



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Karen Janney, Ed.D.
Superintendent

February 15, 2018

Dear Sweetwater Family,

Along with the rest of the nation we are deeply saddened and in mourning for the victims of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Our thoughts and prayers are with the staff, the students, and the entire community.

With incidents like this happening across the country, this tragedy and others highlight the critical importance of ensuring that our schools remain safe places for our students and staff.

Here in Sweetwater we are proud of the work that we have done over the past several years in regards to school safety and security. From the hiring of a full time Security Coordinator and Advisor, to creation of a district-wide safety and security training, developed in partnership with local law enforcement that just celebrated its sixth anniversary, we are working diligently to ensure that students and staff are trained on what to do in case of tragedy.

A critical component of our efforts in Sweetwater have also focused on addressing the climate and culture in our schools. This involves addressing not only physical safety, but also the social and emotional safety of our students and staff. We have practices in place that give students and families the safe space to address potential concerns. More importantly, it is our practice to follow-up on all of these concerns through both school sites and district office resources.

We know that these types of incidents are not just a school issue, but a community issue and we have taken steps to ensure that we have several community partnerships in place. We work hand-in-hand with law enforcement and community service agencies to provide our students and families the critical assistance that they need.

Finally, if you have any concerns regarding safety or require any type of support, please do not hesitate to contact your school staff or district staff.

We thank you for your continued support to our commitment of "Putting Students First."

Sincerely,

Karen Janney, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Putting Students First

"Sweetwater Union High School District programs and activities shall be free from discrimination based on age, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information, sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics."

SUHS Board Policy 0410