

January 6, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I am writing to let you know about a story involving a former Rippling Woods Elementary School staff member that will almost certainly garner some media attention in the coming days. It is my hope that this information will answer some of the questions you are likely to have and help you address this matter, should you choose to do so, with your child.

Former physical education teacher Greg Christy has been criminally charged with 11 counts related to child pornography. Anne Arundel County police and the Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office are handling the case as it proceeds forward. A copy of the police news release accompanies this letter so that you are aware of the information police have made public.

We were first made aware of an allegation in this case last April. In the best interests of all of our students, our school system immediately reassigned Mr. Christy to a position in which he had no contact with children. Law enforcement agencies have been investigating the case since that time. Since Mr. Christy's reassignment, he has not worked in any of our school buildings and has not been in any location in which students were present.

Upon learning of the charges, Superintendent Kevin M. Maxwell immediately suspended Mr. Christy from AACPS employment.

It is important that you understand that we have no indication at this point that any of the charges against Mr. Christy involve conduct that took place on school property. However, the investigation is still ongoing. We are, of course, working closely with law enforcement agencies in this matter and will certainly update parents as warranted.

The safety of students and staff is of the utmost importance to us. Should you or your child have questions about this matter, please contact the school at 410-222-6440. If you have any information that may be of use to law enforcement agencies, please contact the Anne Arundel County Police Department's Child Abuse Section at 410-222-3450.

Sincerely,

Gwen Atkinson  
Principal

GA/bm



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**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**

**NEWS RELEASE**

Colonel James Teare, Sr.  
Chief of Police

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Public Information Officer: Mr. Justin Mulcahy

Office: (410) 222-8700

Fax: (410) 987-9087

8495 Veterans Highway  
Millersville, Md. 21108-1485

Date: January 6<sup>th</sup> 2011

Release Time: 1005 hours

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**EASTERN DISTRICT**

**CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ARREST**

**BALTIMORE (ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY)**

On April 5, 2010, at approximately 4:47 p.m., officers from the Eastern District responded to the 7000 block of Timberfield Place in Baltimore (Anne Arundel County) for a report of child pornography. Upon arrival, officers spoke with an adult subject, who reported finding child pornography on the suspect's personal computer. A search warrant was executed at the residence and several computers were confiscated.

A forensic examination was conducted on the computers by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The examination revealed numerous images of child pornography. At this time, no victims have been identified as having resided within Anne Arundel County. The suspect has been charged with possessing images of children previously identified as victims through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the cases have already been adjudicated.

On January 5, 2011, detectives obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect, **Gregory Alan Christy, 39, of 7074 Timberfield Place in Baltimore. (Anne Arundel County)** The suspect was arrested without incident at his residence and charged with Distribution of Child Pornography (one count) and Possession of Child Pornography (10 counts)

Mr. Christy is an employee of the Anne Arundel County Public School System, who was immediately re-assigned to a position which does not involve contact with children when the allegations first surfaced. He was formerly a physical education teacher at Rippling Woods Elementary. Anyone with any additional information can contact the Criminal Investigations Division Child Abuse Unit at 410-222-3450.

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