural to worry about safety.

In Rutland City Public Schools, we work closely with our city's Police Department to stay on top of safety planning. In addition, we send district teams to statewide professional development, organized and facilitated by Rob Evans at Margolis Healey and the Department of Public Safety. As a result, each school in our district has articulated crisis response plans. The plans are reviewed and drilled multiple times each year. We continue to seek professional development to update our plans and remain current and informed. While we can never predict a certain issue or incident, we are up to speed on national standards and protocols.

Once again, we want you to know our thoughts and prayers are with the community in Parkland, Florida. They are also with our community here in Rutland, always thinking about school safety. Safety depends on communication from parents and especially students if they see or hear something that strikes them as not quite right. Please help us in our efforts and continue to follow the phrase, "See something? Say something!" If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to phone your school's principal or the Rutland City Public Schools Central office.

Have a great vacation!