

Subject: Fwd: Update from WMS about safety

From: Deanne Galdston <deanne.galdston@watertown.k12.ma.us>

Date: 1/31/2024, 8:29 PM

To: Mark Sideris <msideris@watertown-ma.gov>, Jessica Middlebrook <jessica.middlebrook@watertown.k12.ma.us>, Amy Donohue <amy.donohue@watertown.k12.ma.us>, Kendra Foley <kendra.foley@watertown.k12.ma.us>, Rachel Kay <rachel.kay@watertown.k12.ma.us>, Lisa Capoccia <lisa.capoccia@watertown.k12.ma.us>, Lily RaymanRead <lily.raymanread@watertown.k12.ma.us>

Good evening,

Please see the communication below that [REDACTED] sent out to her community this evening. The reentry process has begun, including reaching out to each family on the list again to offer a check-in with our mental health team, which hopefully will lead to restorative work in the future. The list maker is very eager to make amends, but we will ensure that it is **only** done for students who want to participate, that it is facilitated and tailored to meet students where they are at, and only at time that they are ready. This could be quick for some students, or much later for others.

Last night's forum was well attended and at times intense. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and I answered questions as best as we could, given limitations placed on us by FERPA, along with a desire to protect the dignity of all students involved. Captain Dan Unsworth, Sgt. Tom Dicker and Officer Anna Margaryan from WPS also joined us. At the onset, we asked attendees to ask questions, not make assumptions, and to not use student names in the conversations. Those norms quickly were not followed, and at times we had to intervene or redirect people in attendance. We had several parents speak about their fears, others speak about wanting to ensure the list maker was safe, and still others who just wanted to air longstanding grievances. We also had two middle school students speak up as well. They spoke their truth and people heard what they were saying. While it was a tough night all around, I do believe that in the end it was a necessary forum, minus the student shaming that happened.

I appreciated having School Committee members present, and that one of you attended the SEPAC meeting as well. You are an unusual School Committee, and I couldn't be more appreciative of what you do.

Thank you,

Dede

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Jan 31, 2024 at 6:35 PM
Subject: Update from WMS about safety
To:

Dear WMS families and community,

Please see this [update](#) to school safety this week at WMS.

With respect and gratitude,

[Redacted]

Principal
Watertown Middle School



When writing or responding, please remember that any email sent or received by an employee of the Watertown Public Schools is subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, M.G.L. c.66. This email message (including any attachments) is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential information covered under the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) and/or other student records laws. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are not authorized to read, retain, print, copy, disseminate or otherwise use this email (or any attachments) or any part thereof. If you have received this email (and any attachments) in error, please contact the sender and delete all copies from your system.

When writing or responding, please remember that any email sent or received by an employee of the Watertown Public Schools is subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, M.G.L. c.66. This email message (including any attachments) is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential information covered under the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) and/or other student records laws. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are not authorized to read, retain, print, copy, disseminate or otherwise use this email (or any attachments) or any part thereof. If you have received this email (and any attachments) in error, please contact the sender and delete all copies from your system.

--



Dede Galdston, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

WPS creates an equitable, challenging, and innovative learning environment where everyone belongs and every student is empowered to shape the world around them.



Excellence * Equity * Community

When writing or responding, please remember that any email sent or received by an employee of the Watertown Public Schools is subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, M.G.L. c.66. This email message (including any attachments) is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential information covered under the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) and/or other student records laws. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are not authorized to read, retain, print, copy, disseminate or otherwise use this email (or any attachments) or any part thereof. If you have received this email (and any attachments) in error, please contact the sender and delete all copies from your system.