

Minnesota School Threats Since Parkland, Florida

*Following the school shooting that killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland on February 14, 2018, the number of threats called into schools across the country have surged. In Minnesota, there have been **at least 27 threats** investigated at schools since February 14. Those threats are outlined below.*

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ADRIAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

February 17, 2018

Worthington Daily Globe – Adrian police also investigated school threat

<https://www.dglobe.com/news/crime-and-courts/4409488-updated-adrian-police-also-investigated-school-threat>

- Adrian Public Schools District reported that a possible nonspecific threat made Feb. 17 on social media prompted immediate local and county law enforcement action.
- According to Adrian Police Chief Shawn Langseth, the threat — made by an Adrian student — did not specifically identify the school district.

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL

February 21, 2018

Star Tribune – Orono schools seek to reassure returning students after lockdown

<http://www.startribune.com/crisis-teams-police-greet-orono-students-thursday/474833303/>

- Police were notified at 10:57 a.m. Wednesday the 21st of threats on Twitter and Facebook that a shooting would happen at noon, Police Chief Correy Farniok said.
- Police determined that both threats originated from inside the high school, which prompted a several-hour school lockdown.
- The suspect was identified and found inside a classroom, as was the student sought for questioning. Neither was armed and no guns were found.
- Authorities on Thursday the 22nd charged an Orono student with threatening on social media to shoot up his school.

CRETIN DERHAM-HALL HIGH SCHOOL

February 21, 2018

Pioneer Press – Police investigate threat at Rosemount High School, rumor at Cretin-Derham Hall

<https://www.twincities.com/2018/02/22/police-say-rosemount-high-school-threat-not-serious/>

- On Wednesday evening of the 21st, students were worried based off gossip and social media that “something might happen” at school the next day. At 10 p.m., parents called school administration to share the “perception that there might be a student who was threatening to have a gun, to do harm to other students.”
- The school immediately called the police, who opened an investigation. No arrests were made, no immediate threat found, and the school remained open the next morning. The school is handling the matter internally.

ELK RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

February 22, 2018

5 Eyewitness News - Elk River High School Student Arrested for Threat Day after Orono Arrest

<http://kstp.com/news/elk-river-high-school-student-arrested-for-threat-day-after-orono-lockdown/4799771/>

- A student posted a threat of violence at 11:15 a.m. (separate from an earlier post published from someone else at 8 a.m. the same morning, and found not credible) on Thursday the 22nd.
- Police and school officials immediately investigated, and a 14-year-old student was arrested and has been kept in custody, pending a court appearance.
- The high school stayed open, all students remained safe.

HILL CITY SCHOOL

February 22, 2018

Star Tribune – Threats prompt closure of school in Aitkin County, Minn.

<http://www.startribune.com/threats-prompt-closure-of-school-in-hill-city-minnesota/474856723/>

- Hill City Superintendent Pat Rendle said he began getting calls about 11:30 p.m. Wednesday the 21st from some coaches, concerned parents and school board members alerting him to threats made on Snapchat and Facebook.
- Threats related to an incident that took place the previous week involving a student. The anonymous source or sources of the messages said they were going to come to the school Thursday the 22nd and shoot specific students.
- The district closed the school on Thursday the 22nd, and no official arrests have been made. All students are safe. The incident in Hill City is under investigation by the Aitkin County Sheriff's Office, Hill City police and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

BRAINERD HIGH SCHOOL

February 22, 2018

Brainerd Dispatch – Hoax shooting threat rattles BHS students

<http://www.brainerddispatch.com/news/4407941-hoax-shooting-threat-rattles-bhs-students>

- An apparent shooting threat made toward "bhs students" via Snapchat spread rapidly among Brainerd High School students late Thursday the 22nd evening.
- The Brainerd Police Chief called the threat not credible in a 9:30 p.m. news release Thursday night. The Chief said through investigation, law enforcement learned an identical post was received in other areas of the country with schools sporting the same "BHS" initials.
- A student from New Mexico ultimately took responsibility. Brainerd High School remained open the next day. No arrests were made, and all students remained safe. There was an increased presence of police at the school on Friday the 23rd.

ROSEMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL

February 22, 2018

Pioneer Press – Police investigate threat at Rosemount High School, rumor at Cretin-Derham Hall

<https://www.twincities.com/2018/02/22/police-say-rosemount-high-school-threat-not-serious/>

- An unspecified threat towards Rosemount High School was made on social media on Wednesday the 21st. Police and school leaders engaged in an investigation, and ultimately determined that there was no valid threat.
- School remained open the following morning. Everyone remained safe, and no arrests occurred.

ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

February 23, 2018

MPR News – St. Francis schools closed Friday as police investigate threat

<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2018/02/23/st-francis-schools-closed-as-police-investigate-threat>

- The St. Francis Police Department investigated a threat made by a St. Francis high school student the day after a mass shooting in a Parkland, Fla., high school (February 15th). Investigators found that threat to be non-credible at the time, but increased police presence at the high school.
- On Friday, February 23rd, St. Francis Area Schools closed all their buildings for the day. It was unclear whether this was a response to the previous week's investigation.
- No violence occurred, and all students stayed home. On Thursday afternoon of the 22nd, the Aitkin County Sheriff's Department arrested two teenage girls in connection to the incident.

AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL

February 23, 2018

Austin Daily Herald – Student taken into custody for making threats at Austin HS

<https://www.austindailyherald.com/2018/02/student-taken-into-custody-for-making-threats-at-austin-hs/>

- Two Austin High School students were detained by Austin police on Friday the 23rd after allegedly making terroristic threats against the school on social media.
- Austin Police Chief Brian Krieger said one of the students was taken to the Many Rivers Juvenile Detention Center in Rochester while the other student was released to the care of their grandmother.
- All students remained safe, and school stayed in session. The Chief did not know Friday afternoon if charges would be brought against the juveniles.

JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

February 25, 2018

Worthington Daily Globe – JCC student charged after allegedly making school shooting threat

<https://www.dglobe.com/news/crime-and-courts/4409915-jcc-student-charged-after-allegedly-making-school-shooting-threat>

- Charges have been filed against a former Jackson County Central Public Schools student that allegedly threatened to engage in a school shooting.
- The former student was arrested at 11:03 p.m. Sunday, approximately two hours after the Jackson County Sheriff's Office was made aware of an alleged threat he made while playing an online video game with other JCC high school students.

EAST RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

February 23, 2018

Star Tribune – 2 juveniles face charges in East Ridge school threats; 17-year-old arrested in St. Francis

<http://www.startribune.com/st-francis-calls-off-school-due-to-alleged-threat/474946313/>

- On Friday the 23rd, Woodbury police and the FBI examined several social media posts on Instagram and Snapchat, as well as text messages, that contained school shooting texts.
- Authorities determined the individuals did not have the intent or means to carry out threatened attacks. No school shutdowns occurred, and everyone remained safe.
- Two juveniles were arrested and charged.

NORTH BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL

February 26, 2018

Pioneer Press – Former North Branch High student arrested in school threat

<https://www.twincities.com/2018/02/26/former-north-branch-high-school-mn-student-arrested-in-school-threat/>

- On Saturday the 25th, police in North Branch received a report at 6:40 p.m. that verbal threats mentioned a potential shooting at the high school. There was no specific time or date mentioned, or even if the threat was going to be carried out.
- A former North Branch High School student has been arrested after the threats were made. The 17-year-old boy did not have a firearm when he was arrested and there is no information that suggests he even had immediate access to any weapons.
- No students were harmed, and schools remained open on Monday the 26th.

PATRICK HENRY HIGH SCHOOL

February 27, 2018

Star Tribune – Patrick Henry High goes on lockdown after gunman sighted

<http://www.startribune.com/patrick-henry-high-goes-on-lockdown-after-gunman-sighted/475325493/>

- Patrick Henry High School was put on lockdown Tuesday after a person with a gun was seen stepping off a bus nearby
- Minneapolis Public Schools posted on Twitter that the incident occurred after school let out and most students had left the building when “an unauthorized visitor ran into Patrick Henry High School.”

HOLDINGFORD SCHOOLS

February 27, 2018

St. Cloud Times – No credible threats found after rumors surface in Holdingford, superintendent says

<https://www.sctimes.com/story/news/local/2018/02/27/no-credible-threats-found-after-rumors-surface-holdingford-superintendent-says/379033002/>

- Three Stearns County deputies were at Holdingford High School on Tuesday to ease students' minds after rumors of a threat spread over the weekend, Superintendent Chris Swenson said Tuesday.
- The rumors were found to be not credible by administration and law enforcement. The deputies searched a few backpacks Tuesday morning as a precautionary measure.

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI SCHOOLS

February 28, 2018

Star Tribune – Threat that closed Cambridge-Isanti schools was false alarm

<http://www.startribune.com/rumored-potential-threat-closes-cambridge-isanti-schools/475390763/>

- Cambridge-Isanti schools were shut down Wednesday while authorities investigated a possible threat made on social media that turned out to be not credible.
- Authorities became aware of the posting on Snapchat early Wednesday morning and decided just before 6 a.m. to close all schools and cancel after-school activities.
- At Zimmerman High School, one student was arrested Wednesday after another student overheard him making threatening comments in class, authorities said.

ANDERSON ELEMENTARY IN MINNEAPOLIS

March 1, 2018

MPR News – Andersen Elementary in Mpls. clear after cautionary lockdown

<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2018/03/01/andersen-elementary-minneapolis-locked-down>

- Andersen United Community School in Minneapolis was put in lockdown Thursday in an "abundance of caution" over a "concerning report" that was not substantiated, a school district official said.
- Minneapolis Police responded to the building and evacuated students. Slightly more than 100 students in the after-school programs were affected, said Suzanne Kelly, the school district's chief of staff.

VANDAI'S HEIGHTS

March 1, 2018

MPR News – Son's alleged school threat leads to charges for Vadnais Heights man

<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2018/03/05/vadnais-heights-school-threat-charges-father>

- The parents of a Vadnais Heights boy connected to an alleged school shooting threat made a first appearance Monday on gun charges in Ramsey County District Court... charged with two felony counts of possession of illegal weapons and another gross misdemeanor charge of negligent storage of firearms that a child can access.
- The guns, ammo and other items were found Friday, after Ramsey County sheriff's deputies searched the family's home following reports Thursday that Stowe's son, age 13, had made a threatening comment to another student, and said had a list of students he was going to kill.
- The other child's parents reported the threat to police, who got a warrant to search the Stowes' home.

MONTGOMERY AREA SCHOOLS

March 1, 2018

Mankato Free Press – Teen charged with posting threat against Tri-City United school

http://www.mankatofreepress.com/news/local_news/teen-charged-with-posting-threat-against-tri-city-united-school/article_93580e80-1d9c-11e8-94a8-938a222e9afb.html

- A student at Tri-City United High School is facing a felony charge after reportedly making a threatening social media post. Another student at the high school in Montgomery reported to school administrators Wednesday morning that Strang had posted a photo of a gun on Snapchat and the words "See u at School."
- Dominik Daniel Strang, 18, of Waterville, was charged with felony terroristic threats Thursday in Le Sueur County District Court.

TRITON SCHOOLS

March 2, 2018

Post Bulletin – Triton student arrested for school threats

http://www.postbulletin.com/news/crime/triton-student-arrested-for-school-threats/article_22ddc212-1e32-11e8-90d2-67ea7574e57b.html

- A Triton student was arrested Thursday night after the juvenile threatened students both verbally and via Snapchat that "they better not come to school on Friday because he was going to harm people."

DULUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 5, 2018

Duluth News Tribune – Authorities locate student who allegedly made threat to Denfeld High School

<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/crime-and-courts/4412885-authorities-locate-student-who-allegedly-made-threat-denfeld-high>

- The Duluth Police Department and Duluth school district reported Monday that they identified a student who allegedly made a threat to Denfeld High School that caused an increased police presence at the school.
- The student will face discipline due to “the disruptive nature of the statement and the concern it caused our school and community,” the district stated. Duluth police said they’ll forward the case to the St. Louis County Attorney’s Office for a possible juvenile charge of threats of violence.
- Duluth police had an increased presence at Denfeld on Monday after police became aware of Snapchat posts about a rumor of a shooting at Denfeld.

CLOQUET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 6, 2018

Duluth News Tribune – Cloquet girl arrested after school threat

<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/crime-and-courts/4413984-cloquet-girl-arrested-after-school-threat>

- The Cloquet Police Department was notified Tuesday evening of a threat that was posted to social media, referring to Cloquet High School and Cloquet Middle School.
- The girl is being lodged at the Arrowhead Juvenile Center.

BRAINERD HIGH SCHOOL

March 7, 2018

Brainerd Dispatch - BHS teenager arrested after making shooting threat

<https://www.brainerddispatch.com/news/4414797-bhs-teenager-arrested-after-making-shooting-threat>

- A 16-year-old student overheard making verbal threats to commit a shooting at Brainerd High School was overheard on Wednesday, March 7.
- The Brainerd Police force reacted quickly, and arrested the student without incident later that evening. The Brainerd School District sent out emails and voicemails to parents following the police department’s update. All students are safe.

EAST HIGH SCHOOL

March 8, 2018

1013 ABC News – Student Arrested Following Duluth East High School Threat

<http://www.wdio.com/news/duluth-east-high-school-threat/4818656/>

- The Duluth Police Department and Duluth Police School Resource Officers began investigating an incident in which a male student at Duluth East High School was overheard verbally threatening to shoot up the school and a specific staff member on Thursday, March 8.
- Due to the violent nature of the threats and the disruption caused, the student was arrested and faces possible criminal charges, in addition to disciplinary action by the school.
- The school was not placed on lockdown. All students remained safe. The student is being lodged at Arrowhead Juvenile Center.

UBAH MEDICAL ACADEMY

March 8, 2018

WCCO News – Adult Student Taken Into Custody After School Threat In Hopkins

<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2018/03/08/ubah-medical-academy-threat-arrest/>

- On the morning of March 8, Hopkins police received information about a safety threat at the academy. After a preliminary investigation, an adult male student was taken into custody.
- There are no additional security concerns, and the school remains open. Details are limited.

CAPITOL HILL GIFTED AND TALENTED MAGNET SCHOOL

May 2, 2018

Pioneer Press – St. Paul school locks down over social media rumor, but police find no gun

<https://www.twincities.com/2018/05/02/st-paul-school-locks-down-over-social-media-rumor-but-police-find-no-gun/>

- Rumors of a student possessing a gun on Snapchat during the school day prompted a Capitol Hill Magnet School lockdown.
- Hearing students talk about the rumor, administrators decided on a lockdown minutes before dismissal. Parents were notified that busses would be late.
- Source was not found to be credible, and juvenile did not appear to be on school property when the photo was posted. All students remained safe.

MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL

May 9, 2018

Bring Me the News – John Marshall High School in Rochester evacuated because of bomb threat

<https://bringmethenews.com/minnesota-news/john-marshall-high-school-in-rochester-evacuated-because-of-bomb-threat>

- On the morning of May 9, an anonymous bomb threat was called in to John Marshall High School in Rochester.
- Addressing the threat, K9 dogs were brought in to assess the threat. Nothing was found, and the threat was considered non-credible.
- Everyone remained safe. Students returned to school as normal.

TRITON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 12, 2018

WCCO News – Sheriff's Office: Triton Student Arrested After Social Media Threats

<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2018/05/12/triton-student-arrested-social-media-threats/>

- A Triton Public Schools student made a threat on social media that they would be bringing a gun to school the following Monday. A peer of that student saw the post and alerted their parents, who notified the police.
- Student who posted the threat was arrested. They admitted to the post, but said it was not serious. The student will appear in court.
- The student acted alone. There is no longer an active threat to the school.