



**Superintendent's Office**  
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### **Update on September 18, 2024 Code Yellow at Lincoln High School**

September 18, 2024

Dear LHS Students and Families,

I wanted to update the LHS community about this morning's Code Yellow at Lincoln High School. Around 10:45 a.m. today, a student reported to the LHS Administration that a concerning message was reposted in a Snapchat group of about 500 students located within our surrounding community. This message referenced a threat to the school if students were dismissed from the building. The Wisconsin Rapids Police Department (WRPD) school resource officer and building administration immediately began an investigation, placing the building under a "Code Yellow" precautionary lockdown. A "Code Yellow" lockdown means all students and staff are not to be in hallways, common spaces are vacated, and classroom doors get closed with instruction continuing as usual.

As "Code Yellow" protocols were instituted, the students who brought the message to the administration's attention were interviewed regarding this incident and provided additional Snapchat messages. WRPD determined that the message was irrelevant to LHS. The building was released to an all-clear "Code Green" around 11:25 a.m. It has since been determined that the threatening message originated from the state of New York and has been deemed non-credible. Law enforcement officials from the jurisdiction in New York have been in communication with WRPD, and the matter was already under investigation through their department. In recent weeks, multiple reports of similar Snapchat threats have occurred nationwide.

I want to address some misinformation circulating on social media. No fire alarm was pulled, and classrooms were not placed under a "Code Red" emergency lockdown. Our top priority in any emergency or crisis is ensuring the safety of our students and staff. While we thoroughly investigate the situation, it may be difficult for parents to contact the school immediately. We urge parents not to come to the school building during these situations, as doing so could hinder our response efforts. Your cooperation and understanding are vital as we work to keep everyone safe. Local law enforcement is always on-site until we thoroughly assess the credibility of any threat. Both the school district and law enforcement take all threats and reports of threats very seriously.

I recognize that these situations can cause significant anxiety for students, staff, and families, and cause a disruption to the learning environment. I appreciate the quick response by students who promptly reported this message to the LHS administration, and I commend our students and staff for their cooperation today.

Please reach out to me or LHS Administration with further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ronald A. Rasmussen'.

Ronald A. Rasmussen  
Superintendent of Schools