

Red Flag Checks

NEWSPAPERS: Fake local newspaper appears suddenly.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Inflammatory and/or extreme social media posts start appearing, consistently.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS: Angry contingent repeatedly appears at meetings, and group appears to be growing.

ORGANIZATION: Extreme & angry groups start holding meetings & get-togethers.

RALLIES: Rallies or protests being held, multiple times.

TONE: Moves from healthy (and spirited) debate/discussion of differing legitimate perspectives to angry one-way monologues, sometimes with veiled threats.

LETTERS: In areas with newspapers, angry letters-to-the-editor start appearing, with more frequency.

ANTI-GOVT: General anti-government rants-diatribes-threats start becoming more prevalent, even if not directed at school boards.

Metaphor

Before a tornado is meteorically possible, weather conditions change to make it more likely: temperature, cloud movements, etc.

Those conditions (tornado "watch") may/may not lead to a tornado, but are conducive to one forming. They are, in fact, predicate to formation.

Noticing those changes - being alert to them - gives advance alert as to what might happen. And time to prepare.

Not all weather conditions change simultaneously, or dramatically. Sometimes, various components slide into place bit-by-bit, over time.

