



November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Good Afternoon Fellow Shorians,

Over the past year, in the wake of real tragedies that have occurred in our nation’s hallways and classrooms, schools across the country have dealt with a wave of false threats intended to disrupt operations. A small minority of students intending to capitalize on the concern that we all share for the safety of our kids and our teachers have used these tragedies to invoke fear and panic while getting schools to close for a day or two. These “hoax” threats have become all too common in what our schools in America have to deal with on almost a daily basis. As we near the one year anniversary of the tragedy of Oxford, we have seen in the Metro Detroit area an uptick in these occurrences.

While we have been fortunate to not have incidents of this magnitude occur here at Lake Shore, I think it is important that we all share the same message with our kids and that is this: Any threatening statement, social media post, or message will be dealt with the utmost seriousness and we will work in conjunction with the St. Clair Shores Police Department and the Macomb County Prosecutors Office to identify those responsible and hold them fully accountable for their words and actions. In short, if you make a threat to our schools, you will be caught, you will be prosecuted.

I ask you tonight to remind your child that this type of behavior will not be tolerated in our community. We are better than that. We deserve peace and peace of mind when we enter the halls of Lake Shore. Together we can achieve just that.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joe DiPonio  
Superintendent  
Lake Shore Public Schools