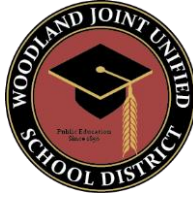


# WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Excellence for All"

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## Educational Services Division

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Thomas Pritchard, Superintendent

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February 16, 2018

In Woodland Joint Unified School District safety is of utmost importance and we are working diligently to ensure emergency preparedness practices are in place. There are times when it is necessary to communicate news that is painful. During those times we must be prepared to support each other as we deal with the many feelings that we might experience. Unfortunately, these times are becoming all too common in education. Yesterday, 17 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School students and staff were murdered while at school in Parkland, Florida.

Death can be difficult for us to understand, especially when it is sudden. We may feel different emotions: shock, sadness, confusion, and in this case anger. What we do with those emotions is key in helping to make sense of and move forward after a senseless tragedy.

As a District and within each of our sites, safety plans are being reviewed and revised, drills are taking place, and communication systems are being tested so that we can respond as quickly and efficiently as possible when needed. Below you will find a few of the things we are doing within WJUSD to be prepared:

- **Staff Emergency Training:** All school sites along with District Office personnel will participate in an active shooter training on March 1, 2018. This training will focus on active preparation for a possible active shooter event near campus and on campus. Our partnership with Woodland Police Department and the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services will also be on hand to educate on ways to more effectively prevent a possible active shooting situation.
- **School Safety Plans:** California Education Code and Board Policy require that all school sites must maintain a comprehensive safety plan to ensure that students and staff are safe and secure on campus and are free from physical or psychological harm. All of our school sites are currently revising these plans with their site councils. The plans must be updated and reviewed by school Site Councils in the fall and approved by our governing board in the spring.
- **Police Partnership:** WJUSD partners with local police officials on training activities at our school sites so law enforcement is familiar with our campuses, procedures and personnel. Our SROs have supported emergency drills at a number of campuses in the fall and will be working with active shooter trainings at each of our secondary sites in the spring.
- **Social-Emotional Supports:** Our amazing counseling team made up of school counselors, school psychologists, mental health therapists, and partnered supports like Communicare are on hand and ready to support students, staff, and families during these difficult times.
- **School Visitor Registration:** Because of the Yolo County Grand Jury report, we are re-establishing our commitment to have each visitor on site check-in at the front office and obtain a visitor's pass.
- **Neighboring District Partnerships:** As a district, we are working with our neighboring districts within Yolo County to review, discuss, and implement common safety measures.

- **Emergency Preparedness Charts:** We are investing in providing each of our classrooms and departments with communication and emergency procedures charts. These charts will provide clear messages and procedures for a number of possible emergencies. These charts will also provide clear communication charts to accurately and effectively communicate safety concerns.

These are just some of the examples. We encourage students, employees, family members and others within our school community to continue to find out more about what is happening on your school campus by attending a Site Council meeting or by contacting your school office.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy Spector".

Stacy Spector,  
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services