



River Valley School District

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

As Superintendent of the River Valley School District, I am committed to notifying you when we must share difficult or unpleasant news, just as we do when we celebrate positive news about our students' many positive accomplishments.

Recently the school district was notified of concerns regarding an employee and the potential of misconduct and violation of Board Policy. My most important responsibility is to protect our school district, and at times this involves difficult actions and decisions regarding many different aspects of our school system, including personnel issues. Personnel issues in particular often take time and are often complicated. When allegations are brought to our attention, we are duty bound to investigate and consider all aspects of the concerns brought to us, regardless of the persons identified.

After allegations were shared with our school district, legal counsel for the school district was immediately engaged, and the school district has been proceeding based upon the advice of counsel. Placing anyone on leave is not something that we take lightly or without very good reason. The district would like to emphasize that the allegations did not involve misconduct relative to the physical or emotional well-being of our students.

As part of thoroughly investigating the allegations, both upon the recommendation of legal counsel, and in response to the concerns and explanations expressed by the employee on leave, we are in the process of hiring an outside forensic firm to assist in determining the authenticity of some electronic evidence related to the alleged misconduct. This process is expected to take a matter of weeks to complete. Thereafter, we will complete our investigation and make a recommendation to the Board of Education. Throughout this process, the Board of Education and the administration have been committed to providing every opportunity to allow the employee on leave to provide information to the district with respect to the allegations.

We know that in situations like this, it is human nature to speculate and share rumors about what is occurring. Out of respect for all involved, we ask that you talk to your student and encourage him or her to stay focused at school on their class work and learning. Our excellent staff is dedicated to supporting your student's academic experience despite the challenges posed by the COVID pandemic, and they will continue their efforts to provide a quality learning environment to enable their success. Again, there are no allegations that involved the physical or emotional well-being of our students.

We at River Valley will keep you informed as to the status of the matter to the extent that it is appropriate. In the meantime, please know that this situation will not distract us from our service and care of your student. If you have any questions, please feel free to call my office. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Scott Bojanich, Superintendent

"Home of the Mustangs"