

Dearborn Heights School District No. 7

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February 16, 2018

Dear District 7 Families:

The shock and horror of what occurred in Florida yesterday will continue to haunt all of us. It is unacceptable that children have to feel fear and experience loss. Since the tragedy in Columbine, we have worked with staff and students on crisis planning and practice drills. We have woven in direct instruction for students to improve coping skills and increase our students' abilities to work through problems. We have hired additional counselors and intervention specialists, and we have worked hard to get to know each of our students.

On Thursday, February 22nd we will be hosting a Community Forum meeting in the O. W. Best Middle School Cafeteria at 6:30 pm. The topic of discussion for this meeting will be school safety. All District 7 staff, parents and community members are encouraged to attend. I will give an update on the trainings that are happening in the district to prepare for an active shooter event. We will be sharing insights and ideas, allowing our schools and community to band together and make sure that everyone is informed and alert.

Our kids have access to what is good and right on social media, but they also see what is dark and dangerous. We care deeply for our students and we grieve what is happening in schools and other public places. We are ALL committed to doing everything in our power to be as proactive as possible, and as practiced as we can be, in case of an emergency.

I look forward to meeting with all District 7 stakeholders for this important discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Mast".

Jennifer Mast
Superintendent of Schools

Educational Excellence and Lifelong Success