

Dear Tenth Street Elementary Parents/Guardians:

We are all so very shocked and saddened at the tragic events that took place at Sandy Hook Elementary School on Friday, Dec. 14, 2012. I know you all join me in sharing our heartfelt condolences to those who are personally impacted by this senseless act.

Like you, those of us here at Tenth Street Elementary are reflecting on the safety and security of our own students and staff. This morning the faculty at Tenth Street Elementary met to review our safety and security plan and discussed ways to discuss and work through this very sensitive matter with children. We want to make sure you are aware of all we are doing to provide a safe educational environment. It has always been, and remains today, our top priority.

Please know the Riverview School District has numerous ongoing efforts and activities to address safety and security in our schools. You may have noticed a heightened awareness on the part of Tenth Street staff and the Oakmont Police Department this past Friday. This was not meant to alarm, but rather to reassure everyone of our commitment to student and staff safety.

It's also important to note that all threats in our district are reviewed and investigated with great care and, again, in cooperation with local law enforcement. As we have done in the past, if a credible threat exists in our schools, you will be notified. Additionally, we ask that if you or your student ever has dependable, first-hand knowledge of a potential threat, you should report it immediately to myself or the Oakmont Police Department.

Tenth Street Elementary has comprehensive safety and security measures in place. So as not to compromise the integrity of those measures, we do not release the full details. However, the following are highlights we would like you to know as parents:

- * Access controlled entry systems
- * Building entrance cameras/monitors
- * Internal and external surveillance cameras
- * Crisis response training with staff
- * Partnership with the Oakmont Police Department
- * Numbered classrooms for police use
- * Building blueprints and access provided to the Oakmont Police and Fire Departments
- * Security assessments with police to maintain familiarity with the buildings
- * Staff identification badges
- * AlertNow, Riverview School District website (www.rsd.k12.pa.us), and local media for parent notification
- * Olweus Anti-bullying Program for grades K-6

Naturally, children may have questions. Therefore, I would like to share with you information and resources when talking with your children about Friday's tragedy. According to the experts at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (CHP), how you respond should depend on whether members of your family have been personally involved, what your child has heard or seen on the news, and the age of your child. For more tips and advice, please visit the following link: <http://www.chp.edu/CHP/Responding+to+Children+When+Tragedy+Occurs>
Mrs. Adler, our school guidance counselor will also be on hand to talk with children as needed.

As with any initiative at Tenth Street Elementary, we can't do it alone. We thank you for providing a cooperative and supportive environment at home and in our schools.

Sincerely,
Mr. David J. Zolkowski
Principal – Tenth Street Elementary