



The Frederick Law Olmsted School at Kensington



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Mrs. Giovanna Claudio-Cotto, Principal
Mrs. Catherine Dulak, Assistant Principal

Mr. James Fredo, Assistant Principal
Ms. Leslie Potempa, Assistant Principal

May 31, 2022

Dear Families of Frederick Law Olmsted #156:

Although today's incident was one that no one wants to experience, I would like to thank the students that came forward for helping keep our building safe! Thank you to all the administrators, staff, teachers, and first responders that assisted during today's incident. Your focus and dedication helped to create a safe environment for our students while Buffalo Police was able to investigate. I would also like to thank the parents and families for the patience you demonstrated under the circumstances we were presented with.

In order to continue to maintain a safe environment for all students moving forward, please note the following changes, effective immediately:

- All students will be wanded upon entry into the building.
- All student belongings will be checked prior to entering the building.
- Students will not be allowed to carry large bags or bookbags in the building, regardless of material.
 - ***All students will be required to leave their bookbag in their locker; this includes mesh and clear bags.***
- No student is to be given a pass during the first 10 minutes or last 10 minutes of class time.
- All students are to follow their daily schedule, without exceptions.
 - Appointments to see guidance counselors or administrators will be scheduled ahead of time; students **MUST** have a pass to be excused from class or lunch.
- All student early dismissals must be communicated in writing. Letters or emails must be received by the end of period 1 (9:00 a.m.).
 - As a reminder, anyone picking up a student must be listed in Infinite Campus and have a valid identification card with them. No unauthorized persons may pick up a student.
 - **ALL** students must be picked up by an adult, unless early dismissal paperwork is on file.

Security protocols throughout the building will be increased. Our school community will see:

- Increased security presence in the building and in our vicinity
- Random locker searches
- Limited visitors in the building, per pre-scheduled appointments only:
 - All visitors will undergo wand and search protocols

We know and understand that today's incident was worrisome for many students. Tomorrow, the following support will be in place for our school community as we continue to process and address the recent tragedies that have occurred around us as well as today's incident:

- **Extended Homeroom:** teachers will hold homerooms through period 1 to address students' social emotional needs.
- **Grade Level Assemblies:**
 - Period 2: Grades 7-8
 - Period 3: Grades 9-10
 - Period 4: Grades 11-12

- Grade level assemblies will address safety protocols as well as social emotional concerns
- Grades 5-6 will engage in small groups during period 1.
- **Student Support Team and Crisis Team Small Groups and One-on-One Sessions**, as needed:
 - Periods 2-11 in Room 103

Support to students and staff will be on-going for the remainder of the school year, as needed. If your child has specific concerns that need to be addressed, please reach out to our Student Support Team members and we will be sure to address your concerns:

- Mrs. Lukasik, Guidance Counselor (Middle School): adlukasik@buffaloschools.org
- Mr. VanRemmen, Guidance Counselor (High School, Last Name A-L): gvanremmen@buffaloschools.org
- Mrs. Caruana, Guidance Counselor (High School, Last Name M-Z): dcaruana@buffaloschools.org
- Mrs. Tomaino, Social Worker: antomaino@buffaloschools.org
- Mr. Russell, Social Worker: jdrussell@buffaloschools.org
- Mrs. LaRuffa, Psychologist: alaruffa@buffaloschools.org

If your child needs additional support when school is not in session, you may reach out to the following agencies:

- Kids Helpline: (716) 834-1144
- Crisis Services: (716) 834-3131
- Crisis Text Line: Text "MHA" to 741741
- Family Help Center: (716) 892-2172 (24-hour hotline)

We are currently working with our Engineer, Mr. Sayler, Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Wilson, as well as other District staff to address building concerns. The safety of our students and staff is a priority!

If you have additional concerns that would like addressed, feel free to reach out any time.

Educationally,

Mrs. Claudio-Cotto
Principal