

86 AIRPORT ROAD - HARDINSBURG, KY 40143 PHONE: 270-756-3000 FAX: 270-756-6888

May 21, 2018

Dear Breckinridge County Learning Community,

Our hearts are saddened by the news of the tragic school shooting at Santa Fe High School in Texas last Friday, May 18, 2018. The loss of life and injuries are devastating to their families and the entire community. All of us in the Breckinridge County School District wish to express our heartfelt compassion, love, and support to everyone affected by this unspeakable tragedy.

Let me assure you that all of us in the school district are committed to ensuring our children attend school daily in a safe and positive learning environment. Over the course of this school year, we have reviewed school safety plans, practiced drills, engaged in conversations with our students about safety, and increased local police presence in our schools. Each school in our district has participated in Kentucky State Police Active Shooter training within the last three years as well.

Earlier this spring, our school district implemented an online safety tipline in partnership with the Kentucky Center for School Safety. Students, staff members, parents, and community members have the ability to access this online reporting system on our district or school websites. We encourage everyone to be proactive and report any bullying, violent, or risky behavior. If you see or hear something suspicious, please report it immediately.

We must continue to reflect upon the safety measures in our schools in an effort to ensure our children maximize their learning potential in a safe and positive environment. We must also work to identify children who are struggling in their personal and school lives. Societal changes have placed a great deal of stress on our 21<sup>st</sup> century children. Together, we must work in partnership to meet their social and emotional needs.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our local authorities for all that they have done to make our students, staff, parents, and community members feel safer this year. We are blessed to have some of the finest serving in law enforcement throughout Breckinridge County. Please know that my focus is and will always be on ensuring our Breckinridge County children enjoy a positive and safe learning experience. You can contact me directly if you ever wish to discuss school safety or any other topic concerning our schools.

Sincerely,

Nick Carter, Ed.D Superintendent

**Breckinridge County Schools** 

