

September 27, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I am writing to follow up on my phone message from earlier today and to provide you with as much information as I can share regarding the bus incident that occurred as school dismissed.

As students were leaving school today, our student advocate saw what he believed to be a gun in the book bag of one of our students. The advocate immediately summoned administrators and police and instructed them to address the issue with the student. The student boarded a bus and was followed by another student who did not belong on the bus.

Those students were removed from the bus, and police boarded the bus to investigate. An officer located a gun on a seat near the rear of the bus. The gun was loaded.

As part of the investigation, we – along with police – interviewed several students who were on the bus. The remainder of the students were allowed to board the bus and go home.

I want to be clear that at no time during the school day today did we receive any reports from any student or staff member regarding a weapon. We also did not receive any reports regarding issues involving the student believed to have had the gun.

In addition to any charges that may be brought by police, I want you to know that we will administer appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with our Code of Student Conduct as it relates to any student involved in this matter. While I cannot discuss the specifics of such actions, I want you to know that neither student will be in school tomorrow.

While I believe this situation to be isolated, we are going to take several prudent and precautionary measures regarding school operations tomorrow. First, we will have additional police officers present tomorrow morning so that we can adequately monitor student arrival and address any students who express concerns.

Second, our varsity homecoming football game will now be played at 4 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m. tomorrow. Our junior varsity game will be rescheduled for a later date.

We plan to hold our student pep rallies during the regular school day as scheduled. Our Homecoming dance will also take place at 7 p.m. Saturday as scheduled.

I know that you, like me, are concerned about this incident. I assure you, however, that our staff acted swiftly and aggressively in addressing this issue and did so with the safety of all of our students and staff in mind. I applaud the way our team responded today, and have every confidence that we will continue to do so in the future.

I will communicate more information to you as it becomes available. Thank you for everything you do for your child and our school.

Sincerely,

Sue Chittim
Principal