

**Subject:** [WMS\_General] Re: WMS School Safety Situation - next steps for healing

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** 1/26/2024, 7:19 AM

**To:** WMS General <WMS\_General@watertown.k12.ma.us>

**CC:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Staff,

During every school year there are difficult situations that require our community to rely on all of its members, and as we explore what it means to implement restorative justice values and practices, circle is an empowering way to uplift and reinvigorate each of us.

We also know that staff are in various stages of comfort level in implementing circles, or addressing challenging topics with students. **If students in advisory or class today are experiencing challenging feelings surrounding the situation that I emailed to our community yesterday, please reach out to guidance counselors and mental health staff to support students, especially if you as a staff member are not comfortable addressing their concerns yourself.**

As we are just beginning to build the foundation of our multi-year implementation of restorative justice, we want to let you know that [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and I have also been trained along with our colleagues in Tier I Circles, as have [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. Any of us would love to join and/or support facilitation of a Mindfulness Monday circle, or a circle at any point, with your advisory and/or class, please let us know, as we can all be available during advisory if needed. Choosing to facilitate a circle with students can be a healing experience for everyone in our school community, but can also be misimplemented and unintentionally cause harm if facilitated incorrectly. Again, please lean on our guidance, mental health, and administrative staff for support, either to invite into your classroom, or to send students to speak directly to us to support them.

**If you are experiencing challenging feelings as a staff member, please know you can reach out to any of us, as well as Human Resources for additional support.** In particular, I want to remind everyone that the [Employee Assistance Program](#) is always a resource available to WPS employees.

As you know, Dr. Galdston will also be in the faculty room off the cafeteria today for her listening tour. Thank you [REDACTED] for setting up this [schedule](#) for her visit.

With gratitude for each of you,

[REDACTED]  
Principal  
Watertown Middle School  
Watertown Public Schools  
pronouns: she/her/hers



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On Thu, Jan 25, 2024 at 6:50 PM [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear staff,

Please see this [update](#) that was shared with families just now.

In addition to the families of students we contacted this afternoon, I want to assure our staff that we have also talked to every staff member who was on this list. If I did not speak with you this afternoon about this, you are not connected to this list.

Thank you for all that you do to help our students feel safe at school, and for escalating concerning news regarding safety to our administrative leadership team.

With great gratitude,

[REDACTED]  
Principal  
Watertown Middle School  
Watertown Public Schools  
pronouns: she/her/hers



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

From: [REDACTED]  
Date: Thu, Jan 25, 2024 at 6:46 PM  
Subject: WMS School Safety Situation  
To:

Dear WMS Families,

Please see this [update](#) on a school safety situation.

Respectfully,

[Redacted Signature]

Principal

Watertown Middle School



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