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April 29, 2025

Dear Potosi R-3 School District Community,

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the entire staff at Potosi Elementary for your swift and decisive action during today's severe weather event. Your quick response in getting every student safely into the FEMA shelter before the storm hit was nothing short of remarkable. Your professionalism, calm under pressure, and dedication to the safety of our children are deeply appreciated.

Furthermore, I would like to thank the Potosi Police Department, Missouri State Highway Patrol, Washington County Sheriff's Department, Potosi Fire Protection District and City of Potosi for their quick response to check to insure our students and staff were ok. We also had multiple members of the community immediately jump into action cleaning up debris on our campus from a neighboring building. I would also like to thank Valley R-7 for immediately sending their School Resource Officer to help without hesitation. I am sure there is somebody I missed and I truly apologize for that, but know you are appreciated.

I would also like to thank our families and community members for your patience and understanding as we carefully assessed potential damage before allowing student pick-up. Your cooperation helped ensure that we could complete a safe and orderly dismissal once it was clear conditions were secure. We are grateful to have such a dedicated school team and a supportive community. Your commitment to student safety truly shines in moments like these.

We have only minor storm damage, ie gutters, a few broken windows from debris, etc. With this in mind, we will be in session tomorrow and look forward to seeing all of our amazing students and staff in the morning.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our students who did amazing under pressure today. They practice our Tornado drills with the hope they will never need to actually do a tornado evacuation to the FEMA shelter. Today it counted and they did amazing!! We are blessed to have staff and students that take these drills serious.

With gratitude,

Alex McCaul

Alex McCaul
Superintendent of Schools