October 5, 2016

Dear Friends of ESUHSD,

Across the nation, there is a trend that has reached the Bay Area on social media regarding clown scare tactics. There have been reported incidents where individuals show up to schools and public places dressed as a scary clown. To date, there have not been any reported incidents of verbal contact with these pranksters, but there have been numerous examples of inappropriate and threatening comments made on social media.

The safety of our students, teachers and school communities is a priority. We take threats of this type very seriously. We have informed the San Jose Police Department ("SJPD") of these newest threats made on social media. The District is on heightened alert. We are asking our students and community not to engage with or respond to any threats on social media. Rather, please inform site administration immediately and we will update the San Jose Police Department.

With Halloween fast approaching, each site will determine whether or not they allow costumes. However, because of this newest phenomenon, we will not allow clown costumes, nor any costume that disguise the identity of students. Please work together in keeping all of our community safe from these disturbing social media acts of disruptions.

Sincerely,

Chris D. Funk
Superintendent