Dear parents/guardians,

As you are likely aware throughout media and social media, there have been some recent "clown" specific threats and safety concerns that have occurred across North America. These threats can sometimes reference and target specific schools. The majority of these threats are appearing throughout social media platforms – and mostly through Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat accounts.

We would encourage you to talk to your children about reporting any concerning images or threats should they come across them on social media. Students are encouraged to report directly to school administration, counsellors or their school Police Liaison Officer.

The Vancouver School District has a close partnership with the Vancouver Police Department, and we will continue to work together to monitor this particular situation. Schools also have access to a School Liaison Officer who will work closely with the school staff and students when needed. Along with other school districts in the province, our district receives training in assessing and responding to threat related behaviour through the ERASE Bullying Strategy.

The safety of our students remains our top priority, and we thank you for helping by speaking with your children about this issue.

Should you have any questions or concerns please talk to your school administration.

Thanks, Magdalena

Magdalena Kassis
Director of Instruction
Vancouver School District
mkassis@vsb.bc.ca