



# Moscow School District #281

650 N. Cleveland St. Moscow, ID 83843 (208) 882-1120 fax (208) 883-4440 www.msd281.org

Attachment 5  
Burgoyne  
3-13-2020 SJR104

Dr. Gregory J. Bailey, Superintendent

Carrie Brooks, Curriculum Director  
Jennifer Johnson, Business Manager

Charlie Gerke, Operations Director  
Shannon Richards, Special Services Director

February 28, 2020

## The Impact of a Threat to a Community's Schools

I am asking that you support the passage of Senate Joint Resolution 104 relating to warrantless arrests. If you are only considering the impact of a threat toward schools in the terms of financial or physical harm, I cannot say there was such an impact. However, actions taken by the person committing the threat did cause a major impact to the students and families, as well as the staff, of the Moscow School District. The impact that occurred was in the form of loss of academic time for students, increased workload for staff, and emotional distress for the students, staff, and community.

I was notified by the Moscow Police Department (MPD) of the threat at 9:00 am on Thursday, March 29, 2018. I later found out that the local newspaper published information about the threat 20 minutes later. Knowing that the MPD was aware of the threat and was working on communicating with the person who made the threat, and the fact that the threat was to shoot up two Moscow Schools on April 18 which was 21 days later I thought I had time on my side. I immediately notified all my building administrators of the threat and told them to be on high alert of strangers in the area.

Shortly after notifying my administrators, I was notified that the threat was being discussed on FaceBook, and our district, and especially myself, was being crucified for not immediately contacting all the parents and closing all the schools. It became obvious that due to one person's actions, many parents had gone into a state of panic. From that moment, until a couple of days after the shooting was supposed to occur, I as well as my staff, were taken away from concentrating on our educational responsibilities.

I dealt with twenty-three days of being inundated with phone calls, emails, and meetings with parents and concerned patrons that were frightened and angry that someone would threaten their schools.

Many of these people were scared enough that their thinking was not always rationale. Here were some of their parental requests during this time:

- parents wanted to patrol the area with weapons
- parents requested to be allowed to walk the halls throughout the day
- requests for fencing all the parameters of all of the schools with 6' fencing with razor wire on top

Administration  
650 N. Cleveland  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.1120  
FAX: 208.883.4440

Moscow  
High School  
402 E. Fifth Street  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.2591  
FAX: 208.892.1136

Moscow  
Middle School  
1410 East D Street  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.3577  
FAX: 208.892.1182

Lena  
Whitmore  
Elementary  
110 S. Blaine  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.2621  
FAX: 208.892.1202

A.B. McDonald  
Elementary  
East D Street  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.0228  
FAX: 208.892.1216

J. Russell  
Elementary  
119 N. Adams  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.2715  
FAX: 208.892.1241

West Park  
Elementary  
510 Home Street  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.2714  
FAX: 208.892.1259

Paradise Creek  
Regional  
High School  
1314 S. Main  
Moscow, ID 83843  
208.882.3687  
FAX: 208.882.6815

Support  
Services  
Facility  
FAX: 208.892.1265  
Location:  
2245 White Avenue

Facilities  
208.892.1129  
Food Service  
208.892.1123  
Transportation  
208.882.3933

- armed guards at each entrance of the schools
- putting steel covers over all the classroom doors
- arming teachers with guns
- closing school

As you can imagine, most of these options cause a school environment that is not nurturing in any way and inhibits us having a good learning environment for our students. It places our students in a learning environment that is more appropriate for prisoners.

We also dealt with parents and community members that were upset that we did not have this person arrested and locked up, something I do not have the power to do. Unfortunately, the Moscow Police Department also were unable to arrest the adult making the threat because our current law is weak.. The Moscow School District is asking our legislative representatives to reconsider and make the consequences harsher for people that are 18 years or older.

The threat and the concern during the aftermath also affected our attendance, which equates to loss of learning. Here is the number of absences during the week that the threat was supposed to occur. You will also notice that the Friday absences were also very large. This is due to the day students marched to express their frustration with the number of threats and shootings occurring at schools.

*District-Wide Absences*

<i>School</i>	<i>4/16/2018</i>	<i>4/17/2018</i>	<i>4/18/2018</i>	<i>4/19/2018</i>	<i>4/20/2018</i>
<i>Lena</i>	3	2	44	0	4
<i>McD</i>	3	2	51	3	10
<i>WP</i>	3	3	33	6	6
<i>Russell</i>	4	6	42	4	6
<i>MMS</i>	34	51	90	24	140
<i>MHS</i>	30	27	119	32	267
<i>Total/Day</i>	<b>77</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>433</b>

Enrollment: 2398 (4/18- Day the threat was supposed to occur. 4/20 – Students marched for a safer environment).

In Summary: This reckless decision-making caused our students, staff, and community to be in a state of fear, in a community that prides itself in being a safe community. Please help us make sure our children have the opportunity to live in a threat environment. Please support the changes being asked in Senate Joint Resolution 104. Thank You.

Sincerely,

*Gregory J. Bailey*

Gregory J. Bailey, Ph.D.  
Superintendent