

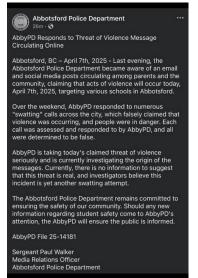
April 7, 2025

Mission Public School District is located on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unsurrendered, and Shared lands of the Stó:lō people, of Leq'á:mel, Semá:th, Máthxwi, Sq'éwlets and Qwó:ltl'el First Nations, stewards of this land since time immemorial.

Re: Abbotsford Social Media Threat

Dear Parents and Community Members:

Late yesterday a social media post was shared in which an individual threatened to commit gun violence at Abbotsford schools. While very upsetting, the threat was not credible. The APD put out information



indicating that this was part of a 'swatting' effort that can attempt to cause panic amongst the community and impact police services. When you share non-credible threats on social media, you are assisting these bad actors in their efforts to cause upset and trauma in our communities.

Social media is a great place for sharing pictures of our loved ones or our fun hobbies, but not a very effective news source, as the platforms do not refresh appropriately when new information is available - you have probably seen information that is, for example, a month old in your feed; this can cause this particular threat to re-appear in a week or two. Please look to the police, City, or School District for factual information when something like this occurs, rather than a Facebook post. If you must share something on social media, please share the information provided by the relevant authority. Again, these bad actors want you to share their misinformation, feeding off your very legitimate concern for your children's safety and well being.

Should you have questions about how determinations are made about the viability of threats or what processes our School District has when we receive a threat, feel free to contact me via email at <u>angus.wilson@mpsd.ca</u>. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Angus Wilson Superintendent of Schools