



May 30, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors
Non-Public School Administrators

FROM: Bill Schuette, Attorney General
Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent
Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue, Michigan State Police

SUBJECT: OK-2-SAY Student Safety Initiative

Our offices recently announced a collaborative effort with the Governor's office to create the OK-2-SAY Student Safety Initiative. This new program has a current target start date of September, 2013. Students, parents, and concerned citizens will be able to confidentially report tips on dangerous behaviors that threaten the safety of our schools, students, and school personnel. Additional program details are available at: <http://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,4534,7-164-46849-303794--00.html>.

The effectiveness of the OK-2-SAY program depends on accurate, efficient information sharing. The Michigan State Police will receive initial tips, and trained operators will filter information out to appropriate law enforcement officials. At the same time, superintendents, public school academy directors, and non-public school directors will be notified, and contact information for local law enforcement will be provided. The goal is to facilitate prompt responses to reported threats, ultimately resulting in the prevention of harmful behaviors, including weapons possession, violent assaults, and other inappropriate conduct.

To ensure that prevention efforts are conducted in a timely manner, OK-2-SAY operators must have a means of contacting appropriate school officials when threats arise. In addition to the lead administrator, we are requesting that all school districts, public school academies, and non-public schools that wish to participate in the OK-2-SAY program enter an OK-2-SAY contact in the Education Entity Master (EEM) to serve as a redundant communication link with OK-2-SAY operators. Contact information stored in the EEM for lead administrators and OK-2-SAY contacts will be shared with OK-2-SAY operators as necessary.

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If you wish to participate in the voluntary OK-2-SAY program, please designate an OK-2-SAY contact and enter his or her name, telephone number, and e-mail address into the EEM. Your prompt submission will help ensure our ability to implement OK-2-SAY by the start of the 2013-14 school year.

If you have any questions on this important initiative, please email studentsafety@michigan.gov. Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and for your continued hard work on behalf of Michigan students.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance