



# SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

82 Monrovia Avenue, Smyrna, Delaware 19977

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## Official Statement

**November 15, 2023**

Update #5, November 28, 2023, @ 10:00am:

The Smyrna School District continues to work in cooperation with local law enforcement to thoroughly investigate the social media threat to Smyrna Middle School on November 15, 2023. We are aware the community may have questions regarding the status of the investigation. While the investigation continues, we want to assure the community that all individuals involved in this careless act will be held accountable for the disruption to our community. We appreciate the continued support of all in our efforts to keep our students and staff safe.

Update #4, @ 4:45pm:

*On November 15, 2023, the Smyrna School District and the Smyrna Police Department actively addressed a gun threat made on social media against Smyrna Middle School. The threat specifically targeted teachers and students. The team monitored ALL social media channels to address specific threats promptly, and immediately investigated any threats. We will continue to work with the Smyrna Police Department to ensure the safety of all students and staff on the Smyrna Middle and High School campus by continuing to have increased police presence and patrols for the remainder of this week.*

*It is essential to clarify two misconceptions: classroom doors are locked on a daily basis in accordance with our District Wide Safety Plan. No school-wide lockdown protocols were put in place. And in the event of a violent threat, communications are managed and disseminated by Smyrna School District officials rather than school-based regardless of the Smyrna School District campus.*

*We sincerely apologize for any disruption to your students' education today due to the unfortunate circumstances. Like you, the safety and well-being of our students and employees remain our top priority, and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this challenging time. We are committed to transparency throughout this ongoing investigation and will provide updates as they are made available.*

The Smyrna School District does not discriminate in employment, educational programs, services or activities based on race, color, marital status, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or any other protected category or status in accordance with state and federal laws. Inquiries should be directed to the District Superintendent.



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*Update #3, @ 1:20pm:*

*The Smyrna School District and the Smyrna Police Department continue to work together and be present at Smyrna Middle School to ensure the safety of all students and staff today, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This presence will continue until after student dismissal. Our community has been a great partner in helping us assess and handle the threat to the safety of Smyrna Middle School. We will share more information as soon as we are able.*

*Update #2, @ 9:15am:*

*The Smyrna School District and the Smyrna Police Department continue to ensure the safety of all students and staff today, November 15, 2023, and appreciate the support of our community. As with any threat to our schools, we take them very seriously and continue to have an increased police and administrative presence at the Smyrna Middle School campus. We will update families as soon as more information becomes available.*

*Update #1 @ 6:45am:*

*The Smyrna School District and the Smyrna Police Department are aware of a threat made on social media against Smyrna Middle School for today, November 15, 2023. We are working closely with the Smyrna Police Department to ensure all appropriate actions are being taken. As with any threat to our schools, we take them very seriously and will have an increased police presence and extra school administrators on site to ensure the safety of our students and employees. We will update families as soon as more information becomes available.*

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