

Campus Voices

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Do you feel safe on campus?



Jennifer Zarate
Pre-Allied Health
"Yes, just knowing that we have like on campus police available to come whenever we need them whenever we have an emergency here on campus."



Bryson Bales
Theatre Arts
"Well not so very safe, but it is a safer environment than most other places and we don't have as many issues like other colleges and universities around the country do."



Muajmee Jaxiong
DSPS
"For the most part yeah, I don't know, whenever there is an accident, ambulances, cop cars, police force nearby, make me feel more reassured and I know the school does a lot of drills and stuff."

WHY DOES OUR FACULTY WANT TO KILL US?

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Out of the nine editors on our team, more than half have experienced the fear and chaos caused by active shooters. Both at school and in the streets, we have been on the wrong side of the barrel.

It's hard to remember when anywhere felt safe. Even longer when schools felt safe to attend.

Schools should be a place where we are excited to see our friends and the only threat is a bad grade on a test.

Now, all we can think about is locating the nearest exit when our lives are at stake.

This feeling isn't just fear; it's frustration that this could happen on any given day.

Things were already scary enough when the ones most likely to be a danger were those sitting in the same class. However, within the past five months, two faculty members have openly made threats against the campus.

Thankfully, nothing came from either of these threats, but it is starting to show a dangerous trend.

Having to deal with potential school shootings and bomb threats is too much already, but having faculty like Ed Madec and Richard Fine accused of making threats against students adds to the turmoil and frustration.

What doesn't help these feelings is a flawed line of communication between the school and its students. Vital information is delayed sometimes hours after a situation occurs, causing confusion across campus. In an interview on Oct. 31, 2022, Omar Gutierrez acknowledged the issues of trying to contact people on campus.

But it doesn't look like changes have been effectively implemented.

Emails like the one regarding Madec, who allegedly made threats to students and faculty earlier in the semester, were sent out in waves. Some received the warning immediately, while others didn't get the message until hours later.

State Center Community College District (SCCCD) lists what to do when you hear of an active shooter on campus. This list includes things like stay-in-place, turning off the lights, locking the doors, closing the blinds, and calling campus police and 911.

FCC needs to do more to promote these practices to students. The only place to find them is on the SCCC website.

Those who have experienced constant drills and been told what to do don't feel they are effective. They only serve to desensitize us to the fact that this is our reality.

Going to school shouldn't be an everyday gamble or fear; it should be a fundamental right of every person in this country.

While writing this editorial, we find ourselves frustrated with the lack of answers or solutions to situations like these.

We, as students, should not be worrying about choosing to go to our college graduation or a peer's funeral.