



# **BELTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Office of Superintendent · PO Box 269 · Belton, TX 76513-0269 · 254/215-2002 · Fax: 254/215-2094

**SUSAN KINCANNON, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

November 17, 2016

Dear Parents,

I wanted to follow up on the lockdowns at Belton High School, Bhs9 and Sparta Elementary School earlier today.

Just before 9:30 a.m., the Belton Police Department asked us to help facilitate an ongoing investigation by placing Belton High School and Bhs9 on a hard lockdown. We also placed Sparta Elementary School on a soft lockdown, because the campus is adjacent to those buildings. At no time was there an active threat to any of our schools, and the lockdowns were lifted just before noon.

We reached out to parents via email and text message shortly after the lockdowns began and again once they had been lifted. (If you didn't receive a text message, please see the instructions on how to sign up at [www.bisd.net/sms](http://www.bisd.net/sms))

As the mother of a BHS student, I know how disconcerting it is to learn that your child's school is on a hard lockdown and that you want details about what is happening. That's why my goal has been to share as much information as possible with you as soon as possible while ensuring that the information is accurate.

I can now confirm that the investigation was prompted by a 911 call. The caller claimed that there was a person at Bhs9 with a gun. The police department conducted a thorough investigation at Bhs9 and BHS. No gun was found.

The investigation has now shifted to identifying the caller. Both the Belton Police Department and Belton ISD take this threat seriously, and the caller can expect to face serious consequences. If your student has information about the threat, he or she can share it using our tip line: 254-316-8182 or [tipline@bisd.net](mailto:tipline@bisd.net)

I want to thank Chief Ellis and the Belton Police Department for their response. It is evidence of the strong partnership that we have and of our shared commitment to the safety of our students, staff and schools.

I also want to thank our students. I know that being kept in the classroom and not being able to move about the school can be uncomfortable. Our students did a great job and followed the lockdown procedures, which allowed the police to conduct their investigation.

There have been some stressful moments today, and it's times like this when I am thankful to be part of a community that supports our students. Thank you for making the Big Red Community a great place to live.

Sincerely,

Susan Kincannon, Ed.D.  
Superintendent