



## TOWN OF ELIZABETH

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

STEPHEN HASLER, CHIEF OF POLICE

Feb. 21, 2020

Elizabeth Police Chief Stephen P. Hasler announced this morning the threat investigation that led to the closure of Elizabeth High School today is ongoing, but early indications suggest it was not a credible threat.

The threat was relayed to the Elizabeth Police Department Thursday evening by the Homeland Security Bureau. Elizabeth Police Department, in turn, contacted the Elizabeth School District. The threat warned there would be a shooting this morning, at a specific time, at Elizabeth High School. Given the time of day the threat was received, the decision was made to close Elizabeth High School today (Friday).

"We can confirm the threat referenced a shooting," said Chief Hasler. "We will continue to investigate all possible leads in cooperation with state and national law enforcement agencies and work closely with Elizabeth School District to decide next steps. At this time, we have no indication there are any additional safety concerns." Elizabeth Schools superintendent, Douglas Bissonette, has indicated a decision will be made later today about whether athletic events and activities at Elizabeth High School on Saturday will go forward as planned. The district is currently planning for the school to be open on Monday, February 24, barring any weather related delays or closures.

Hasler thanked the school district, the Elizabeth Fire Department, and the Elbert County Sheriff's Office for swift, community-wide collaboration in closing the school today and for support of the investigation. To support students and staff, additional law enforcement presence has been at the Elizabeth schools today, as well as other area schools.