

ASSAULT ON GIRLS

(Date)

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Local police forces recently apprehended a juvenile (sex) in connection with (number) assaults on young girls. We do not want to cause undue alarm, however, we think it important for everyone to be aware of the situation. Ensuring our students' safety and well being is a priority as well as our community.

The circumstances surrounding the attacks are similar. The incidents happened after school and the suspect lured the victims away from public areas to secluded areas. While the school notified local police and had knowledge of the first incident, the two following were reported to local authorities by parents without notification to the school.

At school we have worked hard to make sure all students understand how to handle such a situation. We also have ongoing procedures that are designed specifically to deal with safety issues. Here are some of the things we have done and continue to do to keep children safe.

- All staff in the building has been informed of the incident. Each teacher will speak with their class about the incident and will review what children should do in unsafe situations. We have also gone over rules for always walking with a buddy.
- (Name of police), King County Sheriff's Office, and district security have been informed.
- Part of our curriculum is teaching safety habits. We frequently remind students about safety procedures.
- We never allow children to walk home during the school day or to take rides home with friends without written permission. During the school day, students must be checked out through the school office. We ask parents to wait for their child in the office so that we can see child and parent leave together. We do not allow unauthorized individuals to pick up students without prior notification from the parent.
- During the school day, we lock all hall access doors in the building except the front door.
- All visitors are required to check into the office and wear a badge while on school grounds. We do not allow parents on the playground. We want children who are outside to be conscious if they see non-staff adults on the grounds and to notify the adult in charge.
- We have asked the district's Maintenance and Facilities Department section to clear away some of the dense trees and foliage near the school grounds.

We all need to work together to protect our children. Here are some things you can do to keep the children safe.

- If an incident of concern happens to any child, CALL THE POLICE RIGHT AWAY! Notify the school next.
- Plan with your child what he or she should do in a dangerous situation.
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time and waits in the designated places. Do not allow your child to walk home alone or loiter at school once the school day has ended.
- Always wear a badge when you are on school grounds. Do not go onto the school playground while school is in session. Follow procedures for checking your child in and out of school during the school day.
- Read school mail and keep informed of school events. We will always try to notify you if any incident of concern has occurred.

I hope this information will help establish a climate of communication and safety for you and your child. Please call if there is anything additional that I can do to assist you.

Sincerely,

(Principal name)
Principal