



3755 Church Street  
Zachary, LA 70791  
225.658.4969  
Fax 225.658.5261  
[www.zacharyschools.org](http://www.zacharyschools.org)

October 31, 2022

Re: Safe Schools La. Program

TO Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this brief missive as a thank you and an endorsement for the Safe School Louisiana program. Our school district began using the program in August 2022. Last summer, during the on-boarding process, Ms. Darlene and Ms. Pullins were of tremendous help as they helped our district with getting information out to all stakeholders. The marketing materials for the schools (posters, signs, instructional video) were awesome. Our schools showed the SSL instructional video to all students. Our students, from the beginning, felt comfortable using the APP knowing that they would remain anonymous.

We have had several tips in the last three months. Each tip is sent to both district administration and school administration via text, email, and app. Because SSL notifies us in so many ways, adults can jump into action and work the tip immediately. In a time of heightened school security nationwide, we felt that this SSL toolkit is extremely important as part of our overall safety plan.

Our school system also uses another vendor to review student email for hot button words such as 'fight', 'drugs,' etc. The system is great but only catches those trigger words if they are sent via student email. With the SSL app, we feel that we have more bases covered relative to being proactive in the cause of student safety.

We think that the form students fill out anonymously, if filled out completely, provides our principals and counselors with good information to start an investigation. Another important feature, SSL staff, Ms. Darlene and company, can reply to the tip and ask the student for more information if needed--- or just calm the student while help is being mustered.

It's early on in our implementation, but so far, we are pleased with the program and the personal service that Darlene and her team provide our schools. The work is so important. Students need a place to talk and tell anonymously. And students need to know that adults are listening and watching. And that action will be taken. Let's not forget that part. The program works best when **everyone** does their part to better school culture and climate on our campuses.

Sincerely,

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*