



EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1

October 10, 2018

Hello Tigers,

As you are well aware, the unfortunate number of mass casualty events in our country has been a concern nationwide for several years. Over the past couple of years, La Junta Schools has put a substantial amount of time and effort into creating a safe environment for students along with planning extensively for emergency events that may arise.

On October 18, 2018, the entire district is going to participate in an emergency DRILL that will involve not only every facet of the district, but also a very broad range of community partners including first responders, mental and physical health, city officials and many others. The actual activity for the drill will take place at the Junior Senior High School. During that time, we will conduct a full re-unification drill. In a drill of this kind, buildings not directly involved (in this case both elementary schools and TLC) will go into lockout mode and parents will be called to pick up their children. Elementary parents, you will receive a call to pick up your children. If you are unable to do so, normal bus routes will run at the end of the day. Students who are picked up early will be excused. High school students who have college courses are asked to only attend their college courses for that particular day. They will be excused as well. Parents of high school students will receive directions and notifications for pick up instructions during the actual drill. If your student has an appointment or some other extenuating circumstance, we ask that you pre-arrange with Mr. Nuschy, the HS Principal, to make those arrangements. Once buildings go into lock down or lock out, students will not be accessible.

This drill will also have a broad effect on several blocks around the high school area. If you live in the area East of San Juan and South of 14th Street, expect some inconvenience in regard to access to those areas.

Again, although we hope and pray we never have to experience a live mass casualty event in our community or anywhere else, we would be remiss if we did not do our best to prepare for emergencies. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at the central office. I would be glad to visit with you.

Thanks again for all of the continuous support of La Junta Schools!

Sincerely,

Rick Lovato
Superintendent