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Dear Families of Scioto County Schools, Oak Hill Schools, Manchester Schools, & Paint Valley Schools,

Yesterday we were alerted of a “swatting/hoax” email campaign targeting public schools in Ohio. The email messages are from an account that claims to be a Russian organization and have been sent to school districts across Ohio and Nationally. Similar emails in other states recently have been investigated and found to be non-credible.

However, student safety is our primary concern so we are diligently working with our local law enforcement and heightening our safety protocols. Local law enforcement, the Ohio School Safety Center, The Department of Education and Workforce as well as the FBI have all been notified and are investigating the threat.

We are sending this message simply to let you know that all districts are aware of this situation, believe it to be a hoax, and will continue to work with our local law enforcement and our educational colleagues across our region to deal with this matter. Your support and understanding of heightened security measures are appreciated. We look forward to a productive, safe, and enjoyable educational week. On behalf of our member districts, thank you!

Sandra L. Mers, SCOESC Superintendent