



NORTH CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
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NORTH CALDWELL, NJ 07006

Linda Freda, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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STATEMENT ON PASSAIC COUNTY PRESS RELEASE

February 12, 2021

Dear Parents,

We are writing to address a press release that was recently issued by law enforcement stating that a non-teaching staff employee of the District with very limited student contact was arrested on charges related to suspected child pornography. Law enforcement advised us that, while its investigation is ongoing, there is no evidence that any of our students were involved. As of yesterday, this individual is no longer employed by the District.

We understand that this information causes concern in our community. Although the Board and Administration are legally constrained from discussing personnel matters publicly, you should be aware that at the time of hiring, we conduct a "Pass the Trash" procedure as required by State law. Pursuant to these actions we confirm with prior employers that prospective employees have not been the subject of a child abuse investigation, disciplined for child abuse allegations, nor had a license suspended for any reason. In addition, all employees hired by the District must pass a background check. As part of that background check, employees are fingerprinted so that the District can be alerted of any future criminal charges.

Please keep in mind that law enforcement has indicated that this is merely an accusation at this time and, despite this accusation, defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. We will of course fully cooperate with the authorities if called upon to assist. Although this individual was not well known to students, should your child express any anxiety or concern, please contact Superintendent Dr. Linda Freda at 973-712-4366.

Sincerely,

Linda Freda, Ed.D., Superintendent

Robert Projansky, Board President