Dear Parents and Guardians,

As part of **[insert name of school/district]’s** commitment to our students’ safety and mental health, we are pleased to introduce **Safe+Sound Iowa**—a free, anonymous school violence reporting tool. ­­Starting **[month and date]** students, parents, teachers and other community members can help identify and provide intervention for students in crisis before they harm themselves or others.

Safe+Sound Iowa is available to K–12 schools statewide at no charge by the Governor’s School Safety Bureau. It was developed to help prevent violence, unlawful possession of weapons, self-harm and other forms of victimization and threatening behaviors. Similar programs have been successful in preventing tragedy and saving lives in schools across the country, including Colorado, Pennsylvania and Arizona.

**HOW SAFE+SOUND IOWA WORKS**

In past school attacks in the United States, 92% of those who noticed concerning behaviors before the events were schoolmates.\* Students may not report warning signs due to feelings
of anxiety or intimidation, fear of retaliation or not knowing who to talk to. Safe+Sound Iowa removes these barriers with easy, convenient and confidential ways to report safety concerns.

Reports can be made securely and anonymously:

* Online at [**SafeandSoundIowa.gov**](http://safeandsoundiowa.gov/)
* Through the **Safe+Sound Iowa mobile app**, or ­
* By phone at **800-224-6018**.

Trained dispatchers monitor reports 24/7 and immediately engage in two-way communication with those raising concerns. They then reach out to the appropriate local school safety contact, law enforcement or other community partners.

**WHERE TO LEARN MORE**

As we prepare to roll out Safe+Sound Iowa, school staff are receiving training on how to communicate with students the importance of early reporting. Additional information can also be found on [**SafeandSoundIowa.gov**](http://safeandsoundiowa.gov/), including:

* Informational handout about Safe+Sound Iowa
* Easy-to-follow guidebook detailing answers to frequently asked questions
* Brief video demonstrating how to use the Safe+Sound Iowa app

You can [**download the free Safe+Sound Iowa mobile app**](Link%20to%20come) on the App Store and Google Play.

Creating a safe learning environment is our highest priority, and it starts with early detection of potential threats.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **[first name last name]**, **[title]** at **[email and/or phone number]**.

Sincerely,

[first name, last name]
[title]
[organization]