

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #33

Threats – Verbal and/or Non-Verbal

Maine School Administrative District #33 recognizes that threats of any kind represent a potential danger to the safety and welfare of the students and the staff, as well as to the integrity of school property. Threats also disrupt the instructional program and learning environment and place a significant demand on school financial resources and public safety services.

A threat will be considered to have taken place when any communication indicating that a bomb, a look-alike bomb, a toxic or hazardous substance, or any other material considered to be potentially harmful has been or will be placed on school premises. The presence of an unauthorized person(s) on or near school premises poses a possible danger and will also be considered a threat.

All threats will be regarded as extremely serious matters and treated accordingly. Any individual who becomes aware that a threat has been communicated or discovered shall immediately notify the building principal. Any individual who fails to do so may be subject to disciplinary action.

The building principal, upon being made aware that a threat has been communicated or discovered (whether real, intended as a prank, or for some other purpose), shall take immediate and appropriate action to reduce the risk of harm to students and staff. The principal will also initiate the process of assembling the District's Crisis Response Team.

Most threats are a violation of civil and/or criminal law and, therefore, shall be reported to law enforcement authorities.

In the event that a threat results in the loss of instructional time, the superintendent, in consultation with the administrative team and teaching staff, will schedule make-up time.

The District's *Student Code of Conduct* shall contain appropriate disciplinary sanctions regarding student involvement in verbal and/or non-verbal threats.

Maine School Administrative District #33 reserves the right to bring suit and to seek restitution for damages, as permitted by law, against any individual responsible for communicating a threat.

Legal Reference: 17-A MRSA §210
20-A MRSA §1001 §§ 17-18

Cross Reference: KDE Crisis Response
JKD Student Suspension
JKE Student Expulsion
JICI Dangerous Weapons in Schools
"Student Code of Conduct"

History: Adopted Meeting #781 May 05, 2003