

NO THREAT TO STUDENTS AT SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

Niagara Catholic and the Niagara Regional Police are aware of comments circulating in the community regarding an alleged threat made against Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School in St. Catharines.

The safety and security of Niagara Catholic students and staff are of paramount importance to the Board. School officials and police have investigated the matter and determined that there is no threat to either Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School, nor any Niagara Catholic school.

Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School Principal Jim Whittard spoke to students in an assembly this morning, advising them that it is a regular school day and they are in no danger. Unfortunately, rumours about an alleged threat travelled very quickly on social media throughout the weekend, and the issue took on a life of its own. Despite what has been circulated online, the school has not been in lockdown and there is no truth to rumours of a threat against the school. During the assembly, Principal Whittard reminded students that he, Vice-Principal DellaVentura and all staff are available to students if they have any questions or concerns about safety at the school.

We remind parents that Niagara Regional Police School Resource Officers are a regular, visible presence in our schools and are valuable partners in our Catholic school communities. Parents and members of the community should never be concerned when they see a cruiser in a school parking lot.

We are grateful to the individuals who brought this matter to the attention of our staff over the past week, and for the co-operation of the Niagara Regional Police.

Niagara Catholic provides excellence in Catholic education to approximately 22,000 students throughout Niagara; from Early Learning Kindergarten through graduation.

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Issued by: Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer
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