

Dear Community and International Community School families,

You may have seen reports in the news and on social media regarding rumors of “creepy clowns” making threats against schools nationwide. There have been no incidents of actual harm by “creepy clowns” to date that we have been able to track but social media rumors have created fear. Copycats are taking advantage of this phenomenon to scare others and in some cases, to disrupt school operations.

As always, the safety and security of our students is our top priority. You can be sure we will investigate any threats that are brought to our attention, in cooperation with local law enforcement. If any of our schools are impacted by a credible situation and not simply rumors, that school will communicate directly with parents. Also, if a school has to disrupt its operations, such as going into lockdown while investigating a threat, it will communicate directly with parents.

At school, we encourage students not to circulate rumors and to immediately report any concerning information to an adult. We ask that you also speak with your children about the importance of not increasing the magnitude of rumors through peer discussions and/or online interactions. If you or your child do observe any suspicious behavior, please report it immediately to your local police department or to your school administrators.

Whether they are made against an individual or an entire school, any threats are a serious matter. Several people locally and nationally have been arrested for making false clown threats and they face serious consequences. Threatening schools is a criminal matter, and the police and our district take these situations very seriously.

Thank you for your continued support of Lake Washington schools.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Moncada, Principal