

Fossil Ridge High School student cited after school violence threats

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A Fossil Ridge High School student was cited this week after allegedly making threats of school violence.

After school ended Wednesday, Fort Collins police received more than 10 Safe2Tell reports that the male student had made statements threatening school violence, according to a news release.

School resource officers started investigating immediately and contacted the student, who was cited with interference with staff, faculty or students of an educational institution, a Class 1 misdemeanor.

"We always tell people that if they see something, say something," said Sgt. Laura Lunsford, who supervises the School Resource Officer program, in a news release. "The students who reported their concerns via Safe2Tell did exactly that, and we're proud of them for taking their safety seriously."

The student's name will not be released due to statutory privacy protections for juveniles, according to Fort Collins Police Services. Poudre School District does not release information about student discipline due to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, district spokesperson Madeline Noblett said.

In an email sent to Fossil Ridge parents following the incident, Principal Julie Chaplain said she "cannot share details; however, I can tell you the student involved has not been and will not be present at Fossil as we work through this situation."

Chaplain commended students for reporting the situation to Safe2Tell and also shared mental health resources for students and their families, including utilizing school counselors and SummitStone's Community Crisis Center.

This is the second known time this month that a Poudre School District student has been cited following Safe2Tell reports concerning school violence.

On May 8, a female student at [Preston Middle School used Safe2Tell to falsely report a threat that resulted in an hourlong lockout of the school](#). The threat and lockout came just a day after [one student was killed and seven others were injured in a shooting at STEM School Highlands Ranch in the Denver suburbs](#).

The Preston student was cited on charges of false reporting, a Class 1 misdemeanor, and interference with staff, faculty or students of an educational institution, a Class 3 misdemeanor.

Her name will not be released due to statutory privacy protections for juveniles, according to police.

School safety in PSD

PSD does not regularly track how many lockouts or lockdowns happen each year, Noblett said.

But in a response to a Coloradoan data request for that information, Noblett said that, as of May 14, there appear to have been 11 lockouts and one lockdown at PSD schools this school year. There are 50 schools in the district.

The lockouts included:

- Aug. 29, 2018: Poudre High School, due to police activity in the area
- Sept. 25, 2018: Rocky Mountain High School, due to police activity in the area
- Sept. 28, 2018: Livermore Elementary School, due to police activity in the area
- Oct. 5, 2018: Lopez Elementary School, due to a bear in the area
- Oct. 24, 2018: Putnam Elementary School, due to police activity in the area
- Nov. 1, 2018: O'Dea Elementary School, due to police activity in the area
- Jan. 17: Werner Elementary School, due to police activity in the area
- Jan. 17: Poudre High School, due to police activity in the area
- March 1: Rocky Mountain High School, due to police activity outside the school
- April 26: Linton Elementary School, due police activity in the area
- May 8: Preston Middle School, due to unsubstantiated Safe2Tell report

A lockdown that happened at Rocky Mountain High School on April 4 was due to a malfunction that triggered the school's lockdown alarm.