



September 16, 2024

Dear Ballard Families,

I wanted to update you on the two unrelated threats we received in the past couple of days, the police investigation, and how our students and staff responded.

As you know, we increased our security level, restricted outdoor activities, and called JCPS Police as a result of the threats. Today, JCPS Police identified the students who allegedly made both threats. The students are facing criminal charges and will be disciplined in accordance with the [Student Support and Behavior Intervention Handbook](#).

While few threats are credible, including those aimed at Ballard, we will always take every one of them seriously. We hope your child will do the same and follow the “see something, say something” rule to report anything they might see or hear as a threat.

However, we also want students to understand that their words have serious consequences. Should they make any threat involving Ballard, our staff or students, they will be disciplined and likely be prosecuted.

While the two recent threats took up an inordinate amount of time by administrative staff and JCPS Police, I want to commend our teachers, staff, and especially the students for going about our school day in a businesslike fashion. They didn’t allow the investigation and extra security to distract them from the critical work taking place in our classrooms.

I sincerely appreciate your understanding and support as we, and several other schools nationwide, have dealt with an increase in threats in the past week or so. We’re proud that Ballard will continue to be a safe, welcoming place for your student.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 485-8206.

Sincerely,

Jason Neuss, Ed.D.
Ballard High School
Principal