April 18, 2019

## Dear Families:

We would like to thank everyone for their patience during yesterday's security threat. We would like to inform you that the security threat has ended and all of our schools are safe. We are excited to be able to resume school business today and welcome back all students into a safe environment.

We understand that these kinds of incidents are stressful for all of us, but especially for our children. Our mental health team and our teachers are prepared to support our students on their return. If you have questions about talking to your children about a fear of school violence, make sure to review the email that DPS sent to all parents and review the resources provided by the <u>National Association of School Psychologists</u>.

Wednesday all DPS school leaders participated in a webinar to share their experience with this week's events. We learned that DPS received direction from the state right around dismissal time on Tuesday that schools should do both a lockout and a controlled release. Like other school districts in the metro area experienced, there was no precedent for doing a lockout and controlled release district-wide during dismissal time. Additionally, there were delays in messages being received by school leaders. We understand that DPS is reviewing all of its communication software and emergency communication plans based on the events of this week. As a district, we strive every day to learn and continue to improve.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us. Safety of your students is our top priority and we are grateful to our law enforcement for working quickly to avert a potential threat to our schools in Colorado.

TEAMWORK ● INTEGRITY ● GRIT