

February 14, 2020

Parents and Students of Van Buren County,

As school superintendents and law enforcement officials of Van Buren County, we want to assure you of our dedication in keeping every school district safe for students and staff. School safety is our first and foremost priority. School districts and law enforcement have collaborated, as partners, to put into place overlapping layers of security for schools. The layers of security include:


- Law enforcement officers and school district staff going through the Active Shooter Incident Response, (ASIR) training.
- Law enforcement officers training in school buildings on tactics used to deal with active shooters.
- A county wide school emergency management resource.
- Local school administrators access to threat assessment resources.
- The OK to SAY program in our school buildings for confidential reporting of school threats.
- Building security improvements being made with School Safety grant dollars awarded last year.
- Local school district's transportation staff being trained in Bus Driver Active Assailant Training.
- A countywide, multi-disciplinary team creating a common countywide school reunification plan.
- Local school district's starting school safety committees to address safety concerns.

As school superintendents and law enforcement officials, we have loved ones attending our schools. We share your concern for school safety and pledge to keep our schools safe and secure. To accomplish our vow, we will:


- Quickly investigate any/all threats made to school and student safety.
- Involve county resources to assure school district needs are met.
- Continue to go above required safety drills to train school staff with diverse safety training.
- Continue to train with law enforcement in active shooter response training.


We commit to working together for the safety and benefit of our most treasured assets; **STUDENTS.**

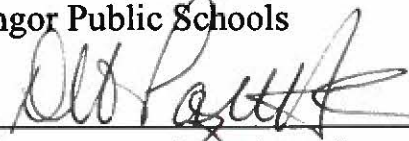
Together in school safety,


  
Daniel Abbott, Sheriff  
Van Buren County

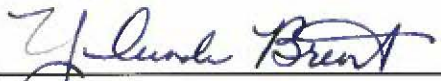
  
Lt. Dale Hinz, Michigan State Police  
Paw Paw Post Commander

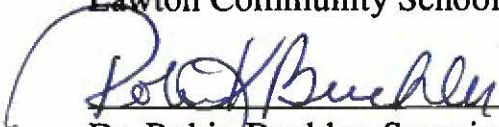
  
Lynn Johnson, Superintendent  
Bangor Public Schools

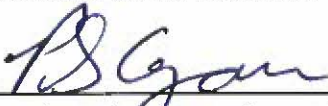
  
Gretchen Gendron, Superintendent  
Lawrence Public Schools

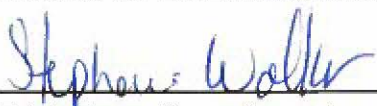
  
Deb Paquette, Superintendent  
Bloomington Public Schools

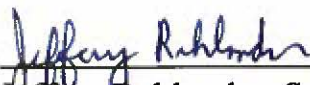
  
Christopher Rice, Superintendent  
Lawton Community Schools


  
Yolanda Brunt, Superintendent  
Covert Public Schools

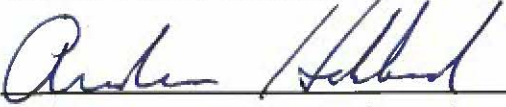
  
Dr. Robin Buchler, Superintendent  
Mattawan Consolidated School

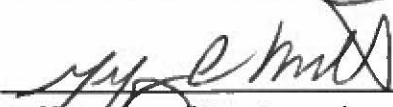
  
Patrick Creagan, Superintendent  
Decatur Public Schools

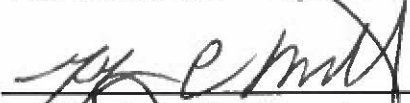
  
Rick Reo, Superintendent  
Paw Paw Public Schools

  
Jeffery Rehlander, Superintendent  
Gobles Public Schools

  
Kevin Schooley, Superintendent  
South Haven Public Schools

  
Andrew Hubbard, Superintendent  
Hartford Public Schools

  
Jeffrey C. Mills, Superintendent  
Van Buren ISD

  
Jeffrey C. Mills, Superintendent  
Wood School