



LAKE SHORE MIDDLE SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE WORLD SCHOOL



2519 Bayview Road * Jacksonville, Florida 32210

Phone: (904) 381-7440 * Fax: (904) 381-7437

Principal:

Mr. Caleb Gottberg

Deans:

Ms. Mercedes Galvez

Mr. Scott Below

Ms. Treva Christensen



Assistant Principals:

Ms. Nkoyo Ross, APC

Ms. Leslie Sarjeant

September 20, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am sharing information with you about an isolated incident on our campus yesterday that concerned the Lake Shore Middle School community.

At approximately 3 p.m., two students were involved in a physical altercation that led to one of the students suffering a stab wound. School staff responded immediately to the emergency. Medical help and Duval County School police arrived on campus within several minutes, secured the scene, and transported the student to a local hospital. We also isolated the surrounding area and re-routed students to other areas of the campus. School police have detained another student for questioning.

We are very pleased with the responsiveness of the law enforcement officials and full cooperation of students and staff, resulting in our ability to maintain a safe school environment for all. We will continue to work cooperatively with the law enforcement teams to aid in a complete and thorough investigation.

Our first obligation to our students is to provide a safe and secure learning environment. To that end, we follow strict safety protocols and a violence prevention plan. In light of this incident, we are strengthening our security efforts. We have increased:

- Physical security presences
- Random searches for weapons and other contraband
- School wide, grade-level assemblies for students to reiterate safety rules
- Staff review of student safety policies

To assist students in coping with the incident, school psychologists, mental health counselors and other support personnel are on campus to provide assistance and guidance.

We are asking for your help as well. Take time to discuss the incident with your child while emphasizing his or her role in helping us maintain a safe environment. Stress that no student should have in his/her possession weapons at school. Encourage your student to report weapons on campus, violent acts or threats immediately to a trusted adult.

Please know that the Lake Shore Middle School community is a strong one, and we will rely upon such strengths to return all students and faculty to a normal routine. If you have any concerns, please call me at (904) 381-7440, Ext. 102.

Sincerely,

Caleb Gottberg
Principal