



February 19, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The recent tragic events in Parkland, Florida have touched us deeply as we hear the voices of students seeking change in our nation. Such senseless acts of violence also cause us to reflect on the routines and practices in place in our schools. We want to assure you that within District 35's ongoing efforts to plan for emergency or disaster situations, the District administrators continue to work with staff members, students, and Glencoe Public Safety to ensure effective procedures are in place. We conduct practice drills and evaluate routines to improve measures for responding to emergency situations.

Equally important to response plans, are the steps we take to ensure our students feel safe and connected during each school day. We remain committed to supporting the social-emotional wellness of each child, and ensuring every child has a positive connection to an adult in our schools. We remind our staff and middle school students to please report anything unusual or concerning that they see or hear, especially on social media, to an adult in the school. We ask the same request of our parents.

As part of the District 35 crisis planning, we have detailed steps to ensure our students are safe and under the care of our staff. In the event an emergency situation occurs, District 35 will send information through the **Instant Alert** system. This is the same system we use to notify parents of school closings. Please [click here to view the important reminders](#) we shared with all families at the start of our year.

The National Association of School Psychologists has also shared [helpful tips to talk with children](#) violence. If you are concerned about your child's response to the events in Florida, or any traumatic event, please reach out to our school social workers for additional resources and support. We will be mindful to monitor this in our setting and communicate with you should we see such needs.

We thank you for your partnership as we work together to ensure the safety of our school community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Catherine Wang'.

Catherine Wang  
Superintendent