

Dear Peninsula Community,

On Wednesday we went into a Lock Out, which means that all doors are locked, limited access for entry, but classrooms and school run normally. Lock outs happen because of police activity in the area, or other potential threats outside the school.

Because this situation affected multiple schools, the initial communication went out from the district central office. I understand that this was sent only via email and not text. I will let them know that this is a concern, and should there ever be another situation, information will go out on both email and text at a minimum.

As a school, we have to maintain a balance between welcoming families and the safety of students and as such have increased the security measures as needed over the years. We have controlled the entryways and make sure everyone in the building has a badge. Our gates are locked during the day so people do not have access to the playground during school hours and at the same time we balance that with access after school to allow families to connect and build relationships with each other.

I understand that these times are stressful and that there are concerns about student safety. As always, we will continue to take measures to ensure the safety of our students without creating a climate of fear. For example, suggestions have been made to keep our front doors locked, requiring all visitors to be buzzed in via intercom. We can continue to problem solve and discuss how to fund this additional security, as well as any impact to Peninsula Elementary being a welcoming place to our community of parents and visitors.

Thank you to everyone for looking out for each other and working together to find a solution.

Silvia

Silvia Asson  
Principal  
Peninsula School