

PUNKS WITH GUNS

IS IT SAFE TO GO TO SCHOOL?

OSHAWA - Remember the days when you could walk to school and feel safe. School a place of discipline and refuge.

Well, it appears that those days are long gone.

This past week a very disturbing letter was sent to the newspaper. This is not a first. But each time the frequency of concerns escalate.

In this case. A copy of a letter submitted to the Durham District School Board was sent in to the Central. This is how it read:

To the Durham District School Board Trustees, Superintendent, and Relevant Authorities, I am writing to formally file a complaint and demand immediate action following a violent and life-threatening incident involving my Grade 12 son at Eastdale Collegiate and Vocational Institute in Oshawa.

On April 16th, my son was robbed at gunpoint by another student while on school property during school hours. His personal belongings were stolen, and he was threatened with his life. This is not a minor disciplinary issue—it is a criminal matter that has caused significant trauma and ongoing fear for his safety. His phone and AirPods were stolen, and he was threatened with his life. This occurred during the school day. No parent should ever receive a call like the one we received. Also, how would other parents feel knowing this and not being informed???

We attended the school immediately and met with the administration, along with the police. During our time in the acting Vice Principal's office, there were multiple radio calls for assistance regarding student behavior, including a teacher requesting help with a disrespectful student. This points to a much broader issue of lack of control, supervision, and discipline within the school. It is evident that the current conditions at Eastdale CVI present a serious and unacceptable risk to student and staff safety.

The apparent lack of enforcement around identity concealment (including masks and face coverings), the ability for students to

carry bags without meaningful oversight, and the general breakdown of discipline and accountability are deeply concerning.

ALL students involved, whether they were direct or indirect need to be removed from the school.

This includes where we found the student who robbed my son at school, threatening to kill on and off school property, and my son's AirPods (Cell phone never was recovered), the house name is Chance, he is in grade 10 at Eastdale, and lives outside the area. THIS is not okay!!!! Not even in district, and attending a different out of area school.

My son is now fearful of returning to school. As a graduating student, he should not have to choose between his safety and completing his education.

Compounding this issue is the fact that the individual responsible resides in close proximity to our home, creating ongoing safety concerns beyond school grounds. How dangerous are we allowing this to continue? This same family attempted robbery, and a police file was made 2 years ago because of Samson and his brother Vincent. The same family were the cause of the house fire within that same neighborhood. Same family that you keep allowing to ruin your streets, society, etc.... please stop!

While that incident alone is deeply concerning, what is even more troubling is the broader context in which it occurred.

It has become apparent that the individual responsible is not unknown to authorities. This raises serious questions about how known risks are being managed within both the school system and the broader youth justice framework.

I want to be clear: this is no longer about a single incident. This is about a pattern of behavior that appears to be escalating and the apparent inability of current systems to effectively intervene before serious harm occurs. The current approach is failing to protect students.

The Youth Criminal Justice Act is intended to balance rehabilitation with public safety. However, when individuals who are known to

pose a risk are able to continue attending school without sufficient safeguards in place, that balance is not being achieved in practice.

My son, along with other students and staff, should not be placed in an environment where they are exposed to foreseeable harm. The duty of care owed by the school and the Board extends to taking reasonable steps to mitigate known risks—not simply reacting after incidents occur.

Given the seriousness of this incident, I expect the following:

Immediate confirmation of what actions have been taken in coordination with law enforcement.

A documented safety plan specific to my son, including safe access to and from school and protection while

on school property.

Clear communication regarding disciplinary measures and enforcement policies currently in place.

Immediate implementation of enhanced safety and supervision measures within the school.

Access to appropriate supports for my son, including academic accommodations if required to ensure he can graduate safely.

Please be advised that this email is being shared with elected officials and relevant oversight bodies, including municipal leadership and victim support services.

I am also exploring all available avenues to ensure accountability, including formal complaints and potential legal action if necessary.

I will be going public about this as well. This is not okay. This needs to change.

The current situation reflects a failure to provide a safe educational environment, which is a fundamental obligation. I expect a prompt and substantive response outlining concrete steps being taken to address this matter.

Chantel P. Eastdale CVI, has been a hot bed of controversy. From the school administration allowing student walk-out to support political movements. To the disassociation of responsibility on the basis that if an incident happens off school property it is not the administrations responsibility.

Youth crime has been slowly creeping into schools.

Just this past week police reports read:

Youth Arrested for Threats with Imitation Firearm at School in Oshawa

A youth is facing charges after brandishing an imitation firearm and making threats in a classroom at a Secondary School in Oshawa.

On Tuesday, April 14, 2026, a student at a secondary school in the area of Harmony Road North and Coldstream Drive brandished a firearm during class and made threats to fellow students.

On Wednesday, April 15, 2026, after further investigation, the youth surrendered themselves to investigators at East Division. Officers seized the imitation firearm used during the incident.

A 14-year-old from Oshawa is charged with: Possess Weapon Dangerous, and Uttering Threats.

They were released on an Undertaking.

In another report: Youth Arrested After Robbery at High School in Oshawa

A male youth is facing charges after a robbery at a high school in Oshawa.

On Thursday, April 16, 2026, at approximately 1:45 p.m., members of the East Division Community Resource Unit (CRU) responded to a robbery call at a high school in the area of Harmony Road North and Adelaide Avenue East.

A male student approached the victim when he exited class and made threats while demanding the victim's phone and property. The suspect was confronted

by school staff but fled the area on foot.

The victim did not suffer any physical injuries.

A short time later, officers located the suspect at an Oshawa residence and took him into custody without incident.

A 14-year-old male from Oshawa is charged with: Robbery, Uttering Threats. He was held for a bail hearing.

Crime with weapons is a real concern. Teachers for years have complained that it is becoming that more dangerous to teach.

Many educators are blaming the decay of quality of family. Youth are raised with little or no discipline. This compounded by socio economics stress.

Crime for many youth is a way to get money.

A teacher at Eastdale CVI that did not want to be identified said.

"Youth today have no self respect and no respect for anyone else. When, a police officer approaches them. They take it to be some joke and actually attempt to fight off authority. At one time. Notifying the parents would have solved the problem.

The problem is that today the parents are the problem.

In many cases they encourage bad behavior. Over all teachers are left to fend for themselves as if we report incidents. Administrator take as weakness from the teacher.

If the teacher takes an initiative. They may end up physically hurt and or fired. Most have just given up. They show up and do their job."

The problem as it has been shown here... the justice system catches and releases. It has no tools to go after parents and forced them to be accountable for their childrens actions.

The jails in many cases are full and these type of crimes can't be prosecuted unless serious injury or death occurs.

What can you do as a parent. Talk to your children and if they have safety concerns take it up with school administrator. For parent groups to deal with issues at school and report all incidents no matter how small. Children's futures are on the line.

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