

FAIRFIELD WOODS MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Many of you have reached out to me with questions and concerns regarding Mr. Dong and his presence on or near school property. As you now know, a No Trespass order has been issued forbidding Mr. Dong from coming onto any of the school grounds in Fairfield. In addition, he was arrested on Monday after ignoring a police warning to stay away from school property. This subsequently led to the issue of the No Trespass order.

Many of you have stated that over the past few weeks, you have seen Mr. Dong riding his Segway in the neighborhood around Fairfield Woods. He is now prohibited from coming onto school property. At Fairfield Woods, we are in regular communication with the police department. We have learned that our best strategy is to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious persons or behavior to the police immediately so that law enforcement can investigate. That is exactly what was done in this case leading to the No Trespass order and subsequent arrest. I encourage all of you to do the same and to let the police know if you have any concerns about something you have observed.

Regarding school security, we are taking our lead from the police department and have instituted all of the practices and safety protocols that have been given to us. Our school doors are locked throughout the day with visitor entry to the school isolated to the front door. Staff members are stationed strategically during arrival and dismissal to assist the students and monitor the situation. Please be sure your child knows exactly what they're dismissal plan is each day. Likewise, in the morning, some students arrive early for music rehearsals and for extra help with teachers. **I am asking that all students arriving before 7:45 be dropped off in the front of the school and enter through the front door. This will help ensure consistency in monitoring the security during those early hours. After 7:45 – please use the usual drop off locations by the auditorium or the 6th grade wing.**

Like many other town buildings, Woods is used extensively for a variety of after school activities that bring hundreds of students and parents into the building. In addition, there are many outside community groups who use the school every night of the week. This presents a challenge for after school monitoring but we do communicate with the police about the various activities scheduled after school hours.

The front doors are locked when the last bus departs in the morning which is usually 8:10 and they remain locked until 2:50. A police officer is assigned to Fairfield Woods and I am in contact with the police department regularly to ensure that we have an adequate police presence. We will continue to follow the safety procedures we have in place and ask that you help us by informing the police when you see suspicious persons or behavior.

Thank you all for your continued help in our efforts to provide a safe and secure learning environment.

Dr. Rosato