



# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF TURTLE LAKE

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*“The Turtle Lake School Community instills excellence in staff and students producing graduates with the knowledge and tools necessary to excel in all aspects of life.”*

Kent M. Kindschy, District Administrator    Troy Wagner, PK-5 Principal    Jason Hinze, MS/HS Principal

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October 2024

## School Threat Summary

### October 7<sup>th</sup>

After school, it was reported by two football players that there was a threat in the boy's commons bathroom. I called the TLPD, and he took pictures of the threats. On one stall was "be ready shoot da school Oct 31". On another wall, it said "FUCKERS" in graffiti. On the third wall, it said "going to shoot the school on Oct 31 1:00". Administration watched film and created a list of students that were in the bathroom. Based on evidence, we narrowed it down to one student. We also used the Office of School Safety to determine the threat level. That student faced discipline measures.

### October 11<sup>th</sup>

After school, another threat was reported in the girl's middle school bathroom. It stated, "my dad will shoot the school." Using the same steps, the police determined on Sunday afternoon that the threat was not credible.

### October 12<sup>th</sup>

Grades 5-12 implemented a sign out sheet for bathroom use and the restrooms were checked regularly. We continued our investigation with the TLPD throughout the day. After narrowing it down to two suspects another threat was reported in the afternoon. This threat said, "my dad will shoot the school I promise". The steps taken that day for hall privileges and checking the bathrooms allowed us to narrow it down to a single student. Disciplinary action had taken place.

These threats were not disclosed due to ongoing investigations. FERPA prevents me from disclosing the students name and disciplinary records. (See below) It was determined that the suspects did not have access to weapons. The TLPD was awesome in helping us find the suspects and doing interviews. Nearly all parents were supportive of our efforts and the students that were kept at home while we were investigating received an excused absence.

Source: WASB FERPA applies to the disclosure of personally identifiable information (PII) from education records that are maintained by the school. Therefore, FERPA does not prohibit a school official from releasing information about a student that was obtained through the school official's personal knowledge or observation *unless* that knowledge is obtained through his or her official role in making a determination maintained in an education records about the student. For example, under FERPA a principal or other school official who took official action to suspend a student may not disclose that information, absent consent or an exception under 99.31 that permits the disclosure.