



BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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February 15, 2018

Dear Bonita USD Parents and Families,

As we learned yesterday of another tragic school shooting at a high school in Parkland, Florida, I want to remind parents that the Bonita Unified School District continues to make the safety of our children and staff a priority. I am saddened that we live in a society in which we must continually practice emergency drills. However, we do know that the best defense against such violent acts is to be prepared.

All 13 of our school sites regularly practice lockdown/safety drills, review and update their detailed school safety plans, and use a district-wide visitor management system. Additionally, BUSD has two School Resource Officers that support our schools in San Dimas and La Verne.

This year, we partnered with the La Verne Police Department and conducted an active shooter drill at Bonita High School in October, and we have one scheduled to take place in March at San Dimas High School with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. Our District Safety Committee meets bi-monthly, and we work very closely with our community emergency responders, which include, La Verne Police and Fire Departments, San Dimas Sheriff's Station and the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

As parents and guardians, you may ask what you can do. I ask that you continue to partner with your child's school, be sure your emergency contact information is up-to-date, and check-in with the front office to pick up a visitor badge when you enter campus. Also, encourage your child to report anything unusual he/she sees or hears, whether in person or on social media. If your child has a suspicious feeling that something is not right, encourage them to tell you, an adult on campus, teacher, school principal, school counselor, or go to the police/sheriff department. For anonymous reporting, our School Safety Hot Line number is (909) 394-9393.

I know you join me in grieving for the families of Parkland, Florida. This senseless act of violence has touched all of us. If your child shows signs of emotional distress because of this recent event, please reach out to your school counselor or principal for additional support. I want you to know that together, we will continue to put forth significant, proactive effort to keep staff and students safe in Bonita Unified.

Sincerely,

Carl Coles
Interim Superintendent

The Bonita Unified School District is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of any class protected by law.