



City of Grinnell

...Jewel of the Prairie

Police Department
1020 Spring Street
Grinnell, IA 50112

Phone: 641-236-2670
FAX: 641-236-2652
ORI#IA0790100

Michael McClelland
Chief of Police

Media Release

Date: November 29, 2022

Reference: **PDI20221050- Police investigate threats of violence by Middle School student**

Grinnell, IA – November 28, 2022, 8:34 a.m., Grinnell Police responded to the Grinnell Middle School in response to an unknown problem with a 13yo. male juvenile student. School officials advised they received a complaint from a concerned parent about several school emails their child received, that appeared to be threatening and disturbing in nature, from another student. They investigated the complaint and discovered the student that authored the emails had been sending the emails over his school Gmail account to other students, using a numbered code to hide certain words, along with finding several handwritten documents and drawings, suggesting acts and threats of violence against the students, teachers, and the school itself. Investigation revealed documents of threatening behaviors towards students, staff and property that caused significant concern for the safety and welfare of others.

Upon notification of the parents, the student in question was immediately removed from school property, by school officials, and will no longer be in attendance until further action is taken by the School District Board of Directors. The student and parents are cooperating fully with our investigation.

Our investigation is still on going, but we do not feel there is any kind of credible threat currently for students, teachers, or the school property.

The 13yo. student was arrested and charged with below Iowa code violation and released to parents pending court date:

708A.5- Threat of terrorism- *A person who threatens to commit terrorism or threatens to cause terrorism to be committed and who causes a reasonable expectation or fear of the imminent commission of such an act of terrorism commits a class "D" felony.*

Anyone that has any additional information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Grinnell Police Department, Investigations Sergeant Ben Smith, at 641-623-5602.

A criminal charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Enforcement • Service • Courtesy