December 3, 2021

Dear UCS Community,

The tragic events at Oxford High School will continue to have a long-term effect on our community. As members of the Utica Community Schools Emergency Response Team, we want to assure you that we are working closely together to keep our students safe and support families throughout this difficult time. Our success is directly dependent on the partnership with parents, particularly when it comes to student use of social media.

We take seriously any threat to student and staff safety. This team uses every resource available to investigate each incident reported to us. If students come across threatening posts, rather than repost that information, they should report it to a responsible adult. Every time a student shares a social media message, our law enforcement resources are dedicated to unnecessarily investigating the duplicate posts.

Students who make poor decisions to threaten the safety of others face serious consequences from both law enforcement and their school. We have and will arrest students who make poor choices regarding school security. The lives of these students are forever changed as a result of their actions.

“It was meant to be a joke” is not an acceptable answer. Please join us in speaking to your students about the serious and life-changing ramifications of their decisions. This is a message that cannot be reinforced enough.

We are proud to represent a community that meets the needs of our youth through strength and resolve. By working together, we can make sure that every UCS student has the opportunity for the success they deserve.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Monroe
Superintendent of Schools

Anthony Wickersham
Macomb County Sheriff

Robert Shelide
Shelby Township Chief of Police

Dale Dwijakowski
Sterling Heights Chief of Police

Sean Coady
Utica Chief of Police