

## **How we handle a threat situation at Ronan School District No. 30**

Anytime we have a threatening situation at Ronan School District, we take it very seriously. I know many would like more information, but we are limited in how much information we can and will send out.

In most threat situations, we immediately involve law enforcement. We are blessed to have an excellent SRO, who is a Lake County deputy. We also will get Ronan Police involved if necessary. Every situation is different. We believe in transparency, so we get an SMS out as soon as possible to let the parents and guardians know that we are investigating a threat.

The first thing to know is when we send out an SMS message, we have a 160 character limit including spaces, so we have to be very vague in our description of events. Also, we have to ensure the rights of the individual are not violated or the integrity of the investigation is not compromised. The highlighted text is 160 characters.

If there is a continued threat or it is proven that there is no threat, we will release another SMS as soon as we can, to keep everyone informed.

Unfortunately, when these difficult situations occur, social media usually seems to put their own spin on the events and raise many unnecessary concerns and fears for others. Much of the information shared is not true or substantiated and should not be shared, but we have no control over what people post.

Ronan School District and area law enforcement take every threat very seriously, and we will do everything in our power to ensure the students and staff are safe. We understand your concerns also, and both law enforcement and administrators involved in these investigations have kids going to our schools or spouses working in the District, and we would not be in school if we thought any threat existed. Safety for all is and always will be priority number one in this district.

Feel free to contact me at 676-3390 ext. 7200 or email me at [mark.johnston@ronank12.edu](mailto:mark.johnston@ronank12.edu) if you have any additional questions or concerns.

I hope this helps,

Superintendent Mark Johnston