



Ida Public Schools

Where Learning Strikes!

February 14, 2023

Dear BlueStreak Family,

No one can ever prepare you for a call, a text, or a social media alert, warning you of danger or delivering news of loss. The Ida Community and many surrounding us are experiencing profound sadness, grief, and feelings of fear. We are deeply saddened by last night's school shooting and the lives lost at Michigan State University. Our thoughts and prayers are with the students, staff, and families impacted by yesterday's devastating events; we are heartbroken over so much loss.

Sadly, the threat of violence connects schools across our country; this has become our reality. We understand that news of this magnitude so close to home can be incredibly upsetting, and we encourage you to reach out if you or your student needs some additional support. Your student's health and safety are our number one priority.

We wanted to remind you of the various safety protocols we have in place to protect our students and staff; we hope to provide you with some comfort as we try to make sense of this tragedy. Our safety measures include, but are not limited to: A dedicated Monroe County Sheriff Deputy assigned to our district, secure visitor entryways at every building, technology and background check procedures to screen visitors, Active Shooter Training/Drills for staff and students using ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate), Mental Health Professionals at all levels, and a partnership with ATAP Security where we are continuously reviewing and revamping safety procedures.

Hug your children and those you hold most dear a little tighter tonight. Please speak with your students about school safety and the importance of reporting concerns to a trusted adult. Please remind your children to use the State of Michigan's Okay2Say tip line at 8-555-OK2SAY or OKAY2SAY@mi.gov. Parents, please reach out anytime you hear of something that leaves you unsettled. Together, we will continue to create and nurture a safe and healthy learning environment for our students.

Thank you for your continued support and helping shape and foster such an extraordinary community.

David Eack
Ida Public Schools Superintendent