

Hudson City School District
215 Harry Howard Avenue
Hudson, New York 12534-1606



► Home of the Bluehawks ◀

February 13, 2017

District Office

(518) 828-4360 Ext. 2101

Fax: (518) 697-8315

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you may already be aware, our Hudson Junior/Senior High Schools unfortunately dealt with recent situations that involved two pellet guns being brought on school property on two separate occasions. These items were immediately confiscated and our administrators carefully handled the matters in accordance with the District Code of Conduct, including calling local law enforcement to dispose of the items and ensure student safety.

Regrettably, as a result of strict adherence to the long-standing protocol of preserving confidentiality for a fair and impartial Superintendent's hearing, this information was not available for immediate release to our school community. Clearly, this protocol must and will change for incidents of this nature without compromising the integrity of the process.

We want to make you aware of the situation and let you know that we are taking steps to re-evaluate current procedures in the interest of school safety. In the coming weeks, we will hold assemblies for all Jr./Sr. High students to refresh their understanding of the Code of Conduct and highlight the importance of a safe learning environment. We also plan to have our School Resource Officer visit elementary (grades 3 - 5) classrooms to speak with children about school safety in an age-appropriate manner. Rather than having an officer speak to our youngest students, we are planning an information session for JLE parents. Details will be forthcoming after the February break. If you have any questions or concerns about these activities, please contact your child's principal.

It is important for students to realize how serious safety violations of this nature can be. These items are not toys and are considered weapons that can potentially cause harm. Students who engage in such behavior can likely face disciplinary measures at school and possibly even legal consequences.

Because children often do not recognize the dangerous situation that can result in bringing such items to school, and because they may not report negative or harmful behavior, we strongly recommend that you speak with your child(ren) about what is safe and appropriate conduct. Please reinforce that any questionable activities should be promptly reported to school staff. We thoroughly investigate all reports and take appropriate action where necessary. As always, the safety and well-being of our students is our top priority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maria Lagana Suttmeier".

Maria Lagana Suttmeier, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

