



March 11, 2025

Raymond J. Kinder
Superintendent

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Tamaqua Area SD Families:

We received a phone call today at our high school office with a threatening message. Law enforcement was immediately notified and restricted movement was enacted for the protection of students and staff.

The matter continued to be investigated and as a precaution, additional law enforcement arrived. Consensus opinion was to keep students in classrooms, while evaluating potential risks. Areas outside our facilities were surveyed to ensure eventual safe passage for our students and staff. A message was sent to families as soon as it could be crafted, while maintaining focus on the situation. I realize that never occurs as quickly as anyone would like it, but it occurs as soon as it can.

The overall assessment of the threat level was mitigated. However, we determined that the best course of action was a more controlled and monitored dismissal. This involved students being dismissed more slowly with both law enforcement and administrative presence. While a difficult endeavor, overall the procedures went according to expectation.

I am grateful for the cooperation of the students, staff and parents who allowed us to do what we needed to do for the safety of those involved. Without these efforts, this exercise would have been much more difficult.

As mentioned, law enforcement has provided tremendous support with surveying equipment, a formal presence and sweeps of the building after the all students and staff exited the high school, giving us an all clear assessment. All this is done to not only ensure safety, but also reassure our community that we take protecting our children seriously. We want them to feel safe when they come to school.

This is the information we have as of this time and will provide updates if appropriate. Please know that we will continue to be vigilant when it comes to the safety of our students and staff. Thank you for your continued support and trust with your children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "R. Kinder".

Raymond J. Kinder
Superintendent, TASD