

February 14, 2020

Parents and Students of Van Buren County,

As school superintendents and law enforcement officials of Van Buren County, we want to assure you of our dedication in keeping every school district safe for students and staff. School safety is our first and foremost priority. School districts and law enforcement have collaborated, as partners, to put into place overlapping layers of security for schools. The layers of security include:

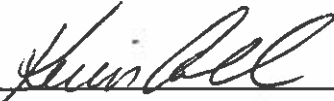
- Law enforcement officers and school district staff going through the Active Shooter Incident Response, (ASIR) training.
- Law enforcement officers training in school buildings on tactics used to deal with active shooters.
- A county wide school emergency management resource.
- Local school administrators access to threat assessment resources.
- The OK to SAY program in our school buildings for confidential reporting of school threats.
- Building security improvements being made with School Safety grant dollars awarded last year.
- Local school district's transportation staff being trained in Bus Driver Active Assailant Training.
- A countywide, multi-disciplinary team creating a common countywide school reunification plan.
- Local school district's starting school safety committees to address safety concerns.

As school superintendents and law enforcement officials, we have loved ones attending our schools. We share your concern for school safety and pledge to keep our schools safe and secure. To accomplish our vow, we will:


- Quickly investigate any/all threats made to school and student safety.
- Involve county resources to assure school district needs are met.
- Continue to go above required safety drills to train school staff with diverse safety training.
- Continue to train with law enforcement in active shooter response training.


We commit to working together for the safety and benefit of our most treasured assets; **STUDENTS.**

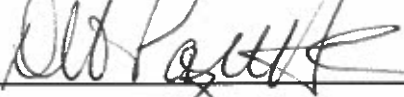
Together in school safety,



Daniel Abbott, Sheriff
Van Buren County

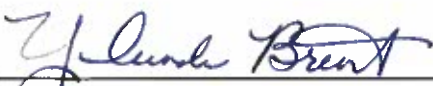

Lt. Dale Hinz, Michigan State Police
Paw Paw Post Commander



Lynn Johnson, Superintendent
Bangor Public Schools



Gretchen Gendron, Superintendent
Lawrence Public Schools

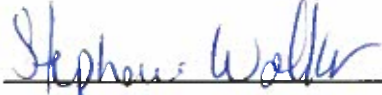

Deb Paquette, Superintendent
Bloomingdale Public Schools

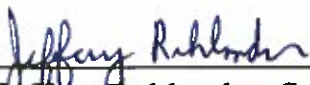

Christopher Rice, Superintendent
Lawton Community Schools

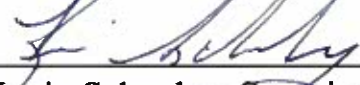

Yolanda Brunt, Superintendent
Covert Public Schools

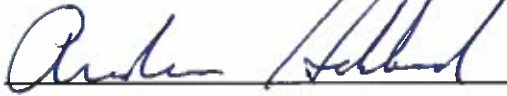

Dr. Robin Buchler, Superintendent
Mattawan Consolidated School



Patrick Creagan, Superintendent
Decatur Public Schools



Rick Reo, Superintendent
Paw Paw Public Schools


Jeffery Rehlander, Superintendent
Gobles Public Schools


Kevin Schooley, Superintendent
South Haven Public Schools


Andrew Hubbard, Superintendent
Hartford Public Schools


Jeffrey C. Mills, Superintendent
Van Buren ISD


Jeffrey C. Mills, Superintendent
Wood School